

**09-R-323
RESOLUTION**

Sponsored by

**THE HONORABLE ELIZABETH “LIZ” DOODY GORMAN, COUNTY COMMISSIONER,
TODD H. STROGER, PRESIDENT, WILLIAM M. BEAVERS, JERRY BUTLER,
FORREST CLAYPOOL, EARLEAN COLLINS, JOHN P. DALEY, BRIDGET GAINER,
GREGG GOSLIN, ROBERTO MALDONADO, JOAN PATRICIA MURPHY,
ANTHONY J. PERAICA, TIMOTHY O. SCHNEIDER, PETER N. SILVESTRI,
DEBORAH SIMS, ROBERT B. STEELE AND LARRY SUFFREDIN
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

WHEREAS, the Regional Superintendent of Schools of Cook County is charged with the responsibility of functioning as an arm of the Illinois State Board of Education and assisting more than 140 school districts in Cook County in obtaining teacher certifications, life safety inspections, truancy programs and many other services; and

WHEREAS, since taking office in July 2007, the Regional Superintendent of Schools (ROE) has padded the payroll of the Regional Office of Education with friends and family, and in some cases, doubled the salaries of some officials under his supervision; and

WHEREAS, over 15 school districts have levied complaints with the office of Cook County Commissioner Elizabeth “Liz” Doody Gorman because of the ROE’s inattentiveness to teacher certifications, life safety inspections and refusals to return telephone calls; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the inattentiveness of the ROE to teacher certifications, many school districts have lost potential new teachers; and

WHEREAS, many of the school districts that Superintendent Flowers is supposed to be serving have had to bypass the ROE and go directly to the Illinois State Board of Education to obtain certifications; and

WHEREAS, the Cook County Board of Commissioners approved a taxpayer funded loan in the amount of \$190,000 to the ROE for general expenses of the office to be repaid to County of Cook by June 30, 2009; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners took Superintendent Flowers at his word when he assured the Board that he would repay the loan on or before June 30, 2009; and

WHEREAS, in April of 2009, the ROE was unable to make payroll and caused a lapse in health benefits due to non-payment; and

WHEREAS, earlier this month, Illinois State Auditor General William Holland called for a criminal probe of Charles Flowers and his office for, among other things, use of a government credit card for personal expenses and approval of “questionable expenses” to his family members who are on the payroll; and

WHEREAS, Auditor General Holland reported that his audit of the ROE suggested that Flowers might not be able to repay the County of Cook for the taxpayer funded loan; and

WHEREAS, Superintendent Flowers has betrayed the trust of this body, the students and faculty of the school districts he is supposed to serve and the residents of Cook County, Illinois.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby confer a vote of “No Confidence” on Regional Superintendent of Schools Charles Flowers for poor management of the Regional Office of Education and for the gross negligence of duty that he has shown the members of this board and the residents of Cook County, Illinois.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners supports Auditor General Holland in his call on Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan to conduct a criminal probe into the office of Regional Superintendent of Schools Charles Flowers.

