

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
STATED MEETING

Room 400, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
March 19, 2026
10:00 a.m.

PRESENT:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT KENYATTA JOHNSON
COUNCILWOMAN NINA AHMAD
COUNCILWOMAN CINDY BASS
COUNCILMAN MICHAEL DRISCOLL
COUNCILWOMAN JAMIE GAUTHIER
COUNCILWOMAN KATHERINE GILMORE RICHARDSON
COUNCILMAN JIM HARRITY
COUNCILMAN CURTIS J. JONES, JR.
COUNCILWOMAN RUE LANDAU
COUNCILMAN BRIAN J. O'NEILL
COUNCILMAN NICOLAS O'ROURKE
COUNCILMAN ANTHONY PHILLIPS
COUNCILMAN MARK SQUILLA
COUNCILMAN JEFFREY YOUNG, JR.

ELIZABETH MCCOLLUM NAZARIO, CHIEF CLERK

- - -

1 3/19/26 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: Members, please take your
4 seats. All visitors retire to the
5 seats outside the rail. Please
6 take all sidebar conversations
7 outside of the Council chambers.
8 All those present, please put your
9 cell phones on vibrate and/or
10 silence.

11 Good morning, everyone.

12 (Good morning.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: Good morning, everyone.

15 (Good morning.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: To give our invocation
18 this morning, the Chair recognizes
19 Rev. Dr. Donna Lawrence Jones,
20 founding Pastor of the Cookman
21 Beloved Community Baptist Church.
22 She is here today as guest of
23 Councilmember Jamie Gauthier.

24 I will ask all members

1 3/19/26 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 and guests to please rise.

3 (Councilmembers,
4 visitors and guests rise.)

5 REV. DR. LAWRENCE JONES:

6 Council President, Councilwoman
7 Gauthier, guests, advocates,
8 Philadelphians, Almighty God, we
9 are, first of all, grateful for the
10 opportunity that you give this
11 Council, this Council that serves
12 the City of Love and Affection
13 known as Philadelphia; a place that
14 started out as cradle of liberty, a
15 place that has this history in
16 welcoming people from all over the
17 world regardless of status, a safe
18 city.

19 It is a place of our
20 vision, a place where all of your
21 children have enough and nobody has
22 too little. It's a place of
23 beloved community. Your servants
24 have gathered today to honor those

1 3/19/26 - STATED - INVOCATION
2 residents, visitors, no matter how
3 they've come into our city, those
4 houseless, those without safe
5 housing that the advocates are here
6 to plead for today and so many
7 other issues that face and deface
8 your will and your way.

9 We ask that you give
10 these members courage and strength
11 to love, that you give them
12 listening ears and hearing hearts,
13 that you give them ability beyond
14 what they know to come up with
15 solutions beyond what we know to
16 bring about peace, justice and
17 equity for every man, woman, boy,
18 and girl. Whether they've crossed
19 the bridge or crossed the street,
20 all our neighbors, allow us to
21 support them in their work.

22 Encourage them in their
23 work, challenge them in their work,
24 and advocate for those who are

1 3/19/26 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 neighbors for all of us. Help them
3 to hear us, to take it in, to not
4 dismiss, but to rightfully struggle
5 to find the ways necessary for
6 justice and peace to be present
7 here, especially now at a time
8 where free speech is threatened, at
9 a time where the Constitution is
10 challenged, at a time where we're
11 wondering is America possible.

12 Let us know that with
13 you all things are possible, and
14 that this sacred and important
15 experiment of ours can be seen,
16 felt, understood and celebrated in
17 this city. We're grateful for your
18 wisdom. We're grateful for all the
19 ways you give us the courage and
20 the strength, the love and the joy
21 to serve you in spirit and in
22 truth. In the name of all that is
23 holy, Amen.

24 (Amen.)

1 3/19/26 - STATED - APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: The Chair thanks the
4 Reverend for the invocation.

5 Council will be at ease.

6 (Council at ease.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: The next order of
9 business is the Approval of the
10 Journal of the meeting of Thursday,
11 March 12, 2026.

12 The Chair recognizes
13 Councilmember Cindy Bass.

14 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:

15 Thank you, Mr. President.

16 I move that the Journal
17 of the meeting of Thursday, March
18 12, 2026 be approved.

19 (Duly seconded.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

21 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
22 properly seconded that the Journal
23 of the meeting of Thursday, March
24 12, 2026 stand approved.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - LEAVES

2 All in favor will

3 indicate by saying aye.

4 (Aye.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

7 (No response.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: The ayes have it and the
10 Journal is approved.

11 The next order of
12 business is the request for leaves
13 of absence.

14 The Chair recognizes
15 Councilmember Katherine Gilmore
16 Richardson.

17 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

18 RICHARDSON: Thank you,
19 Mr. President.

20 On behalf of the
21 Majority, a leave of absence is
22 requested for Councilmember Thomas
23 and Councilmember Lozada.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 3/19/26 - STATED - MOTION REGARDING CALENDAR

2 JOHNSON: The Chair thanks the
3 Majority Leader. Leave will be
4 granted.

5 The Chair recognizes
6 Councilmember and Minority Whip,
7 Nicolas O'Rourke.

8 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:
9 Thank you, Mr. President.

10 On behalf of the
11 Minority, a leave of absence is
12 requested for Minority Leader
13 Kendra Brooks.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

15 JOHNSON: The Chair thanks Member
16 O'Rourke. Leave will be granted.

17 The Chair recognizes now
18 Majority Leader Katherine Gilmore
19 Richardson for a motion concerning
20 certain legislative matters that
21 may arise during the course of
22 today's session of Council and that
23 were not listed on the Calendar
24 circulated prior to today's Council

1 3/19/26 - STATED - MOTION REGARDING CALENDAR

2 session.

3 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

4 RICHARDSON: Thank you,

5 Mr. President.

6 I move that any of the
7 following matters, if considered
8 today, may be added to the agenda
9 for this session of Council and, as
10 required by law, subsequently
11 published on an amended agenda
12 after the consideration of those
13 matters: resolutions authorizing
14 hearings, amendments to bills on
15 first reading, the reconsideration
16 of a bill vetoed by or re-called
17 from the Mayor, amendments to bills
18 re-called from the Mayor,
19 resolutions taking substantive
20 action to be voted on in this
21 session, a motion to withdraw a
22 bill or resolution that is not on
23 the Calendar, and the motion
24 placing a bill or resolution on or

1 3/19/26 - STATED - MOTION REGARDING CALENDAR

2 returning a bill or resolution from
3 the Suspension Calendar that is not
4 listed on today's Calendar.

5 The purpose of this
6 motion is to provide the public
7 with notice concerning possible
8 actions by Council that arose too
9 late to be included on the Calendar
10 that was published prior to today's
11 session.

12 (Duly seconded.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
15 properly seconded that the
16 legislative matters stated by
17 Majority Leader Katherine Gilmore
18 Richardson may be added to the
19 agenda for today should those
20 matters arise during the course of
21 this session of Council.

22 All those in favor will
23 signify by saying aye.

24 (Aye.)

1 3/19/26 - STATED - GUESTS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

4 (No response.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: The ayes have it and the
7 motion carries.

8 The Chair will dispense
9 with the regular order of business
10 to recognize the guests and
11 visitors joining us in chambers
12 this morning. On behalf of all
13 members of City Council, I welcome
14 you to our Council session. We
15 appreciate your taking the time to
16 join us as we attend to the
17 legislative affairs of our great
18 city, and we certainly invite you
19 to come again.

20 The Chair at this time
21 recognizes Councilmember Mike
22 Driscoll.

23 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

24 Good morning, Mr. President.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - GUESTS

2 Today I'm pleased to
3 welcome a group of dedicated
4 Community Autism Peer Specialists
5 from Mental Health Partnerships who
6 are visiting us here in City
7 Council. The CAPS program is truly
8 groundbreaking. It is the first
9 program of its kind in the nation,
10 connecting individuals on the
11 autism spectrum with trained peers
12 who share lived experiences.

13 These specialists
14 provide community-based behavioral
15 support, helping people build
16 independence, strengthen social
17 connections and fully participate
18 in their communities. These
19 specialists serve young people and
20 adults ages 14 and older with
21 autism who may struggle with
22 social, vocational or daily
23 challenges. By working with
24 someone who truly understands their

1 3/19/26 - STATED - GUESTS
2 experience, participants gain
3 confidence skills and a stronger
4 sense of belonging in our
5 communities.

6 Please join me in
7 welcoming and recognizing the
8 Community Autism Peer Specialists
9 from Mental Health Partnerships,
10 who are with us in the gallery
11 today.

12 (Applause.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: Thank you very much,
15 Member Driscoll.

16 I also want to
17 acknowledge the City Solicitor, the
18 Honorable Christy Brady. Thank you
19 for joining us as well today -- I'm
20 sorry. City Controller Christy
21 Brady. Thank you for joining us
22 today.

23 (Applause.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 3/19/26 - STATED - GUESTS

2 JOHNSON: I also want to
3 acknowledge the Honorable Patrick
4 Dugan. Thank you for joining us
5 today as well.

6 (Applause.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: The Chair acknowledges
9 Councilmember Jamie Gauthier.

10 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

11 Thank you, Council President.

12 I want to take a moment
13 to welcome Mrs. Renfrow, Baba
14 Renfrow, Nicole Green and the Osage
15 Avenue and Pine Street community
16 who are here today, as we renamed
17 the 6200 block of Osage Avenue
18 Mr. Gerald Wayne Renfrow Way, after
19 the late giant of our community.

20 We are very pleased to have you
21 here today. Can you stand up?

22 (Applause.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: Welcome.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - GUESTS

2 The Chair recognizes

3 Councilmember Curtis Jones, Jr.

4 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank
5 you, Mr. President, colleagues, and
6 those that are here today.

7 I'd like to welcome the
8 National Coalition of 100 Black
9 Women to our chambers. They are no
10 strangers, but they are back here
11 today dressed in black. Please
12 rise.

13 (Applause.)

14 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank
15 you, Mr. President.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: You're welcome. Welcome.

18 The Chair recognizes

19 Councilmember Dr. Nina Ahmad.

20 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

21 Thank you, Council President.

22 I want to take a moment
23 to recognize my guest here today in
24 recognition of Women's History

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 Month. I introduced a resolution
3 honoring Dr. Khine Zaw Arthur, who
4 is the President and Chief
5 Executive Officer of the Asian
6 American Chamber of Commerce of
7 Greater Philadelphia. And would
8 she please stand and let us all
9 congratulate her for her leadership
10 and entrepreneurial achievements.

11 (Applause.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

13 JOHNSON: Welcome.

14 At this time, the Chair
15 recognizes Councilmember Curtis
16 Jones, Jr., who will present a
17 resolution honoring and recognizing
18 the National Coalition of 100 Black
19 Women, Inc. - Pennsylvania Chapter
20 on their annual legislative day and
21 for their dedication to advancing
22 gender and racial equality and
23 empowering Black women during
24 Women's History Month. Would

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 President Nyisha Chapman and those
3 accompanying her please join
4 Councilmember Curtis Jones at the
5 podium.

6 Joining Councilmember
7 Curtis Jones are the following
8 Councilmembers: Councilmember
9 Dr. Anthony Phillips, Councilmember
10 Jamie Gauthier, Majority Leader
11 Katherine Gilmore Richardson,
12 Councilmember Rue Landau,
13 Councilmember Jeffrey Jay Young,
14 Councilmember Jim Harrity, Minority
15 Whip Nicolas O'Rourke, Majority
16 Deputy Whip Councilmember Cindy
17 Bass and Councilmember Dr. Nina
18 Ahmad.

19 (Councilmembers and
20 guests approached podium.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

22 JOHNSON: Member Jones, the floor
23 is yours.

24 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 you, Mr. President.

3 As we allow the
4 Coalition to grace us and come up,
5 there are so many of them, I want
6 to recognize for the record. They
7 may only have a National Coalition
8 of 100 but last time I counted, it
9 was 147 so they are growing in
10 every way.

11 What I want to say about
12 them in Women's History Month is
13 they're not settling for reading
14 history. They're about the
15 business of making history. And
16 their contribution in the
17 Philadelphia Chapter, I've grown to
18 appreciate because, brothers,
19 they're running circles around us.

20 They have an agenda.
21 Their meetings are run
22 professionally and with a certain
23 degree of decorum, Mr. President,
24 that you would appreciate. And

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2 they move on issues, whether it's
3 economic issues, whether it's
4 social justice issues, whether it's
5 housing issues, to make a
6 difference in our city. And
7 although they are a National
8 Coalition, they do not neglect
9 Philadelphia's agenda. And for
10 that, we are honoring them today.

