

date?

Dear Friend:

You will be interested in the following tentative proposed ordinance. Will you be good enough to send me your suggestions and improvements? I hope we can obtain broad sponsorship of the ordinance.

Leon M. Despres, Alderman, Fifth Ward
1217 E. 55th Street
Chicago 15, Illinois
BU 8-7411

PROPOSED ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT HOSPITAL
DISCRIMINATION BY USE OF ADVANCE INQUIRIES
AS TO RACE OR COLOR

WHEREAS:

By making advance inquiries as to the color of prospective patients, Chicago hospitals are discriminating against non-white patients in making special assignments of them on the basis of color, and thus denying them equal medical care.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO that:

Section 1. The Municipal Code of Chicago is hereby amended by adding the following section to be known as Sections 137-13.2 and 137-13.3.

Section 137-13.2: It is unlawful, prior to admission of a patient, for any hospital or agent of a hospital directly or indirectly, overtly or covertly, by any method whatsoever, including inquiries or requests made directly or indirectly to a patient, a physician or the agent or representative of any patient or physician, to make inquiry or request information as to the race or color of any person seeking to become a patient, ~~requesting information about becoming a patient,~~ or about to become a patient, in such hospital.

Section 137-13.3: Each hospital shall post a copy of this ordinance conspicuously in its room clerk's office and in its admissions office.

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect on passage and due publication.