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FOR INFORMATION CALL

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Ald. Milele A. Coggs
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Alderwoman Coggs to introduce measure condemning mass abduction of girls in Nigeria

Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs will introduce a Common Council resolution condemning the abduction of as many as 234 Nigerian school girls by a terrorist group last month in Nigeria.

Alderwoman Coggs said the abduction has ignited outrage across the globe and “is an appalling violation of basic human rights.” She said reports from Nigeria indicate the missing girls are possibly being sold as brides to Islamic militants for the equivalent of \$12 each.

“As the mother of a young daughter, I can only imagine the worry and heartbreak being felt by the mothers and other family members of the abducted girls,” Alderwoman Coggs said. “The abduction and forced control of these young women reminds us of the obstacles women and girls face around the world every day in attaining basic freedoms.”

“I think it is important for the Council to go on record condemning this heinous act and asking for their release as soon as possible through the efforts of U.S. and international officials,” she said.

In a related matter, there will be a rally in support of the abducted girls tomorrow, **Saturday, May 3, from noon to 2 p.m.** in **Red Arrow Park** across from City Hall. The rally – being duplicated in communities across the U.S. tomorrow – will encourage women and girls in attendance to wear a Gele (headwrap) as a show of unity and support for the girls and their families.

-More-

Resolution/ADD ONE

The school girls were reportedly abducted on the night of April 14, as armed militants stormed the Government Girls Secondary School located in the northeastern province of Borno, Nigeria.

The resolution will be introduced at the next regular meeting of the Common Council on May 13.

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