11 And with that,
12 therefore, Katherine Gilmore
13 Richardson;

14 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

15 RICHARDSON: Thank you so much to
16 my District colleague Councilmember
17 Jones. It is certainly my humble
18 honor and privilege to stand with
19 my sisters of the National
20 Coalition of 100 Black Women,
21 Pennsylvania Chapter.

22 So today, we are
23 honoring and recognizing the
24 National Coalition of 100 Black

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2 Women, Inc. - Pennsylvania Chapter
3 on our Annual Legislative Day and
4 for our dedication to advancing
5 gender and racial equity and
6 empowering Black women during
7 Women's History Month; and

8 Whereas, the Coalition
9 of Black Women was formed in 1970,
10 by 24 visionary Black women, led by
11 Edna Beach, gathered in New York
12 City to address social, economic
13 and political issues impacting
14 their families and communities,
15 giving rise to the Coalition of 100
16 Black Women, a key organization
17 dedicated to advancing gender and
18 racial equity; and

19 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:

20 Whereas, under Edna Beach's
21 leadership, the Coalition addressed
22 the root cause of inequality,
23 mobilized Black women who shared
24 their vision and became a visible

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 force advocating for the
3 empowerment of Black women in both
4 the public and private sector; and

5 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:

6 Welcome to my Coalition sisters.

7 Whereas, by 1981, the New York
8 Coalition had over 500 members.

9 And as they gained recognition,
10 they expanded their mission and
11 vision nationwide. On October 24th
12 of that year, the National
13 Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc.
14 was formed, with Jewell Jackson
15 McCabe selected as their first
16 National President; and

17 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:

18 Love this day. Whereas, in 1981,
19 Jewell Jackson McCabe encouraged
20 Sylvia Webster of Pennsylvania to
21 charter a local chapter. Embracing
22 the idea, Webster chartered the
23 National Coalition of 100 Black
24 Women, Inc. - Pennsylvania Chapter,

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 (NC100BWPA) with 42 progressive
3 women; and

4 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:

5 Whereas, over the years, the
6 indomitable National Coalition of
7 100 Black Women, Inc. -
8 Pennsylvania Chapter has grown to
9 200 members and has worked
10 tirelessly to advocate for Black
11 women and girls, advancing
12 leadership development, gender
13 equity and social justice,
14 particularly in the areas of
15 health, education and economic
16 empowerment, while empowering
17 thousands of Black women to lead in
18 their communities, in their
19 workplaces and beyond; and

20 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

21 Whereas, the National Coalition of
22 100 Black Women of Pennsylvania
23 continues to be a powerful voice of
24 gender equity and sociopolitical

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 and advancement driving meaningful
3 change to benefit Black women and
4 girls. Additionally, NC100BWPA
5 plays a key role in fulfilling the
6 National Coalition's vision of
7 world where socioeconomic inequity
8 does not exist for Black women and
9 girls; and

10 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

11 Whereas, The NC100BWPA members
12 consist of a dynamic network of
13 progressive Black women, including
14 physicians, lawyers, educators,
15 entrepreneurs and other skilled
16 professionals who serve as change
17 agents. They have recognized
18 various needs in the Philadelphia
19 community and contributed in many
20 ways, including advocating for
21 racial and social justice while
22 striving to create a positive
23 impact in their communities; and

24 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS:

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 Whereas, NC100BWPA remains
3 committed to mentoring leadership
4 development and fostering future
5 generations of Black women leaders,
6 recognizing that they are essential
7 to leadership, continuity and must
8 continue to lead the charge in
9 effecting positive change; and

10 COUNCILMAN YOUNG:

11 Whereas, the National Coalition of
12 100 Black Women, Inc. -
13 Pennsylvania Chapter's continued
14 success and impact are a testament
15 to the strength, determination and
16 vision of its founders who have
17 bridged generational gaps, created
18 programs that respond to the unique
19 needs of their communities and
20 maintained a steadfast and
21 empowering Black women through
22 advocacy, education and strategic
23 partnerships; now, therefore, be it

24 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

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2 RICHARDSON: Resolved, by the
3 Council of the City of
4 Philadelphia, that we Hereby honor
5 and recognize the National
6 Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc.
7 - Pennsylvania Chapter for our
8 tireless dedication to advancing
9 gender and racial equity, our
10 unwavering commitment to the
11 empowerment of Black women and our
12 significant contributions to
13 shaping the future of leadership
14 and advocacy for women of color
15 right here in the City of
16 Philadelphia, the Commonwealth of
17 Pennsylvania and across the United
18 States of America.
19 Congratulations.

20 (Applause.)

21 COUNCILMAN JONES:

22 Before we bring up Ms. Chapman, I
23 would be remiss and wouldn't be
24 able to live with Wilhelmina Moore,

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 who introduced me to this
3 Coalition, and Charlita Davis of my
4 staff who fights tirelessly for
5 this group. Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes
9 President Nyisha Chapman.

10 MS. CHAPMAN: Thank you.

11 Good morning, Councilmembers,
12 distinguished guests and advocates,
13 partners. My name is Nyisha
14 Chapman and I have the honor of
15 serving as the President of the
16 National Coalition of 100 Black
17 Women - Pennsylvania Chapter. We
18 are grateful for the opportunity to
19 be here today, not just to be seen,
20 but to be heard and more
21 importantly, to be a part of
22 solutions that are shaping our
23 communities.

24 The National Coalition

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2 of 100 Black Women was founded in
3 1970 by a group of visionary Black
4 women in New York City who
5 understood the advocacy, leadership
6 and collective action were
7 necessary to drive meaningful
8 change. What began as a small
9 coalition has grown into a national
10 organization with chapters across
11 the country committed to advocacy
12 on behalf of Black women and girls
13 in the areas of health, education,
14 economic empowerment and public
15 policy.

16 For more than five
17 decades, our work has been rooted
18 in one core belief, that Black
19 women are not just participants in
20 democracy. We are the architects
21 of it. Legislative Day is not just
22 a visit, it's a reminder, a
23 reminder that policy is personal,
24 that behind every bill, every vote

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2 and every budget decision, there
3 are real people, families that are
4 navigating rising housing costs,
5 women building businesses without
6 access to capital, young people
7 trying to find pathways to
8 opportunity and communities that
9 are still fighting for equitable
10 access to health care, education
11 and safety.

12 As an organization, we
13 stand at the intersection of
14 advocacy and action. We are
15 committed to advancing equity for
16 Black women and girls because we
17 understand the simple truth: When
18 Black women thrive, communities
19 thrive. But let's be clear,
20 progress does not happen by
21 accident. It happens through
22 intentional policy. It happens
23 through courageous leadership. And
24 it happens when organizations like

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2 ours and leaders like you all in
3 partnership, not in parallel.

4 Today we come with both
5 appreciation and expectation. We
6 appreciate the work that has been
7 done to move our city forward and
8 we expect continued commitment to
9 policies that center equity, expand
10 opportunity and remove systematic
11 barriers that too many of our
12 communities still face. We are
13 especially focused on economic
14 empowerment and closing the wealth
15 gap, equitable access to safe and
16 affordable housing, maternal and
17 women's health outcomes, education
18 and workforce pathways for our
19 youth and the protection of civil
20 and human rights in every space.
21 These are not abstract priorities.
22 These are urgent realities.

23 And while we recognize
24 the complexity of governing, we

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2 also recognize the power of
3 collaboration. Our members are not
4 just advocates. We are
5 professionals, leaders, subject
6 matter experts and community
7 stakeholders ready to partner,
8 advise and help move meaningful
9 policy forward. So today is not
10 the end of the conversation. It's
11 the continuation of one.

12 We invite you to engage
13 with us, to listen to the lived
14 experiences of the communities we
15 serve and to work alongside us to
16 build a city that is not only
17 prosperous, but just. Because at
18 the end of the day, the question is
19 not whether we can afford to invest
20 in equity. The question is, can we
21 not afford to.

22 Thank you for your time,
23 thank you for your leadership and
24 your commitment to the people of

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2 the city. We look forward to
3 continuing to work together. And I
4 want to say personally thank you to
5 Councilmember Johnson -- Council
6 President Johnson, Councilmember
7 Jones, Councilwoman Gauthier, who's
8 my Councilwoman, Councilwoman
9 Katherine Gilmore Richardson,
10 Councilwoman Bass, and all of the
11 Councilmembers that are here today,
12 and to the ladies that are standing
13 beside me and with me. Thank you
14 for this opportunity.

15 (Applause.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

18 Council will be at ease.

19 (Council at ease.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

21 JOHNSON: At this time, the Chair
22 recognizes Councilmember Mark
23 Squilla, who will present a
24 resolution recognizing and honoring

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2 Robert Faulds for his exceptional
3 service to the United States Navy
4 and to the City of Philadelphia.

5 Will Robert Faulds and
6 those accompanying him please join
7 Councilmember Squilla at the
8 podium. Joining Councilmember
9 Squilla are Councilmember
10 Dr. Anthony Phillips, Councilmember
11 Jamie Gauthier, Councilmember Jim
12 Harritty, Councilmember Nicolas
13 O'Rourke, Councilmember Mike
14 Driscoll.

15 (Councilmembers and
16 visitors approached podium.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: The floor is yours,
19 Member Squilla.

20 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

21 Thank you. Thank you,
22 Mr. President.

23 Before we get started
24 today, I first want to thank

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 Councilmember Lozada, who
3 introduced this legislation, as
4 well as Tom for leading us here
5 today. This is a resolution
6 representing an individual who
7 assisted the city and has worked
8 tirelessly to make his neighbors
9 around him able to access resources
10 as well as looking out for the city
11 and the resources that are owed to
12 them.

13 So today before I begin,
14 I'd like to recognize special
15 guests joining me for Mr. Robert
16 Faulds: City Controller Christy
17 Brady; Director Gregory Wright from
18 the Council's Veterans Office;
19 Judge Patrick Dugan from the Korean
20 War Memorial Board and Head Counsel
21 Oh Young Lee from the Republic of
22 Korea. Thank you all for being
23 here.

24 At 93 years old,

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2 Mr. Faulds is not only a proud Navy
3 veteran of the Korean War, but also
4 a lifelong resident of Kensington
5 and a member of the Korean War
6 Memorial located on Columbus
7 Boulevard in the 1st Council
8 District. He stands as a tribute
9 to those who served along with our
10 city residents, although
11 Councilmember Lozada could not be
12 here today, I am proud to join her
13 in honoring Mr. Faulds' legacy.

14 Council President,
15 briefly before we present the
16 resolution, the Head Counsel and
17 Judge Dugan will be able to receive
18 a microphone to able to cast honors
19 on Mr. Faulds.

20 JUDGE DUGAN: As the
21 President Emeritus of the Korean
22 War Memorial Board in Philadelphia
23 and on behalf of the Ministry of
24 Patriots and Veterans Affairs, it's

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2 my honor for Robert Faulds to be
3 presented with the Ambassador for
4 Peace Official Proclamation.

5 It is a great honor and
6 pleasure to express the everlasting
7 gratitude of the Republic of Korea
8 and our people for the service you
9 and your countrymen have performed
10 in restoring and preserving our
11 freedom and democracy. Bob
12 actually went to Korea at the age
13 of 17. We cherish in our hearts
14 the memory of your boundless
15 sacrifices in helping us
16 re-establish our free nation.

17 In grateful recognition
18 of your dedicated contribution, it
19 is our privilege to proclaim you an
20 Ambassador for peace with every
21 good wish of the people of the
22 Republic of Korea. Let each of us
23 reaffirm our mutual respect and
24 friendship, that they may endure

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2 for generations to come. On behalf
3 of the Minister of the Patriots and
4 Veterans Affairs of the Republic of
5 Korea, congratulations, Sailor
6 Robert Faulds, proud Philadelphian.

7 (Applause.)

8 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

9 Thank you, Judge Dugan. And now,
10 I'd like to recognize our
11 Controller Christy Brady.

12 CITY CONTROLLER BRADY:

13 Mr. Faulds is someone special in
14 our office too. And today I am
15 honored to recognize such an
16 extraordinary Philadelphia resident
17 for his exceptional service to our
18 city. At 93 years old, a retired
19 veteran, graduate of North
20 Catholic, he continues a lifetime
21 of public service, helping fellow
22 residents find tax relief and
23 recover unclaimed property.

24 But Mr. Faulds didn't

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 stop there. He came to our office
3 with concerns about individuals and
4 businesses fraudulently filing for
5 the Homestead Exemption. Through
6 his diligence and initiative, he
7 gave our team a critical starting
8 point. Because of that work, we
9 launched an investigation that
10 uncovered millions of dollars in
11 fraud within the program leading to
12 the removal of individuals and
13 businesses who are improperly
14 receiving the benefit and helping
15 to protect vital resources for the
16 City and our School District.

