



November 14, 2019

Ald. Cavalier Johnson
(414) 286-3777

Committee recommends approval of resolution creating Millennial Task Force

The **Community and Economic Development Committee** yesterday (Wednesday, November 13) recommended for approval a resolution that seeks to create a Millennial Task Force to investigate the issue of “Brain Drain” in Milwaukee.

The 16-member task force will be charged with assessing the major reasons Millennials choose to leave or stay in Milwaukee after college, analyze programs and policies designed to attract and retain talented, young individuals and make recommendations to the Common Council regarding potential legislative changes and other measures needed to address the Brain Drain problem.

A 2019 report by the Office of Workforce Development indicated that Milwaukee and the state of Wisconsin in general are struggling to attract and retain young, educated workers. The number of 25- to 34-year olds living in Milwaukee decreased by 1.8% between 2010 and 2015 while that age group increased by 3.8% nationwide. Additionally, between 2010 and 2014, approximately 9% of 25- to 29-year olds moved out of Wisconsin, exceeding the respective national out-migration rate of 7%.

Alderman Cavalier Johnson, the primary sponsor of the legislation (Common Council file #191180), believes the Millennial Task Force can help combat the Brain Drain problem. “The data clearly shows that in the city and state, young people are leaving at a higher rate than the national average. The goal should be to attract and retain a large pool of diverse, young, talented professionals, and this task force is a step forward toward determining what we as a city can do better to address this issue,” said Alderman Johnson.

File #191180 was co-sponsored by Alderman Russell W. Stamper, II, Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs, Alderman Khalif J. Rainey and Alderman Tony Zielinski. The file is expected to go before the full Common Council at its next meeting on Tuesday, November 26.