Emergency Declaration
June 29, 2017

WHEREAS, on October 26, 2016, the Cook County Board of Commissioners passed Ordinance 16-5768, An Ordinance Creating a Minimum Wage in Cook County ("Cook County Ordinance"), to regulate the minimum wage and sick leave provisions within county cities and villages effective July 1, 2017; and

WHEREAS, Cook County cities and villages must take legislative action to opt-out of these provisions; and

WHEREAS, I believe strongly that all workers should receive a fair wage and benefits for their work and I support the concepts of the Cook County Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the Evanston City Council has had no discussion regarding and has taken no action on the Cook County Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, as of June 26, 2017, no contiguous city or village to Evanston was among the over 50 Cook County communities that had chosen to opt out of this legislation; and

WHEREAS, on June 27, 2017, the Village of Wilmette voted to opt out of the Ordinances; and

WHEREAS, on June 28, 2017, the Village of Skokie announced its intention to opt out of the ordinance and the Village of Oak Park called a special City Council meeting for June 30, 2017 to consider creating a short sunset provision to opt out of the Ordinance until further discussion on July 10, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the actions of our neighboring communities on June 27 and 28, 2017 may now endanger the businesses of Evanston by providing unequal working conditions in villages that directly compete with Evanston businesses; and
WHEREAS, I believe the potential economic impact of these inequalities presents a fiscal danger to Evanston's businesses and the City of Evanston's future tax revenues.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Stephen H. Hagerty, Mayor of the City of Evanston hereby declare that the conditions created by the actions of our neighboring communities on June 27 and 28, 2017 constitute a fiscal emergency in the City of Evanston that must be considered by the Evanston City Council prior to July 1, 2017 and call for an emergency meeting of the City Council at 10:00 AM on Friday June 30, 2017 to address the matter.

[Signature]

DATE: June 29, 2017

Stephen H. Hagerty
Mayor, City of Evanston