17 Today we are proud to
18 present him with a citation and
19 recognition of his exceptional
20 service to the City of
21 Philadelphia. Mr. Faulds, you
22 embody the very best of public
23 service. Your vigilance, integrity
24 and commitment remind us that

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 government works best when citizens
3 are engaged. On behalf of the City
4 of Philadelphia, thank you for your
5 service, your dedication and your
6 lasting impact on this city. Thank
7 you.

8 (Applause.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes
11 Councilmember Mark Squilla.

12 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

13 Thank you, Mr. President.

14 Thank you for allowing
15 us to honor Mr. Faulds for his work
16 that he has done. And today we're
17 recognizing and honoring him for
18 his exceptional service to the
19 United States Navy and to the City
20 of Philadelphia.

21 Whereas, Robert Faulds,
22 a Korean War Navy veteran, lifelong
23 Kensington resident and retired
24 insurance professional at 92 years

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 old, continues to demonstrate
3 extraordinary dedication to his
4 city and its people; and

5 Whereas, Mr. Faulds
6 graduated with honors from North
7 Catholic High School and
8 subsequently enlisted in the United
9 States Navy to serve in the Korean
10 War. A rare photograph of his
11 enlistment was published in the
12 bulletin; and

13 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:

14 Whereas, the USS Toledo (CA-133)
15 was home to Mr. Faulds while
16 sailing on the East China Sea; and

17 Whereas, following the
18 conclusion of the Korean War with
19 the armistice signed on July 27,
20 1953, Mr. Faulds returned to his
21 home, the USS Toledo (CA-133)
22 anchored in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii
23 after combat; and

24 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS:

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 Whereas, Robert Faulds' siblings
3 demonstrated commendable service to
4 our nation. James Joseph served in
5 World War II. Phillip William
6 fulfilled his duties in the Navy,
7 Joseph James contributed to the
8 U.S. Coast Guard and Robert Joseph
9 also served in the Navy. Their
10 collective dedication reflects a
11 strong commitment to our country's
12 defense and values; and

13 Whereas, while
14 recovering from a stroke, Faulds
15 embraced the Internet to stay
16 engaged and give back to his
17 community. He spent countless
18 hours researching and uncovering
19 unclaimed assets and potential
20 fraud within the City of
21 Philadelphia's Property Tax Relief
22 program; and

23 Whereas, with no staff
24 and limited resources, Mr. Faulds

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 took it upon himself to track down
3 Philadelphians eligible for tax
4 relief or unclaimed assets,
5 alerting approximately 1500
6 families to funds and exemptions
7 they were entitled to, all while
8 personally covering the cost of
9 postage and ink for his letters;
10 and

11 Whereas, in addition to
12 assisting Philadelphia residents
13 with their tax relief and unclaimed
14 assets, Mr. Faulds noticed
15 discrepancies in the city's
16 Homestead Exemption program,
17 including properties with out-of-
18 state mailing addresses, mail-in
19 claims for the exemption by the
20 same individuals and even
21 businesses and landlords improperly
22 receiving the benefit; and

23 Whereas, rather than
24 ignoring these discrepancies,

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 Mr. Faulds took action by alerting
3 the City Controller's Office, which
4 launched a thorough investigation
5 into the issue. This effort led to
6 the identification of over 23,000
7 properties that were improperly
8 enrolled in the program, resulting
9 in an estimated \$11 million in lost
10 revenue annually for the city and
11 school district; and

12 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

13 Whereas, thanks to Mr. Faulds'
14 vigilance and dedication, the
15 investigation prompted
16 recommendations to strengthen the
17 verification process for the
18 Homestead Exemption, including
19 better cross-checking of names and
20 addresses, penalties for fraudulent
21 claims and increased oversight of
22 out-of-city beneficiaries; and

23 Whereas, Mr. Faulds'
24 tireless work not only exposed

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 significant fraud within the
3 Homestead Exemption program, but
4 also helped safeguard millions of
5 dollars in city and school district
6 funds that are critical to
7 providing vital services to
8 Philadelphia's residents; and

9 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

10 Whereas, Mr. Faulds contributions
11 to the city and his community
12 reflect the highest standards of
13 civic responsibility, public
14 service and selflessness serving as
15 a model for others to follow in
16 their own efforts to make a
17 difference in the lives of others;
18 now, therefore, be it, Resolved by
19 the Council of the City of
20 Philadelphia, that it hereby honors
21 Robert Faulds for his exceptional
22 service, unwavering dedication and
23 significant contributions to both
24 the community and the City of

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 Philadelphia;

3 Further Resolved, that
4 an Engrossed copy of this
5 resolution be presented to Robert
6 Faulds as evidence of the true and
7 sincere admiration and respect of
8 this legislative body.

9 (Applause.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

11 JOHNSON: The Chair now recognizes
12 Mr. Faulds.

13 MR. FAULDS: Well, it
14 certainly is a pleasure to be here
15 in Philadelphia City Hall. I've
16 always been on the outside of this
17 building and wondered about things
18 that go on inside with all these
19 dedicated people. And I just felt
20 that maybe there was something I
21 could do and I just went about it.

22 And actually, it has
23 really helped me pass the time of
24 day because I'm on the Internet so

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 much that I forget my own troubles
3 and illnesses. And I even had to
4 give up driving two years ago,
5 which was a blow to me then. But
6 being as I come on the Internet now
7 and see that there are a lot of
8 other things that I could help out
9 with, especially the people in the
10 area where I was brought up, which
11 unfortunately doesn't have a good
12 reputation maybe, Kensington, but
13 I'm so glad that I had a good
14 mother and a good father who really
15 watched out for us and were good
16 examples to follow.

17 And they fortunately
18 lived a pretty long life and they
19 did the same thing that I did,
20 although I imagine that during
21 World War II and around that time,
22 they had their four sons all go
23 over at one time to the service,
24 one to the Coast Guard, one to the

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 Army and two to the Navy all at one
3 time.

4 And I didn't realize it,
5 but the few chances I got to write
6 letters home I thought they were
7 just discarded letters. But lo and
8 behold when I got home, there was a
9 stack of letters, which I still
10 have, and trying to keep my
11 relatives posted on what we were
12 doing.

13 And the best part of my
14 career was the time of Korea. My
15 brother's ship, a cruiser, came
16 alongside my ship which was a
17 tanker, and we refueled his ship.
18 And this is all in a war zone. And
19 while we're there, I thought I'd
20 take a chance and ask if I could go
21 visit my brother on what they
22 called the High Line. And because
23 my captain of my ship was a
24 submarine captain, very famous in

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 World War II, I received permission
3 to go sit in a chair and be hauled
4 across to his ship, because both
5 ships at the time were proceeding
6 about 1520 miles an hour and we
7 were all in a war zone. So good
8 that the Koreans didn't have
9 submarines because we would have
10 been sitting ducks with them, I'm
11 sure.

12 (Applause.)

13 MR. FAULDS: But as it
14 was -- but I better save my war
15 stories for a better moment or
16 another time, or maybe if I live to
17 be 100, I'll be able to get them
18 all in.

19 (Applause.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

21 JOHNSON: Council will be at ease.

22 (Council at ease.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: The next order of

1 3/19/26 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 business is communications. The
3 Chair requests that the Sergeant-
4 at-Arms deliver the messages from
5 the Mayor to the Chief Clerk.

6 The Chief Clerk will
7 read the messages from the Mayor
8 and any other communications in her
9 possession.

10 CHIEF CLERK: To the
11 President and members of the
12 Council of the City of
13 Philadelphia, I'm submitting
14 herewith for the consideration of
15 your Honorable body the following
16 proposed: An ordinance authorizing
17 the Procurement Commissioner to
18 enter into agreements to purchase
19 electricity, natural gas and motor
20 fuel for use by the City and City
21 facilities and vehicles, including
22 agreements that obligate payment
23 for delivery of such energy
24 supplies in future fiscal years,

1 3/19/26 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 all under certain terms and
3 conditions.

4 A resolution authorizing
5 the Philadelphia Land Bank to
6 dispose of 3001 Martha Street now
7 subdivided, resulting in the
8 creation of 20 individual parcels
9 known as 3011, 3013, 3015, 3017,
10 3019, 3021, 3023, 3025, 3027, 3029,
11 3031, 3033, 3035, 3037, 3039, 3041,
12 30, 3043, 3045, 3047 and 3449
13 Martha Street, located in the 1st
14 Councilmanic District in accordance
15 with the terms of Chapter 16-700 of
16 The Philadelphia Code.

17 A resolution authorizing
18 the Philadelphia Land Bank to
19 dispose of 1212 South 17th Street,
20 1511 South 20th Street, 1904 South,
21 23rd Street, 1216 South 31st
22 Street, 1911 Gerritt Street, 1932
23 and 2044 Titan Street, located in
24 the 2nd Councilmanic District in

1 3/19/26 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 accordance with the terms of
3 Chapter 16-700 of The Philadelphia
4 Code.

5 A resolution authorizing
6 the Philadelphia Land Bank to
7 dispose of 1601, 1605, 1616, 1618,
8 1620 North 16th Street located in
9 the 5th Councilmanic District in
10 accordance with the terms of
11 Chapter 16-700 of The Philadelphia
12 Code; and

13 A resolution authorizing
14 the Philadelphia Land Bank to
15 dispose of 310, 313, 503, 505
16 Diamond Street; 304, 309, 311,
17 323, 512 West Susquehanna Avenue;
18 509, 511, 534, 536 West Dauphin
19 Street; 447 West Norris Street;
20 516, 518, Edgley Street; 2054, 2151
21 North 5th Street; 2049, 2138, 2236,
22 2252, 2254, North Reese Street;
23 2210, 2212, 2233, 2306, 2308, 2310,
24 2312 North Leithgow Street; 2202,

1 3/19/26 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 2204 North Orkney Street; 2206
3 North Orianna Street; 2305, 2307,
4 2309 North Lawrence Street located
5 in the 7th Councilmanic District,
6 in accordance with the terms of
7 Chapter 16-700 of The Philadelphia
8 Code.

9 A resolution authorizing
10 the Philadelphia Land Bank to
11 dispose of 2726 North 15th located
12 in the 8th Councilmanic District in
13 accordance with the terms of
14 Chapter 16-700 of The Philadelphia
15 Code.

16 A resolution appointing
17 Bekir Gunaydin to the Board of
18 Directors for the Old City Special
19 Services District.

20 A resolution appointing
21 Felicia Wilson to the Board of
22 Directors for the Old City Special
23 Services District.

24 A resolution appointing

1 3/19/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Ken Weller to the Board of
3 Directors for the Old City Special
4 Services District.

5 And a resolution
6 appointing Kya Kerner to the Board
7 of Directors for the Old City
8 Special Services District.

9 There are no further
10 communications in my possession,
11 Council President.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

13 JOHNSON: Thank you. The messages
14 will be printed in the Journal.

15 The next order of
16 business is the introduction of
17 bills and resolutions.

18 The Chair recognizes
19 Councilmember Dr. Anthony Phillips.

20 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS:

21 Thank you, Council President.

22 Good morning, everyone.
23 I have no bills or resolutions for
24 introduction today.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

4 Chair recognizes

5 Majority Leader Katherine Gilmore

6 Richardson.

7 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

8 RICHARDSON: Thank you,

9 Mr. President.

10 Today I offer one
11 privileged resolution on your
12 behalf.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

15 Would the Chief Clerk
16 please read the title of the
17 resolution.

18 CHIEF CLERK: A
19 privileged resolution recognizing
20 the women of the Philadelphia
21 Sheriff's Office during Women's
22 History Month 2026 for their
23 tireless service, sacrifice and
24 invaluable contributions to the

1 3/19/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 safety and well-being of the City
3 of Philadelphia.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

5 JOHNSON: This resolution will be
6 placed on today's Final Passage
7 Calendar.

8 The Chair acknowledges
9 Councilmember Jamie Gauthier.

10 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

11 Good morning, Council President.

12 Today I have two bills
13 and two non-privileged resolutions.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

15 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

16 Will the Chief Clerk
17 please read the titles of the bills
18 and resolutions.

19 CHIEF CLERK: An

20 ordinance to amend the Philadelphia
21 Zoning Maps by changing the zoning
22 designations of certain areas of
23 land located within an area bounded
24 by Ludlow Street, South 41st

1 3/19/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Street, West Girard Avenue and
3 North 48th Street.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

5 JOHNSON: This bill will be
6 referred to the appropriate
7 committee.

8 CHIEF CLERK: And an
9 ordinance to amend the Philadelphia
10 Zoning Maps by changing the zoning
11 designations of certain areas of
12 land located within an area bounded
13 by Baltimore Avenue, Cobbs Creek
14 Parkway, a SEPTA Regional Railroad
15 Right-Of-Way and Cobbs Creek.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: This bill will be
18 referred to the appropriate
19 committee.

