

## **ORDINANCE**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Chicago is a home rule unit government pursuant to the 1970 Illinois Constitution, Article VII, Section 6 (a); and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to its home rule power, the City of Chicago may exercise any power and perform any function relating to its government and affairs including the power to regulate for the protection of the public health, safety, morals, and welfare; and

**WHEREAS**, long term exposure to perchloroethene (perc) has been linked to cancer, liver damage and neurological problems; and

**WHEREAS**, in the 1980's, federal investigators used dry cleaning union records to identify and track 1,708 people who worked with perc for at least one year prior to 1960, and by 1996, 271 of these individuals had died from cancer; and

**WHEREAS**, perc is most commonly used as a dry cleaning solvent; and

**WHEREAS**, a typical dry cleaner uses between 80 and 100 gallons of perc per year, half of which is spread into the atmosphere; and

**WHEREAS**, a recent report noted that, for over two decades, residents of the Village of Crestwood have been consuming tap water contaminated with perc that had oozed into their water source; and

**WHEREAS**, thousands of other sites are also contaminated with perc due to illegal dumping or improper disposal, according to reports; and

**WHEREAS**, alternatives to perc are readily available to dry cleaners including hydrocarbon solvents, carbon dioxide cleaners and computer-controlled sprayers and dryers; **NOW THEREFORE**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO:**

**SECTION 1.** The above recitals are expressly incorporated herein and made part hereof as though fully set forth herein.

**SECTION 2.** Chapter 11-4 of the Municipal Code of Chicago is hereby amended by inserting the language underscored as follows:

**11-4-120 Definitions.**

\* \* \* \* \*

"Perchloroethene (perc)" means a colorless nonflammable liquid: C2Cl4 used as a solvent in dry cleaning and for removal of grease from metals.

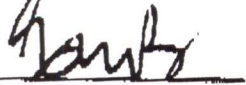
[Omitted Sections Are Unaffected]

Article X. Phosphorus and Perchloroethene (perc) Control

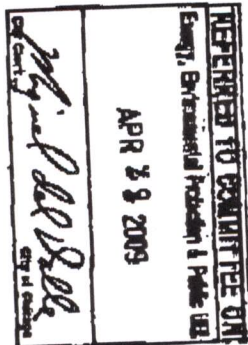
11-4-1635

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to use, sell, offer, expose for sale, give or furnish any product containing perc manufactured for dry cleaning machines and equipment or for removal of grease from metals within the City of Chicago.

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect one-hundred and eighty (180) days after its passage and publication.



Edward M. Burke  
Alderman, 14<sup>th</sup> Ward



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