Offered by Councilors Breadon and Janey



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING THE STATUS OF COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY PLANS TO REOPEN FOR FALL 2020 AMID THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

- **WHEREAS**, The Governor of Massachusetts has initiated a reopening plan amid the COVID-19 pandemic and the City of Boston remains in a declared public health emergency; *and*,
- **WHEREAS**, Colleges and universities in the City of Boston and nationwide began transitioning to remote learning in mid-March 2020; *and*,
- **WHEREAS**, Various college and university administration officials and trustees are holding task forces to discuss and consider their respective reopening plans for Fall 2020; *and*,
- **WHEREAS**, Colleges and universities are beginning to announce their potential reopening plans for Fall 2020, in some cases including the extension of remote learning with the public health of educators, students, workers, and the public in mind; *and*,
- **WHEREAS**, Public health officials warn of the possibility of a "second wave" of COVID-19 cases in late-2020; *and*,
- **WHEREAS**, Boston is home to over 170,000 graduate and undergraduate students enrolled at more than 30 degree-granting higher education institutions, including four public universities, two for-profit institutions, and 26 private non-profit institutions; *and*,
- **WHEREAS.** Ensuring the health and safety of all members of the public, including educators, students, dining and cleaning staff, is of utmost importance while practicing safe physical distancing; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**
- ORDERED, That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing to discuss the status of college and university plans to reopen campuses for Fall 2020 amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Administration officials, college and university administrators, public health professionals, labor unions and advocacy organizations, students, and other interested members of the public shall be invited to attend remotely in the interest of public health amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Filed in City Council: June 3, 2020