20 CHIEF CLERK: And a
21 non-privileged resolution also
22 naming the intersection of 40th and
23 Chestnut Street as "Darcenia
24 Burrell Way" to honor the life and

1 3/19/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 legacy of Darcenia V. Burrell and
3 her lasting contributions to the
4 community.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: This resolution will be
7 placed on the Final Passage
8 Calendar for consideration at the
9 next session of Council.

10 CHIEF CLERK: And a
11 non-privileged resolution also
12 naming the 5100 block of Chester
13 Avenue as "Paul Ellis Hill Way" to
14 honor the life, legacy and
15 community impact of Paul Ellis Hill
16 in the Kingessing neighborhood.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: This resolution will be
19 placed on the Final Passage
20 Calendar for consideration at the
21 next session of Council.

22 The Chair recognizes
23 Councilmember Curtis Jones, Jr.

24 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank

1 3/19/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 you, Mr. President.

3 Today I offer one bill
4 and one privileged resolution.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

7 Will the Chief Clerk
8 please read the titles of the bill
9 and resolution.

10 CHIEF CLERK: An
11 ordinance removing the parking lane
12 and prohibiting stopping on the
13 south side of Cinnaminson Street,
14 from Mitchell Street to Pechin
15 Street.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: This bill will be
18 referred to the appropriate
19 committee.

20 CHIEF CLERK: And a
21 privileged resolution Honoring the
22 Schools and Principals of the
23 Fourth Council District for Their
24 Ongoing Commitment to Coordination

1 3/19/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 and Staying Informed Through Monday
3 Morning Roll Call Meetings.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

5 JOHNSON: This resolution will be
6 placed on today's Final Passage
7 Calendar.

8 Chair recognizes
9 Councilmember Landau.

10 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:
11 Good morning, Council President,
12 colleagues, the public.

13 Today I offer three
14 privileged resolutions.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
16 JOHNSON: Thank you very much,
17 Chief Clerk, please read
18 the titles of the resolutions.

19 CHIEF CLERK: A
20 privileged resolution declaring
21 March 16 - March 20, 2026 as
22 National LGBTQ Health Awareness
23 Week in the City of Philadelphia.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 3/19/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 JOHNSON: This resolution will be
3 placed on today's Final Passage
4 Calendar.

5 CHIEF CLERK: And a
6 privileged resolution authorizing
7 the Committee on Public Health and
8 Human Services to hold hearings
9 examining the state of the LGBTQ+
10 health in Philadelphia.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: This resolution will be
13 placed on today's Final Passage
14 Calendar.

15 CHIEF CLERK: And a
16 resolution recognizing March 31,
17 2026 as Transgender Day of
18 Visibility in the City of
19 Philadelphia, a day to celebrate
20 and recognize the achievements and
21 contributions of Transgender
22 people, and to lift up the joy,
23 light and laughter that Transgender
24 people experience and bring into

1 3/19/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 our communities.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

4 JOHNSON: This resolution will be
5 placed on today's Final Passage
6 Calendar.

7 The Chair recognizes
8 Councilmember Jeffrey Jay Young.

9 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Thank
10 you, Mr. President.

11 Today I offer one bill,
12 one privileged resolution and one
13 non-privileged resolution.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

15 JOHNSON: Chief Clerk, please read
16 the titles of the bill and
17 resolutions.

18 CHIEF CLERK: An
19 ordinance amending Title 9 of The
20 Philadelphia Code, entitled
21 "Regulation of Businesses, Trades
22 and Professions," and amending
23 Section 14-604 of The Philadelphia
24 Code, entitled "Accessory Uses and

1 3/19/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Structures" to provide for notice
3 to owners and residents of a
4 building regarding dwelling units
5 licensed for limited lodging on the
6 property, all under certain terms
7 and conditions.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: This bill will be
10 referred to the appropriate
11 committee.

12 CHIEF CLERK: And a
13 non-privileged resolution
14 authorizing the Philadelphia Land
15 Bank to dispose of 1601, 1605,
16 1616, 1618, 1620 North 16th Street
17 located in the 5th Councilmanic
18 District in accordance with the
19 terms of Chapter 16-700 of The
20 Philadelphia Code.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

22 JOHNSON: This resolution will be
23 placed on the Final Passage
24 Calendar for consideration at the

1 3/19/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 next session of Council.

3 CHIEF CLERK: And a
4 privileged resolution honoring and
5 recognizing March 24, 2026 as
6 National Cheesesteak Day in the
7 City of Philadelphia.

8 (Applause.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: This includes vegan
11 cheesesteaks? This resolution will
12 be placed on today's Final Passage
13 Calendar.

14 Chair recognizes
15 Councilmember Harrity.

16 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:
17 Hello, Council President.

18 I have no bills or
19 resolutions today.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

21 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

22 Chair recognizes
23 Councilmember O'Rourke.

24 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:

1 3/19/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Thank you, Mr. President.

3 Nothing today.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

5 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes

6 Councilmember Mike Driscoll.

7 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

8 Thank you, Mr. President.

9 No bills or resolutions
10 today.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

13 Chair recognizes

14 Councilmember Brian O'Neill.

15 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL:

16 Thank you, Mr. President.

17 I have no bills or
18 resolutions.

19 Chair recognizes

20 Councilmember Mark Squilla.

21 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

22 Thank you, Mr. President.

23 Five non-privileged
24 resolutions.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

4 Will the Chief Clerk
5 please read the titles of the
6 resolutions -- Council will be at
7 ease.

8 (Council at ease.)

9 CHIEF CLERK: A

10 non-privileged resolution
11 authorizing the Philadelphia Land
12 Bank to dispose of 3001 Martha
13 Street now subdivided, resulting in
14 the creation of 20 individual
15 parcels known as 3011, 3013, 3015,
16 3017, 3019, 3021, 3023, 3025, 3027,
17 3029, 3031, 3033, 3035, 3037, 3039,
18 3041, 3043, 3045, 3047 and 3049
19 Martha Street located in the 1st
20 Councilmanic District, in
21 accordance with the terms of
22 Chapter 16-700 of The Philadelphia
23 Code.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 3/19/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 JOHNSON: This resolution will be
3 referred to the appropriate
4 committee.

5 CHIEF CLERK: That's
6 final passage. I'm sorry.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: This resolution will be
9 placed on today's Final Passage
10 Calendar.

11 CHIEF CLERK: It's
12 non-privileged.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: This resolution will be
15 placed on the Final Passage
16 Calendar for consideration at the
17 next session of Council.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Sorry.
19 And a non-privileged resolution
20 appointing Bekir Gunaydin to the
21 Board of Directors for the Old City
22 Special Services District.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: This bill will be

1 3/19/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 referred to the appropriate
3 committee.

4 CHIEF CLERK: And a
5 non-privileged resolution
6 appointing Felicia Wilson to the
7 Board of Directors for the Old City
8 Special Services District.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: This bill will be
11 referred to the appropriate
12 committee.

13 CHIEF CLERK: And a
14 non-privileged resolution
15 appointing Ken Weller to the Board
16 of Directors for the Old City
17 Special Services District.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

19 JOHNSON: This bill will be
20 referred to the appropriate
21 committee.

22 CHIEF CLERK: And a
23 non-privileged resolution
24 appointing Kya Kerner to the Board

1 3/19/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 of Directors for the Old City
3 Special Services District.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

5 JOHNSON: This bill will be
6 referred to the appropriate
7 committee.

8 Chair recognizes
9 Councilmember Dr. Nina Ahmad.

10 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

11 Thank you, Council President.

12 I have one privileged
13 resolution.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

15 JOHNSON: Chief Clerk, please read
16 the title of the privileged
17 resolution.

18 CHIEF CLERK: A

19 privileged resolution honoring
20 Dr. Khine Zaw Arthur, President and
21 Chief Executive Officer, Officer of
22 the Asian American Chamber of
23 Commerce of Greater Philadelphia,
24 for her leadership, entrepreneurial

1 3/19/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 achievements and commitment to
3 advancing economic opportunity and
4 community empowerment in the City
5 of Philadelphia.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

7 JOHNSON: This resolution will be
8 placed on today's Final Passage
9 Calendar.

10 And for the record, the
11 four appointment bills introduced
12 by Member Squilla are actually
13 resolutions. They will be referred
14 to the appropriate committee for
15 the record. Thank you.

16 Chair recognizes
17 Councilmember Cindy Bass.

18 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:
19 Thank you, Mr. President.

20 I offer one bill and one
21 non-privileged resolution today.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

23 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

24 Chief Clerk, please read

1 3/19/26 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 the bill and resolution.

3 CHIEF CLERK: An
4 ordinance authorizing the
5 Commissioner of Public Property to
6 execute and deliver a deed to the
7 Philadelphia Authority for
8 Industrial Development, conveying
9 fee simple title to a certain tract
10 of city-owned land with buildings
11 and improvements situated on
12 5928-30 Germantown Avenue in the
13 8th Councilmanic District of the
14 City of Philadelphia.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
16 JOHNSON: This bill will be
17 referred to the appropriate
18 committee.

19 CHIEF CLERK: And a
20 non-privileged resolution
21 authorizing the Philadelphia Land
22 Bank to dispose of 2726 North 15th
23 Street located in the 8th
24 Councilmanic District in accordance

1 3/26/26 - STATED - REPORTS
2 with the terms of Chapter 16-700 of
3 The Philadelphia Code.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

5 JOHNSON: This resolution will be
6 placed on the Final Passage
7 Calendar for consideration at the
8 next session of Council.

9 The next order of
10 business is reports from
11 committees. The Chair recognizes
12 Councilmember Jeffrey Jay Young for
13 a report from the Committee on
14 Streets and Services.

15 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Thank
16 you, Mr. President.

17 The Committee on Streets
18 and Services reports 10 bills with
19 a favorable recommendation.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

21 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

22 Will the Chief Clerk
23 please read the report.

24 CHIEF CLERK: The

1 3/26/26 - STATED - REPORTS

2 Committee on Streets and Services
3 to which were referred the
4 following bills: Bill No. 250844,
5 an ordinance regulating the
6 direction of movement of traffic on
7 West Lippincott Street, between
8 22nd Street and 23rd Street, all
9 under certain terms and conditions.

10 Bill No. 251068, an
11 ordinance amending Chapter 12-3000
12 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled
13 "Use of An Automated Red Light
14 Enforcement System To Prevent Red
15 Light Violations" by authorizing
16 the installation of red light
17 enforcement systems at the
18 intersection of School House Lane
19 and Henry Avenue, all under certain
20 terms and conditions.

21 Bill No. 251069, an
22 ordinance regulating the direction
23 of movement of traffic on Adams
24 Avenue between Wingohocking Street

1 3/26/26 - STATED - REPORTS
2 and Frankford Avenue as well as
3 Leiper Street between Adams Avenue
4 and Ruan Street.

5 Bill No. 251102, an
6 ordinance authorizing encroachments
7 in the nature of a sidewalk cafe in
8 the vicinity of 1001 South 10th
9 Street, Philadelphia, PA 19147,
10 under certain terms and conditions.

11 Bill No. 260025, an
12 ordinance authorizing the
13 installation, ownership and
14 maintenance of various
15 encroachments along the 300 block
16 of South Broad Street,
17 Philadelphia, PA 19102, under
18 certain terms and conditions.

19 Bill No. 260095, an
20 ordinance authorizing the
21 installation, ownership and
22 maintenance of an elevator
23 encroachment in the vicinity of
24 3400 Aramingo Avenue, Philadelphia,

1 3/26/26 - STATED - REPORTS

2 PA 19134, under certain terms and
3 conditions.

4 Bill No. 260115, an
5 ordinance authorizing Mukeshkumar
6 Patel, owner and operator of the
7 newsstand at the northwest corner
8 of 34th Street and Convention
9 Avenue and civic Center Boulevard
10 to construct, use and maintain
11 conduits in, under and across the
12 Northwest corner of 34th Street and
13 Convention Avenue and Civic Center
14 Boulevard for the purpose of
15 supplying electric service to said
16 newsstand, under certain terms and
17 conditions.

18 Bill No. 260131, an
19 ordinance authorizing the City of
20 Philadelphia to install, own and
21 maintain right-of-way encroachments
22 on the 7600, 7700 and 7800 blocks
23 of Ogontz Avenue, under certain
24 terms and conditions.

