



February 14, 2019

Ald. Cavalier Johnson  
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## **New legislation to increase time to pay parking citations advances to the Common Council**

The Public Safety and Health Committee today recommended for approval new legislation that would increase the time for paying parking citations without a penalty.

Common Council File #181630 is an ordinance sponsored by **Alderman Cavalier Johnson and co-sponsored by Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs, Alderwoman Nikiya Dodd, Alderman José G. Pérez, and Alderwoman Chantia Lewis**, which would extend the grace period for paying a parking citation from the current 10 days to 14 days. Extending the grace period is not expected to have a material effect on parking citation collections, and may actually reduce the number of unpaid citations submitted to a collection agency for non-payment.

“Under our current laws, failure to pay a parking citation within 10 days results in a late-payment penalty,” said Ald. Johnson. “Residents living paycheck to paycheck may be unable to pay the citation in full, which could trigger a vicious cycle of missed payment deadlines and increasing late-payment penalties. Such penalties can push the cost of the citation beyond a person’s ability to pay.”

Research requested by Ald. Johnson indicates that several U.S. cities have greater grace periods than Milwaukee’s 10 days including Cincinnati (14 days), Cleveland (15 days), Minneapolis/St. Paul (21 days), Chicago (21 days), and St. Louis (30 days).

The file next goes to the full Common Council on Tuesday, February 26 at 9:00 a.m. for a final vote. This meeting will be televised live on the City Channel (Channel 25 on Spectrum Cable and on AT&T U-Verse Channel 99) in the City of Milwaukee. It can also be viewed via streaming video on the City website at [milwaukee.gov/Channel25](http://milwaukee.gov/Channel25).