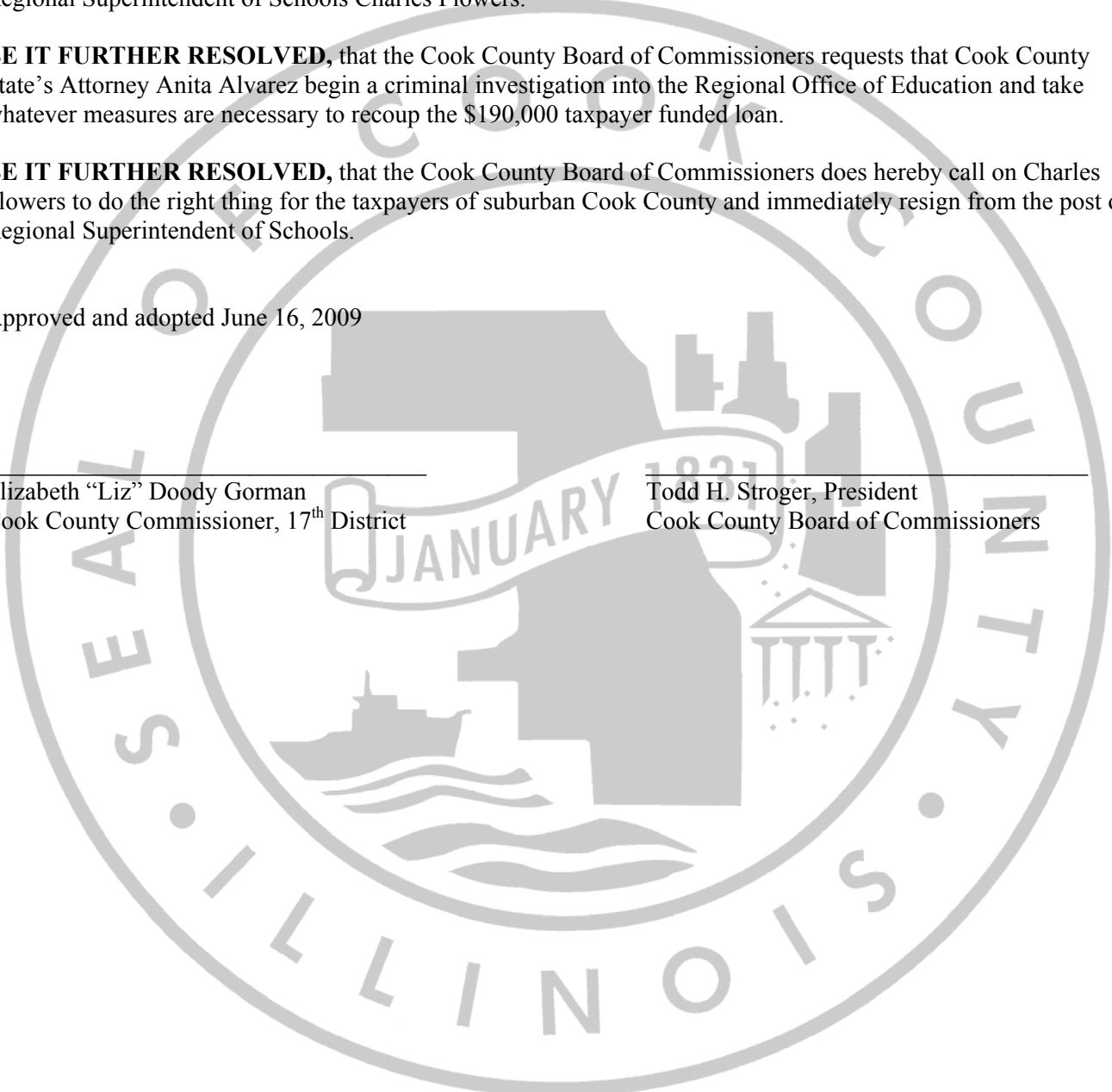
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners requests that Cook County State’s Attorney Anita Alvarez begin a criminal investigation into the Regional Office of Education and take whatever measures are necessary to recoup the \$190,000 taxpayer funded loan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby call on Charles Flowers to do the right thing for the taxpayers of suburban Cook County and immediately resign from the post of Regional Superintendent of Schools.

Approved and adopted June 16, 2009

Elizabeth “Liz” Doody Gorman
Cook County Commissioner, 17th District

Todd H. Stroger, President
Cook County Board of Commissioners



**COOK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION 09-R-323**

VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE IN DR. CHARLES FLOWERS, REGIONAL SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

SPONSORS: GORMAN (R-17)

SHORT DESCRIPTION: RESOLUTION CONFERRING A VOTE OF "NO CONFIDENCE" ON CHARLES FLOWERS, REGIONAL SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS. FURTHER, CALLS ON THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND THE STATE'S ATTORNEY TO LAUNCH CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE OFFICE OF CHARLES FLOWERS AND CALLS ON HIM TO RESIGN IMMEDIATELY.

JUNE 16, 2009

16	YEAS	0	NAYS	0	PRESENT	1	ABSENT
Y	BEAVERS		Y	<i>GORMAN</i>		Y	<i>SCHNEIDER</i>
Y	BUTLER		Y	<i>GOSLIN</i>		Y	<i>SILVESTRI</i>
Y	CLAYPOOL		Y	MALDONADO		Y	SIMS
Y	COLLINS		A	MORENO		Y	STEELE
Y	DALEY		Y	MURPHY		Y	SUFFREDIN
Y	GAINER		Y	<i>PERAICA</i>			

MEMBERS IN **BOLD** ARE DEMOCRATS
MEMBERS IN *ITALICS* ARE REPUBLICANS