1 3/26/26 - STATED - REPORTS

2 And Bill No. 260132, an
3 ordinance regulating the direction
4 of movement of traffic on Hermit
5 Street between Manor Street and
6 Manayunk Avenue.

7 And Bill No. 260161, an
8 ordinance authorizing the
9 installation, ownership and
10 maintenance of a right-of-way
11 encroachments in various parts of
12 the City, under certain terms and
13 conditions, respectfully reports it
14 has considered the same and returns
15 the attached bills to Council with
16 a favorable recommendation.

17 There are no further
18 bills to report out from the
19 Committee on Streets and Services,
20 Council President.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

22 JOHNSON: Thank you.

23 The Chair recognizes
24 Councilmember Jeffrey Jay Young for

1 3/26/26 - STATED - REPORTS

2 a motion.

3 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Thank
4 you, Mr. President.

5 I move that the rules of
6 Council be suspended to permit the
7 first reading of these bills today
8 just read into the record by the
9 Chief Clerk.

10 (Duly seconded.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
13 properly seconded that the rules of
14 Council be suspended so as to
15 permit the consideration of these
16 bills just read by the Chief Clerk
17 at today's session of Council.

18 All those in favor of
19 the motion will signify by saying
20 aye.

21 (Aye.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

23 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

24 (No response.)

1 3/26/26 - STATED - REPORTS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: The ayes have it. The
4 motion carries. These bills will
5 be placed on our First Reading
6 Calendar for today.

7 The Chair recognizes
8 Councilmember Jim Harrity for a
9 report from the Committee on Labor
10 and Civil Service.

11 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:
12 Thank you, Mr. President.

13 The Committee on Labor
14 and Civil Service reports out one
15 bill with a favorable
16 recommendation.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: Thank you very much,
19 Will the Chief Clerk
20 please read the report.

21 CHIEF CLERK: The
22 Committee on Labor and Civil
23 Service to which was referred the
24 following bill, Bill No. 251099:

1 3/26/26 - STATED - REPORTS

2 An ordinance amending Title 20 of
3 The Philadelphia Code, entitled
4 "Officers and Employees," to
5 provide for compensation of the
6 Director of Office Prison Oversight
7 and members of the Philadelphia
8 Prison Community Oversight Board,
9 and amending Title 21 of The
10 Philadelphia Code, entitled
11 "Miscellaneous," to add a new
12 chapter providing for the powers
13 and duties of the Office of Prison
14 Oversight and Philadelphia Prison
15 Community Oversight Board and the
16 manner in which other officers,
17 employees and agencies shall
18 fulfill their respective
19 responsibilities with respect to
20 the Office and Board, all under
21 certain terms and conditions,
22 respectfully reports it has
23 considered and amended the same and
24 returns the attached bill to

1 3/26/26 - STATED - REPORTS

2 Council with a favorable
3 recommendation.

4 There are no further
5 bills to report out from the
6 Committee on Labor and Civil
7 Service, Council President.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
10 Councilmember Jim Harrity for a
11 motion.

12 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:

13 Thank you, Mr. President.

14 I move that the rules of
15 Council be suspended to permit
16 first reading this day of the bill
17 just read into the record.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

19 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

20 It has been moved and
21 properly seconded that the rules of
22 Council be suspended so as to
23 permit the consideration of the
24 bill just read by the Chief Clerk

1 3/19/26 - STATED - BILLS ON 2ND READING

2 at today's session of Council.

3 All those in favor of
4 the motion will signify by saying
5 aye.

6 (Aye.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

11 JOHNSON: The ayes have it. The
12 motion carries. This bill will be
13 placed on our First Reading
14 Calendar for today.

15 The next order of
16 business is the consideration of
17 the Calendar. I note that the
18 bills just reported from committees
19 with the suspension of the rules
20 have been deemed to have had a
21 first reading. These bills will be
22 placed on the Second Reading and
23 Final Passage Calendars for the
24 next session of Council.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - BILLS ON 2ND READING

2 As there are no
3 additional bills on the First
4 Reading Calendar, the Chair
5 recognizes Majority Leader
6 Katherine Gilmore Richardson for a
7 motion regarding the bills and
8 resolutions on the Second Reading
9 and Final Passage Calendars.

10 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

11 RICHARDSON: Thank you,
12 Mr. President.

13 The following bills and
14 resolutions are being called up
15 from the Second Reading and Final
16 Passage Calendars today: Nos.
17 260218, 260219, 250329-A, 250330-A,
18 250843-AA, 260021, 260021, 260022,
19 260055, 260073 and 260074.

20 The following bills and
21 resolutions on the Calendar are
22 being held: 250768, 250807 and
23 250980-A. 251025 is being
24 withdrawn.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: Thank you.

4 Before considering these
5 bills and resolutions, we will
6 consider public comment as follows:
7 Your public comment must concern
8 matters on the Second Reading and
9 Final Passage Calendars for
10 possible action at today's council
11 session. All speakers must sign up
12 in order to testify.

13 If you have not already
14 signed up for today's Council
15 session, please do so now by giving
16 your name to Ms. Hasson at the
17 table outside the rails to my left.
18 Once you have signed up, you will
19 be called in the order in which
20 your name appears on the sign-up
21 sheet.

22 Under ideal
23 circumstances, public commenters
24 each will have three minutes to

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 speak. However, this time limit
3 may vary from session-to-session.
4 Today the time limit will be two
5 minutes. In order to be fair to
6 all those wishing to speak, I
7 intend to hold faithfully to the
8 two-minute limit.

9 When you begin speaking,
10 you will see a green light on the
11 podium. When 30 seconds are
12 remaining to your time, the light
13 will turn yellow, which is your
14 reminder to conclude your remarks.
15 Once two minutes have passed, the
16 light will turn red and the
17 Sergeant-at-Arms will disconnect
18 the microphone.

19 At that point, please
20 yield the podium to the next
21 speaker, if you have not already
22 done so. I also reserve the right,
23 pursuant to our rules of City
24 Council, to limit repetitious

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 comments on the same subject
3 matter.

4 First person, I will
5 take a minute of personal privilege
6 to ask to come to public comment is
7 Marnie Larnie -- Marnie Loughery
8 Harrity.

9 (Witness approached
10 podium.)

11 MS. LOUGHERY HARRITY:

12 Thank you, Council President. Many
13 of you know today is March 19th or
14 St. Joseph's Day. Many of you know
15 my husband is Councilmember Jim
16 Harrity. He always talks about
17 Senator Buddy Cianfrani, whose
18 birthday is today. Senator
19 Cianfrani father's birthday is
20 today. My grandfather was very
21 good friends with them and it's a
22 coincidence that my parents are
23 married 61 years today.

24 With that, Councilmember

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Harrity was born 54 years ago
3 today.

4 (Applause.)

5 MS. LOUGHERY HARRITY:

6 Many of you know that Jim is a
7 fighter and Jim stands up. Well,
8 that's because Jim was a breech
9 birth. So if anybody knows what
10 that means, you can understand
11 where he comes from. I would like
12 to thank Jim for telling his story
13 many times of recovery, for letting
14 people know that they deserve and
15 need a second chance, for becoming
16 a father to my children. At that
17 time, one was a junior in high
18 school and one was a freshman in
19 college, so that was a big
20 commitment, and three grandchildren
21 to now all three of ours, Fox who
22 is 4, Aiden at 16 who got his class
23 ring today, and Jordan James, 4
24 months old.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 I love you. We love you
3 and we are so proud of you and the
4 commitment that you have made to
5 our family and to the City of
6 Philadelphia for the work that you
7 do. We love you, babe.

8 (Applause.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: Aww, that's what's up.
11 Happy birthday, Member Harrity.

12 (Applause.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: Always good to see you,
15 Marnie.

16 Chief Clerk.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Will
18 William Smalls, Jeremy Blatstein,
19 John McCauley, Baba Renfrow and
20 Nicole, please make your way to the
21 podium.

22 (Witnesses approached
23 podium.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 JOHNSON: Baba Renfrow.

3 MR. SMALL: Good

4 morning, everybody. My name is
5 William Small from West
6 Philadelphia, born and raised,
7 former United States Marine, three
8 tours of combat duty. Today I'm
9 here to respectfully object to the
10 Ordinance 250807. I understand the
11 importance of parks and public
12 spaces. We all want a better,
13 cleaner, more livable city, but I
14 do not agree with the way the
15 ordinance gives the city such broad
16 power to acquire private property,
17 especially through eminent domain.

18 This bill allows the
19 city to take land condemned or
20 otherwise without clearly defining
21 limits or protections. The kind of
22 language is too open-ended. It
23 gives the government the ability to
24 take property from people who may

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 not want to sell, people who have
3 built lives, their businesses, the
4 futures in the city.

5 What makes it even more
6 concerning is that the land can be
7 leased out to another organization
8 to manage. We've been through this
9 circle already with Germantown High
10 School when the city sold it for
11 \$100,000 to somebody from Virginia,
12 and they denied several investors
13 from Philadelphia.

14 We talking about real
15 people here, not just parcels on
16 the map, homeowners, small business
17 owners, families. These are people
18 who deserve transparency, fairness
19 and a real say to what happens to
20 the property in this city. But
21 beyond that, I want to talk about
22 priorities, because right now in
23 the city we have bigger issues that
24 need attention.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 One of these issues is
3 our public school system that is
4 struggling. In many cases, it's
5 failing the kids. And the charter
6 school system is not better. I
7 coach football at a high school
8 that's a charter school. A lot of
9 employers today don't even value --
10 thank you.

11 (Applause.)

12 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

13 RICHARDSON: For the record. Bill
14 No. 250807 is on hold. Thank you.

15 MR. BLATSTEIN: Good
16 morning. Jeremy Blatstein,
17 speaking on all bills and
18 resolutions. First, the Safe Homes
19 bill last week, I said it wasn't
20 ready. I'm not sure what's going
21 on with it now, but the bill
22 obviously had issues at the hearing
23 and the Sunshine Act.

24 My concerns still stand

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 though about the Philadelphia
3 Sheriff's Department and the
4 eviction process. Have you gone to
5 tenant landlord court? Do you
6 understand how broken the process
7 is? It currently takes 12 to 16
8 weeks just to get a lockout date
9 after getting a judgment. Six
10 months minimum, start to finish for
11 a valid eviction.

12 If housing is a priority
13 for Mayor Parker and this Council,
14 fix that broken process first
15 before adding new rules on top of
16 it. Hold the Sheriff's Office
17 accountable. Second, Turn the Key,
18 30 affordable homes were
19 transmitted this week by the Mayor.
20 Turn the Key is your program. This
21 Council passed it. The Mayor
22 funded it. The Land Bank Board
23 approves qualified projects.

24 The affordability is

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 set, \$280,000; \$185,000 to the
3 buyer after subsidies; up to 100%
4 AMI for city workers. That's the
5 program you designed. What's the
6 outcome? \$1,300 a month mortgages.
7 Average AMI is 57%. Turn the Key
8 is working. Zero displacement,
9 turning vacant lots into
10 generational wealth. This project
11 meets every requirement.

12 It was qualified.

13 What's the problem? Councilwoman
14 Quetcy Lozada and councilmanic
15 prerogative. Yeah, any member of
16 this body could introduce this
17 resolution today. The land is
18 there. The money is allocated.
19 The program exists. The only thing
20 missing is the bill. If you say
21 you care about affordable housing,
22 introduce the bill.

23 And last but not least,
24 we're talking about SEPTA. It's

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 crucial to the City of
3 Philadelphia, fund SEPTA, make sure
4 that the system is running
5 efficiently and support the SEPTA
6 police to enforce the quality-of-
7 life issues. Ride the ride. Grow
8 Philly to 2 milli. Thank you.

9 MR. McCAULEY: Good
10 morning, everybody. My name is
11 John Alonte McCauley. I'm with a
12 grassroots organization called Flip
13 Philly Red. We're here to offer
14 you something different because
15 you've been voting Democrat for the
16 Mayor's Office for the past 70
17 years.

18 In regards to Bill No.
19 250330 or what's part of the Safe
20 Healthy Homes Act, I would like to
21 ask Philadelphia, are you tired of
22 voting Democrat yet? This is what
23 communism looks like. You work
24 extremely hard to save your

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 pennies, but buy some property and
3 you can't dictate when you want to
4 evict a tenant.

5 Do you really own your
6 property or not? But we know what
7 Philly Democrat politicians love
8 communism for, because they let
9 comrade Mayor Cherelle Parker raise
10 the communist China flag in the
11 birthplace of America. Tenants can
12 already sue or simply move if it's
13 a problem. But laws after laws
14 scare away independent contractors
15 and create more government-
16 controlled housing. These laws
17 breed entitlement, bad actors not
18 paying rent, waiting for court
19 dates, squatting on somebody else's
20 property just like Governor Josh
21 Shapiro is doing right now to his
22 neighbors.

23 To the landlords of
24 Philadelphia, when you raise the

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 rent higher upfront to cover
3 eviction hassles, I understand it.
4 How are you going to tell a small
5 business owner what to do with
6 their own property? How many bad
7 tenants have we seen, always
8 playing loud music, fighting,
9 harassing neighbors, running drugs
10 out of properties, doing drugs in
11 someone else's property? Are you a
12 small business owner or a
13 caretaker? Are they tenants or are
14 they your children?

15 If the Department of
16 Licenses and Inspections isn't
17 serving good-acting tenants
18 properly, then we don't need new
19 laws. We need to restructure the
20 Department of Licenses and
21 Inspections. Over 45 million
22 taxpayer dollars proposed for L&I
23 in Fiscal Year 2026 and they can't
24 return a phone call.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Racist Democrat

3 President LBJ said, I'mma have
4 these niggers voting Democrat for
5 the next 200 years. But you can
6 change that in November --

7 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

8 RICHARDSON: Excuse me, excuse
9 me --

10 MR. McCAULEY: Stacy
11 Garrity for Governor. Thank you
12 for your attention to this matter.

13 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

14 RICHARDSON: Excuse me. Thank you.
15 Please don't use that language in
16 these chambers. Have a wonderful
17 day.

18 MR. McCAULEY: I can say
19 what I want --

20 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

21 RICHARDSON: Have a great day.
22 Next.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Baba
24 Renfrow, Nicole, Christopher

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Mansfield, Nadine Herring, May
3 Booth, Miguel Duma -- Dalmau and
4 Shamus Brennan, please make your
5 way to the podium.

6 (Witnesses approached
7 podium.)

8 MR. RENFROW: Thank you
9 to City Council and all of their
10 distinguished guests. My name is
11 Baba Taye Renfrow. And on behalf
12 of the Renfrow family, the Osage
13 Pine community, we would like to
14 thank our City Councilperson Jamie
15 Gauthier and her office and her
16 team for putting forth this
17 resolution to rename the 6200 block
18 of Osage Avenue after my father,
19 Gerald Wayne Renfrow as Gerald
20 Wayne Renfrow Way.

21 I'd like to also thank
22 Lefty, Brother Lefty here to the
23 right of me. He really led the
24 charge in bringing all the

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 paperwork down to the City
3 Councilperson's chambers here to
4 push everything along. Our Brother
5 Arnett, I would like to thank him.
6 I'd like to thank others that also
7 helped in getting the petition
8 signed. We'd like to thank
9 Original Works of Art, our
10 brother's nonprofit organization
11 for also leading the charge.

12 This is something
13 special to me, my siblings, my
14 mother and my family. Our father
15 was a leader in our community for
16 over 40 years to help make sure
17 that the residents of the Osage
18 Pine community stayed in their
19 homes, was able to have decent
20 housing amidst the MOVE bombing of
21 1985.

22 So with that, we'd like
23 to thank you. Thank you for
24 everything that you've done. We

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 truly appreciate it. It will never
3 be forgotten. I'd like to thank
4 everyone here for your time and
5 consideration today for this
6 resolution. To God be the glory.

7 (Applause.)

8 MR. MANSFIELD: Good
9 morning. My name is Chris
10 Mansfield. It feels weird being on
11 this side. I'm used to, like,
12 being on the other side shooting so
13 it feels different. But I just
14 wanted to say this is a great thing
15 happening for Mrs. Renfrow. I've
16 been on that block for about six
17 years now, my wife and I, who's
18 over there. Hello, Wife.

19 And I got to meet
20 Mr. Renfrow. He was a great
21 person, did great things for the
22 block. And I just wanted to say
23 I'm happy this is getting approved,
24 so that's it.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 (Applause.)

3 MS. HERRING: Good

4 morning. I'm Nadine Herring.

5 Thank you for allowing me to be

6 here. I am the proud Black mother

7 of a child who had the nerve to

8 tell me that I needed to unlearn

9 everything I thought I knew about

10 him, his identity, his humanity,

11 his reality. This was when he was

12 only 6.

13 At every pediatrician

14 appointment, my three cisgender

15 sons were openly unquestioned about

16 their development while my one

17 trans child was therapeutically

18 abused. I moved my family out of

19 two states just to ensure that he

20 saw tomorrows, when doctors and

21 relatives rejected him based on how

22 they interpreted his trans

23 experience as a medical affront and

24 his person as a reason to minimize

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 him for sport.

3 I chose to leave my
4 career as an educator of 30-plus
5 years. I taught and served
6 students kindergarten through
7 college, but I had to leave because
8 I refused to co-sign educators
9 punishing children for just living
10 their truths and wanting to be
11 seen. I now serve at the Attic
12 Youth Center because the fork in
13 the road speaks to action versus
14 non-action.

15 Trans Day of Visibility
16 is just the start of righting these
17 wrongs, and it is a strong reminder
18 that equity is not optional. It's
19 a damn birthright. Thank you.

20 (Applause.)

21 MS. CARROLL: Good
22 morning. My name is Aster Carroll
23 and I'm an education specialist at
24 Mazzone Center here in

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Philadelphia, and I'm joined by my
3 colleague May Booth, who is Mazzoni
4 Center's Assistant Director of
5 Community Engagement. We come to
6 you not only as representatives of
7 Mazzoni, but as two LGBTQ+ people
8 who have experienced barriers to
9 affirming health care.

10 In case you don't know
11 about Mazzoni, we have a 46-year
12 history of providing quality,
13 comprehensive health and wellness
14 services in an LGBTQ-focused
15 environment, while preserving the
16 dignity and improving the quality
17 of life of the individuals we
18 serve. We deliver on that mission
19 through a range of services,
20 including primary care, specialist
21 care, HIV prevention and treatment,
22 STI screening and treatment,
23 behavioral health and psychiatric
24 care.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 In 2025, we served over
3 10,000 patients through 31,500
4 visits. We know that LGBTQ
5 individuals are disproportionately
6 impacted by a wide range of health
7 challenges when compared to their
8 cisgender and heterosexual peers.
9 They are more likely to delay care,
10 experience mental health concerns
11 and encounter barriers within these
12 health care systems. These
13 disparities are not inevitable.
14 They are driven by gaps in access,
15 representation and inclusion that
16 must be addressed.

17 MS. BOOTH: I --

18 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

19 RICHARDSON: Excuse me. Will you
20 be able to state your name for the
21 record please.

22 MS. BOOTH: Yeah, of
23 course. My name is May Booth -- or
24 Aster?

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 MS. CARROLL: Aster
3 Carroll.

4 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE
5 RICHARDSON: Thank you.

6 MS. BOOTH: I'm a little
7 taller than Aster, so excuse me for
8 moving up the mic. But as two
9 people working on the Community
10 Engagement Team at Mazzoni Center,
11 we have the honor of hearing
12 directly from patients, clients and
13 community members about the impact
14 of affirming health care on their
15 journeys.

16 Their stories show
17 clearly that when people feel seen,
18 respected and safe, they are more
19 likely to seek care, stay engaged
20 and experience better health
21 outcomes. We know that city
22 government plays a critical role in
23 shaping community health through
24 the policies it advances and the

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 services it supports. Recognizing
3 LGBTQ+ Health Awareness Week is an
4 important and necessary part of
5 that responsibility.

6 This recognition should
7 not be symbolic alone. It reflects
8 a commitment to ensuring that all
9 Philadelphians have access to
10 affirming high-quality health care.
11 When care is inclusive, we reduce
12 disparities and strengthen the
13 health of our entire city. At a
14 time when LGBTQ rights and access
15 to care are being challenged across
16 the country, local leadership
17 matters. We need you all more than
18 ever before. We are grateful to
19 Councilmember Landau for affirming
20 the City of Philadelphia's role as
21 a partner in protecting and
22 expanding access and inclusivity in
23 health care. Thank you.

24 (Applause.)

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 MR. DALMAU: Good

3 morning. My name is Miguel Dalmau
4 and I live in the 2nd District in
5 South Philadelphia. I'm here in
6 support of Bill No. 250329-A. I
7 support the entire bill, but I want
8 to highlight the proactive
9 inspection program the bill will
10 create. The inspection program
11 ensures that apartments and homes
12 are automatically inspected to make
13 sure they meet certain standards of
14 living.

15 It seems like something
16 that should have been done ages
17 ago, but better late than never I
18 guess. The more I read about the
19 program, the more I understand why
20 landlords in Philadelphia want to
21 see this bill, along with others,
22 fail, like we saw today. They
23 don't want to provide us with the
24 minimum standard of living. They

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 are relying on life getting in the
3 way and on tenants who hesitate to
4 hold them accountable as a way to
5 save money and maintain abhorrent
6 apartment conditions.

7 I have been a victim of
8 negligent landlords myself. I have
9 lived in South Philadelphia for the
10 past three years. And in a short
11 amount of time, I have already had
12 to move once due to bed bugs in a
13 building, and recently had to have
14 the city replace old pipes
15 underneath the pavement in front of
16 my home that wasn't allowing heat
17 to warm my house during the
18 freezing temperatures we've had the
19 last few months.

20 I stayed longer in both
21 situations than I should have
22 because of work, family, kids and
23 honestly, fear. As a longtime
24 activist for social justice, I know

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 firsthand that immigrants and
3 people of color are often afraid
4 that any interaction with
5 government office could lead to
6 negative consequences, even when we
7 are the victims.

8 Even though we should
9 have nothing to worry about, the
10 fear and the trauma never goes
11 away. Landlords know a lot about
12 the people who live under their
13 roofs. By knowing someone's work
14 history, credit score and personal
15 background, they also know people
16 whose vulnerability and who might
17 be willing to file a complaint and
18 those who won't.

19 This bill takes the
20 power away from the greedy
21 landlords and gives it back to the
22 people. Thank you, City
23 Councilmembers, for looking out for
24 us introducing these bill, but

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 please continue to look out for us
3 by implementing them into law and
4 turning them into action. Thank
5 you.

6 (Applause.)

7 CHIEF CLERK: Will

8 Shamus Brennus -- Brennan, David
9 Alexander Jenkins, Melissa Monts,
10 Janet White, Shawmar Pitts and
11 Seneca Grant, please make your way
12 to the podium.

13 (Witnesses approached
14 podium.)

15 MR. BRENNAN: Thank you.

16 Shamus Brennan. I'm here today --
17 I am a tenant attorney. I'm the
18 senior housing attorney at the AIDS
19 Law Project of Pennsylvania where I
20 provide counsel and representation
21 to Philadelphia tenants. I'm here
22 to speak on safe and healthy homes
23 because it's an important step, and
24 I want to thank the Housing

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2 committee and the Council as a
3 Whole for their work on this
4 important issue.

5 The current system of
6 voluntary compliance with CRS and
7 other licensing requirements is not
8 working. The tools needed to have
9 tenants hold their landlords
10 accountable to standards that have
11 already been set are needed, so we
12 often see clients facing serious
13 issues, rat infestations, sewage
14 backups, floods, fire alarms going
15 off at all hours. And the tools we
16 have are to beg for changes, to
17 wait to be sued or to move. This
18 disrupts communities and
19 disempowers Philadelphians.

20 The changes that the
21 legislation makes clarify the role
22 and responsibility of the tenant in
23 advocating for themselves and
24 importantly, it shortens the period

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2 over which these violations can be
3 resolved. I want to share briefly
4 one situation which my clients
5 faced, in which the CRS system can
6 be seen as it currently is.

7 My clients were living
8 in an apartment in West
9 Philadelphia. They had had a fire
10 in an adjoining unit where they
11 discovered the fire extinguishers
12 did not work. A few months later
13 their landlord signed a certificate
14 of rental suitability saying that
15 the fire code was fine.

16 Two years later, they
17 finally received an order of the
18 court holding that that was an
19 invalid CRS. They waited two
20 years, going to court, being
21 dragged away from their work in
22 order to hear justice. We need
23 something faster. Thank you.

24 (Applause.)

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2 MR. JENKINS:

3 Mr. President, members and guests,
4 David Alexander Jenkins and I rise
5 in support of Resolution 250330.

6 As I traveled down Broad Street
7 this morning with my eyes affixed
8 on the clock of City Hall, as I
9 moved through the gates of justice
10 into the halls of promise, up the
11 granite steps to this chamber where
12 promise and justice come to meet, I
13 was deep in an old Negro spiritual
14 that would not leave my lips or
15 mind. Fear not, I'm not going to
16 sing today.

17 It is a spiritual that
18 on its face seems a humble prayer
19 of access, a prayer of mercy and
20 divine providence. It's a hymn
21 that pleads, No harm have I done
22 you on my knees. At the time of
23 this hymn's birth when this America
24 was but a breath, these words were

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2 sung in the fields by people
3 enslaved who understood a kind of
4 tabernacle had been prepared for
5 them.

6 You see, on your knees
7 was a call to gather in the safety
8 of clandestinity, and we know what
9 kind of fear that creates, don't
10 we? To gather and to wait for a
11 savior by the way of a conductor
12 who would come when they knew it
13 was safe. I'm almost certain that
14 Councilmember Nicolas O'Rourke
15 knows this greatest of spirituals
16 because he has shown up as a
17 conductor to conduct people from
18 the meetings held, indeed in
19 public, to the halls of a promise
20 and justice and to deliver them by
21 law.

22 And in doing so, he has
23 made many an overseer (inaudible),
24 excuse me, he has made many a

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2 landlord mad. Members, people are
3 on their knees. Both
4 metaphorically and literally,
5 people are pleading to be protected
6 from the retaliatory injustices of
7 unwanted evictions, pleading for
8 the right to assemble, pleading in
9 peaceful association, to
10 participate in legal
11 investigations, the right to be
12 free from predatory behavior,
13 behavior that would ask them to
14 choose between the right to safe
15 housing and no housing at all.

16 Brothers and sisters of
17 love, people are pleading.
18 Philadelphia has a legacy of
19 ushering in the protections and
20 freedoms of emancipation. Wherever
21 shackles exist in systems of
22 housing and otherwise that face the
23 people to come on their knees, it
24 is the duty of this body to rise up

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2 to their feet, to rise above
3 hesitation and above fear and to
4 meet this plea and to deliver the
5 promise of justice within the full
6 authority you have been given.

7 And so today, Reverend
8 O'Rourke, I thank you for the
9 legislation to come here as a
10 conductor. Councilmember, pass
11 this as soon as it finally comes
12 before you. I yield back.

13 (Applause.)

14 CHIEF CLERK: Melissa
15 Monts, Janet White, Shawmar Pitts,
16 Seneca Grant, please make your way
17 to the podium.

18 (Witnesses approached
19 podium.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

21 JOHNSON: Council will be at ease.

22 (Council at ease.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: If the members of City

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Council can hear my voice, please
3 return back to the City Council
4 floor. Please resume.

5 MS. ARTHUR: The
6 Honorable Council President,
7 distinguished members of the City
8 Council and everyone here today, my
9 name is Khine Zaw Arthur, President
10 and Chief Executive Officer of the
11 Asian American Chamber of Commerce
12 of Greater Philadelphia,
13 representing over 13,000 Asian-
14 owned businesses here in the city.

15 I stand before you today
16 during Women's History Month truly
17 humbled and overwhelmed with
18 gratitude for this beautiful
19 resolution and this unexpected
20 honor. As a first-generation
21 Burmese immigrant and a proud
22 mother, I never dreamed my journey
23 from the streets of Yungcho to the
24 vibrant neighborhoods of

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2 Philadelphia would bring me to this
3 moment in the city I love very
4 much.

5 Everything I have done,
6 from supporting girls and women,
7 survivors of violence and human
8 trafficking, to creating economic
9 opportunities through the Asian
10 American Chamber of Commerce has
11 only been possible because of the
12 incredible people who share our
13 passion to build a brighter
14 tomorrow for every family and every
15 community.

16 This recognition is
17 especially meaningful because it
18 was championed by Councilmember
19 Nina Ahmad, a trailblazing leader
20 whose remarkable impact has
21 transformed Philadelphia. As the
22 first South Asian American, first
23 Muslim woman and first immigrant in
24 recent history to serve on this

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2 Council, she has opened doors for
3 all of us.

4 As Deputy Mayor during
5 Mayor Kenney's administration, she
6 became the city's first Asian
7 American cabinet member and created
8 the Department of Public
9 Engagement. Through her leadership
10 in the National Organization for
11 Women, she has fought tirelessly to
12 end sexual harassment, protect nail
13 salon workers, confront human
14 trafficking and secure living wages
15 for low-income women. Her work on
16 anti-bullying initiatives, trauma-
17 informed approaches to gun violence
18 and support for small businesses
19 has lifted countless immigrant
20 families and strengthened our
21 entire city. This honor is not
22 just for me. It belongs to every
23 woman and every ally who believes
24 that when we lift each other up, we

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2 all rise together.

3 Thank you, Philadelphia,
4 from the bottom of my heart. I am
5 deeply honored. And I promise to
6 keep working alongside every one of
7 you, especially leaders like
8 Councilmember Ahmad, to create the
9 better future that our children
10 deserve. Thank you.

11 (Applause.)

12 CHIEF CLERK: Will
13 Nicole Nobles, William Hans, Sean
14 Thornton, Diana Govner, please make
15 your way to the podium.

16 (Witnesses approached
17 podium.)

18 INSPECTOR NOBLES: Good
19 morning, Council President. Good
20 morning, Councilmembers. I am
21 Chief Inspector Nicole Nobles from
22 the Philadelphia Sheriff's Office.
23 Today I would like to share some
24 insight about the woman in our

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2 office.

3 In 2020 Sheriff Rochelle
4 Bilal became the first woman
5 elected to lead the Philadelphia
6 Sheriff's Office in its 181-year
7 history, shattering a significant
8 glass ceiling in the Philadelphia's
9 law enforcement. While she
10 embodies a movement by herself, she
11 has set the standard for us to be
12 an unbreakable force when we all
13 work together.

14 The women of the
15 Sheriff's Office serve in diverse
16 roles, ranging from deputies, civil
17 detectives, to our first ever
18 female canine officer. I manage
19 all specialized units. We all
20 ensure the safety of our courts and
21 the integrity of our judicial
22 system. Beyond traditional law
23 enforcement, our females are
24 working on initiatives and housing

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2 stability and food insecurity,
3 illustrating that public safety is
4 about caring for the community.

5 Women deputies of the
6 Philadelphia Sheriff's Office's
7 unique challenges on the first
8 lines, but continue to demonstrate
9 extraordinary professionalism,
10 courage and dedication to the city
11 of the residents. The women are
12 not just a part of the office.
13 They are essential to the progress.
14 Thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 INSPECTOR HANS: Good
17 morning, Council President and
18 Councilmembers. Thank you for your
19 service and thank you for your
20 time. My name is William Hans. I
21 am a Chief Inspector of Court
22 Operations for the Philadelphia
23 Sheriff's Office, serving in that
24 capacity under the first elected

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2 female sheriff in the City and
3 County of Philadelphia, Rochelle
4 Bilal.

5 I would like to speak
6 briefly on the resolution
7 recognizing the women in our
8 office. Our women consistently
9 bring strength that our community
10 desperately needs, communication,
11 empathy, patience and the ability
12 to diffuse situations before they
13 turn violent. Instead of
14 escalating, they listen. Instead
15 of leading with force, they lead
16 with calm authority. This does not
17 make them weaker Officers. This
18 makes them highly effective
19 officers.

20 Women across the country
21 make up around 14% of sworn
22 personnel. This number should
23 increase because our female
24 officers and exempt staff are proof

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2 of the success and sustainability
3 they provide. My faith leads me to
4 believe that women are the heart of
5 the family and our female deputies
6 prove day-in and day-out that they
7 are the heartbeat of our office and
8 our deputy family. Thank you for
9 your time.

10 (Applause.)

11 DEPUTY THORNTON: Good
12 morning, Council President and City
13 Councilmembers. My name is Sean
14 Thornton, Chief Deputy of Court
15 Operations for the Philadelphia
16 Sheriff's Office. Since Sheriff
17 Rochelle Bilal's election in 2020,
18 she has emphasized recognizing the
19 outstanding contributions of women
20 in our office.

21 Under her leadership,
22 Sheriff Bilal firmly believes that
23 a diverse and inclusive workforce
24 strengthens our ability to serve

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2 the people of Philadelphia with
3 integrity and dedication. Women
4 contribute across our office in
5 many roles, such as courtroom
6 security, transportation, civil
7 enforcement and the warrant unit.
8 Additionally, one young woman
9 served both, in the K9 unit and is
10 an active member of the United
11 States Army.

12 Furthermore, we have an
13 outstanding team of women among our
14 professional staff who work
15 diligently to ensure that the
16 Sheriff's Office is functioning
17 well. Their commitment and
18 expertise are vital in keeping our
19 operations running smoothly, from
20 managing administrative duties to
21 coordinating essential programs and
22 services. Their dedication inspire
23 their colleagues to strengthen the
24 foundation of our department,

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2 reinforcing our mission to serve
3 the community with excellence.

4 Moreover, I am proud to see women
5 advance into leadership roles.

6 As our workplace culture
7 has become more collaborative and
8 supportive, we will continue to
9 build on this momentum, ensuring
10 that all voices are heard and every
11 member has the opportunity to
12 contribute their unique talents to
13 our mission. I encourage you all
14 to support this resolution in
15 recognition of our Sheriff and the
16 outstanding women in our office
17 (inaudible) acknowledgement for
18 their contribution. Thank you for
19 your continued support as we work
20 together to foster a more equitable
21 and effective Sheriff's Office for
22 the City of Philadelphia. Thank
23 you.

24 (Applause.)

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2 CHIEF CLERK: Will

3 Deonna Govner, Katrina Temple,
4 Naiymah Sanchez, Lynn Landes and
5 Orena Rogers, please make your way
6 to the podium.

7 (Witnesses approached
8 podium.)

9 MS. GOVNER CONSUL: Good
10 morning. My name is Deonna Govner
11 Consul, and it is for that reason
12 that I chose not to get involved
13 with politics. However, ironically
14 I am here today to speak on behalf
15 of a group of citizens of
16 Philadelphia who are very
17 important, and those citizens are
18 our elderly who have lived and
19 owned homes that were inherited.

20 My grandmother is an
21 82-year-old citizen, and she is
22 also a sibling of one of 13 who
23 were born and raised in Germantown.
24 I'm here on behalf of her older

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2 brother who is 84 years old, and he
3 currently lives in the home that
4 his sister was born in. The home
5 was built in 1902 and purchased in
6 1925. No major repairs have ever
7 been done, except for a furnace
8 that was installed in 2008.

9 The house still has the
10 original terracotta piping for the
11 sewage as well as knob and tubing
12 electric system. L&I was not
13 established until 1951. Currently
14 today his house does not fall under
15 any of the current safety codes or
16 permits or anything that the city
17 would deem proper for him to live
18 under. We have already gone
19 through the system of BSRP to get
20 him approved. He has been approved
21 to get everything that they cover
22 completed.

23 However, the union reps
24 that they sent out, the roofers,

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2 they have sent him a letter stating
3 that in order for him to get the
4 work done, he needs to come up with
5 \$12,000. He is a senior. He is an
6 84-year-old Navy veteran who lives
7 on a fixed income. He hasn't had
8 running water or sewage for about
9 four or five years.

10 He's currently been
11 charged for a fire hydrant that
12 froze and broke and the water
13 collected in front of his property
14 as well as a pipe bursting in his
15 basement after the water was
16 already shut off. So I am in
17 support of the amendment to the
18 properties of licenses and owner
19 accountability, but I would like to
20 question what L&I's accountability
21 is going to be for seniors who live
22 in homes before these certain codes
23 and everything were ever
24 established.

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2 As a veteran and someone
3 who is on a fixed income, he has
4 lived in fear of being told that he
5 is not capable to live on his own,
6 even though he is of mind, body and
7 of physical presence. He's been
8 living in squalor afraid that
9 because he can't afford to fix his
10 house, that he's going to be put
11 out and put into a home. And I
12 would like to know what the city is
13 doing to protect those citizens.

14 (Applause.)

15 MS. SANCHEZ: So good
16 morning. Can you hear me? There
17 we go because I'm tall. All right.
18 So good morning or early afternoon,
19 Councilmember and neighbors. My
20 name is Naiymah Sanchez, she/her
21 pronouns. And I am here today as a
22 proud Philadelphian and as a
23 transgender person whose life, like
24 so many others, is shaped by the

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2 systems we build and the care we
3 choose to extend one another.

4 As I begin, I want to
5 stay grounded or I want to ground
6 myself in gratitude because in some
7 cities around this country, there
8 are multiple efforts at every level
9 of government to undermine and
10 outlaw TLGBQ+ protections and
11 access to care, pushing to erase
12 our mere existence.

13 So today when this body
14 boasts to recognize and raise
15 awareness with these two pieces of
16 resolutions, naming LGBTQ Health
17 Awareness Week and Transgender Day
18 of Visibility on the record here in
19 Philadelphia is a commitment to
20 health justice, a commitment to
21 safety and a commitment to a just
22 Philly. And it says to TLGBQ+
23 Philadelphians, that your city
24 values your life and is invested in

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 the community with a promise that
3 these resolutions alone is not the
4 finish line, but is the starting
5 point.

6 Because for many of us,
7 especially transgender people,
8 access to health care is not a
9 simple appointment. It is a
10 negotiation of safety. It is
11 bracing ourselves for assumptions,
12 for dismissal, for having to
13 explain our humanity before we can
14 even talk about our symptoms.

15 The data in this
16 resolution tells part of the story,
17 because behind every percentage is
18 a person who delayed care, a person
19 who left the clinic without
20 answers, a person who wondered if
21 their life was valued in that room
22 and in the spaces throughout
23 community they call home.

24 City Councilmembers, you

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 have the power to change that
3 story, by being proactive to ensure
4 we are taking care of all of our
5 neighbors, celebrating the unique
6 identities that fuel and define
7 what makes our city great. This
8 resolution or these resolutions
9 names organizations for doing
10 lifesaving work, right. But it
11 should not fall on these
12 organizations or organizers to do
13 it.

14 And so, I know my time
15 is running short and I want to say
16 thank you with my gratitude to each
17 and every one of you who are still
18 here. And I ask that you stay
19 committed to bringing a just Philly
20 for all of us. Thank you.

21 (Applause.)

22 MS. LANDES: Good
23 morning. I'm Lynn Landes of
24 Philly's Republican Network. I

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2 support the expansion of our park
3 system. However, I do not support
4 Bill 250807 nor Business
5 Improvement Districts such as the
6 Center City District, because in
7 many experts' opinion the creation
8 of Business Improvement Districts
9 unconstitutionally privatizes
10 public property and government
11 responsibilities.

12 Much of the public does
13 not realize that Business
14 Improvement Districts have the
15 right to take out loans, manage
16 property, condemn property and tax
17 property owners, all without
18 meaningful requirement for public
19 oversight, public meetings or
20 public comment.

21 Business Improvement
22 Districts commit the very
23 travesties upon which the American
24 Revolution was fought, tyranny,

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2 taxation without representation and
3 censorship. Yet City Council seems
4 unconcerned. And on that matter of
5 censorship, we should not be
6 surprised, as City Council and city
7 departments systematically censor
8 the public at every official
9 government meeting by restricting
10 public comments to agenda items
11 only, thereby preventing the public
12 from freely airing their
13 grievances. That is censorship and
14 in violation of the First Amendment
15 of our Constitution as well as
16 Pennsylvania Sunshine Act.

17 The 250th anniversary of
18 our nation's Declaration of
19 Independence is a golden
20 opportunity for Philadelphia city
21 government to change course, right
22 these wrongs and give its citizens
23 something truly to celebrate.

24 Thank you.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:

3 Good morning, City Council

4 President Kenyatta Johnson and all
5 City Council and everyone. My name
6 is Orena, as you already know. I'm
7 here to speak in reference to a
8 greater, cleaner and greener city
9 in reference to the recycling and
10 being a block captain.

11 Yesterday I received
12 some news that our team leader that
13 the city hired, those individuals
14 are not allowed to come out after
15 3 o'clock to the community to speak
16 with the people in the community
17 that work during the day. At
18 3 o'clock their shift is over, and
19 underneath no circumstances will
20 (inaudible) or Ms. Jones allow them
21 to come out into the community and
22 speak with the people in our
23 community in reference to how they
24 can help us and assist us to keep

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2 the city clean, as the Mayor wants,
3 one block at a time.

4 In order for us to do
5 our jobs effectively and to keep
6 our neighborhoods clean, if we have
7 any questions or issues, we should
8 be allowed to speak to our team
9 leaders, whether it's in the 1st
10 district, 2nd District, 3rd
11 District, 4th, 5th, 7th or 12th, or
12 even up to the 35th District. We
13 should have access to those
14 individuals after hours. As
15 supervisors and the managers who
16 have access to city vehicles that
17 can come out to the meetings and
18 bring supplies and pamphlets and
19 answer those questions are the same
20 ones who are telling their team
21 leaders who have access to us
22 during regular business hours that
23 they can't come out.

24 Since they can't come

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2 out, why don't the supervisors come
3 out since they have a city vehicle
4 and then they can bring out the
5 supplies? So I'll come to you as a
6 registered voter and who voted for
7 the majority of you, City Council
8 and City Council President Kenyatta
9 Johnson, you know, I'm coming to
10 you asking you for help, to get
11 those people out in our
12 neighborhoods.

13 April 11th, the Mayor
14 wants us to be out in the
15 neighborhoods and clean up, in
16 which I am. And I just want to
17 know if we can get those people to
18 come to bring us our supplies. If
19 they can't come out afterhours, how
20 do we get our supplies to clean?
21 Thank you.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

23 JOHNSON: Thank you.

24 (Applause.)

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2 CHIEF CLERK: Well,
3 Keith Crippen, Ogbonna Hagins,
4 Queen Judith Robinson, Tashelle
5 Matthews and David Edwards, please
6 make your way to the podium.

7 (Witnesses approached
8 podium.)

9 MR. HAGINS: Good
10 morning, everyone. My name is
11 Ogbonna Hagins. And by now, you
12 know I'm a fourth-generation
13 chattel slavery survivor. Today
14 Council is considering Resolution
15 260021, a technical measure
16 adjusting realty transfer tax
17 exemptions. This shows Council can
18 act decisively when it wants to.

19 But if we can move on
20 tax matters, why is no one speaking
21 decisively or acting decisively for
22 American Freedmen. For those who
23 don't know, American Freedmen are
24 linear descendants of chattel

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2 slavery. To call us Black
3 Americans and all that, but our
4 legal designation is American
5 Freedmen.

6 Not one candidate
7 yesterday at Berean Institute spoke
8 about the American Freedmen. They
9 spoke about every other subject
10 except the people who built this
11 city and saved this country in the
12 Civil War. There's something
13 very strange --

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

15 JOHNSON: Mr. Ogbonna Hagins,
16 tie --

17 MR. HAGINS: I'm getting
18 to it. Let me do my thing.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

20 JOHNSON: Yup. Tie it into the
21 taxes, sir.

22 MR. HAGINS: Now, I
23 agree with Resolution 260021 and
24 the importance of moving forward on

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 matters that affect the city. But
3 that same decisiveness must extend
4 to the needs of the American
5 Freedmen, Council President. How
6 about that, Council President? You
7 wanted to be a sponsor for the
8 Office of Freedmen Affairs and
9 we're still waiting for a
10 decision --

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: I sponsored the hearing.

13 MR. HAGINS: And you've
14 never mentioned the Office of
15 Freedmen Affairs. You mentioned
16 everything else, but you've never
17 mentioned your people, 7th Ward.
18 So why, we need --

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

20 JOHNSON: Sir, can you speak on the
21 taxes.

22 MR. HAGINS: Yes, I will
23 finally finish up --

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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2 JOHNSON: Thank you very much, sir.

3 Appreciate you. Yes, sir.

4 MR. HAGINS:

5 (Inaudible).

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

7 JOHNSON: Yes, sir. Over and out.

8 MR. HAGINS: Ogbonna

9 Hagins --

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

11 JOHNSON: Over and out. Thank you,
12 sir.

13 MR. HAGINS: -- over and
14 out.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: Thank you, sir.

17 Next person please.

18 Queen Judith Robinson, always a
19 pleasure to see you. Please take
20 the floor.

21 MS. ROBINSON: Good day
22 all. Queen Judith Robinson here
23 regarding 250329-AA and 260021,
24 regarding the transfer tax. Any

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2 opportunity to manage our waste and
3 keep our city or help keep our city
4 clean is a great thing, so I
5 support that 100%. Any attempt to
6 prevent fraudulent deeds and
7 tangled titles is a very good thing
8 so I also support that.

9 But I think prevention
10 is the key as it relates to
11 fraudulent deeds. I'm a real
12 estate professional and I manage
13 and specialize in tangled title
14 issues. We have some major, major
15 problems. So it's nice to have a
16 back-end approach, but prevention
17 is the key.

18 So since it's Women's
19 History Month, Women Herstory
20 Month, so in the spirit of Mary
21 Mason, I want to invoke her name,
22 Queen of Talk Radio, she encouraged
23 us to don't bury the living and
24 raise the dead. She also

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2 encouraged us to keep a scorecard,
3 keep a political scorecard.

4 In closing, yesterday I
5 attempted to try to attend the
6 Housing Advisory Board of the DC --
7 I'm sorry, DHCD, Division of
8 Housing and the Advisory Board.
9 They were given out the incorrect
10 Zoom ID. It kept saying invalid.
11 So maybe we have another Sunshine
12 Act problem here, in that the
13 public was not able to attend the
14 meeting where all of the home bills
15 and all of the other issues as it
16 relates to housing were discussed.
17 So can someone please look into
18 that? Any attorneys in the room to
19 deal with that issue as it relates
20 to housing, very important. Thank
21 you so much for the opportunity.

22 (Applause.)

23 MR. CRIPPEN: My name is
24 Keith Crippen. How you doing?

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2 How's everybody doing? First of
3 all, all the people I know in here
4 I love y'all, because y'all made a
5 difference in Philadelphia. I want
6 to say one thing. I've been doing
7 afterschool programs that I've been
8 paying for. I've done almost 95
9 shows in Philadelphia and --

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

11 JOHNSON: What's the piece of
12 legislation you're speaking on,
13 sir?

14 MR. CRIPPEN:

15 Afterschool programs, afterschool
16 programs. So I like better
17 afterschool programs to keep kids
18 in school or keep them going in
19 school because I want to offer them
20 a lot, more than what they might be
21 getting in sports or whatever they
22 might do to (inaudible).

23 I love Philadelphia to
24 the strength of no other. I love

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2 this city and I know that we could
3 come up to a point that we could be
4 the greatest city of Philadelphia,
5 not just for what y'all doing, but
6 with all the stuff we could do for
7 kids too. And I know that if you
8 put that in my hand, it could
9 definitely work out to be -- not to
10 just go in this century but to go
11 into the next century, because I
12 know my program has been working
13 for kids for the longest time.

14 And I wish everybody
15 will take heed to that because I
16 know what works. And I'm telling
17 you it works. Because it seems
18 like the kids that are in sports,
19 they don't get in trouble. Let's
20 try for the other 1600 kids because
21 I know this program can work. So
22 thank you for everything. Thank
23 you for what's going on.

24 (Applause.)

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: Thank you, sir.

4 MS. MATTHEWS: Good
5 morning, Councilmembers. My name
6 is Tashelle Mays Matthews. I'm the
7 founder of Community Takeover
8 Project and the President of the
9 Black Bottom Restoration Coalition.
10 I come before you today as a
11 community advocate from West
12 Philadelphia with deep roots in the
13 Black Bottom and Mill Creek
14 community area that have
15 experienced both the strengths of
16 the communities and displacement.

17 As I review the agenda,
18 I see important conversations
19 around property accountability,
20 tenant protections and public land
21 use. These are critical issues,
22 but what is missing is the direct
23 access and ownership for the
24 communities most impacted. Through

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2 CTOP and the Black Bottom Restores
3 Coalition, we are actively
4 organizing and building community
5 support.

6 I currently have over 42
7 signatures from community members
8 to back the Black Bottom Community
9 Restoration Act. The problem is
10 historic displacement. The
11 solution is community first,
12 policies that prioritize residents
13 to access to city-owned land,
14 expending funding access and
15 supporting community development.
16 There's five pillars: land
17 justice, economic equality,
18 community ownerships, workforce
19 opportunities.

20 We look forward to
21 partnering with the 3rd District.
22 I've been in talks with the 3rd
23 District, Mr. Andrew Goodman, in
24 reference to this Act, and we hope

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 that you all support this Act
3 because it don't only benefit the
4 Bottom, but this Act will benefit
5 the City of Philadelphia as a
6 whole, giving communities first
7 dibs on city-owned properties. So
8 I am not in agreement with Bill
9 250807, and thank you.

10 MR. EDWARDS: Hi. Good
11 morning -- good afternoon,
12 everyone. David Edwards. I'm
13 going to make sure y'all get out of
14 here to lunch quickly. I know it's
15 a long day. First and foremost,
16 thank you for giving me the
17 opportunity to speak. I'm going to
18 be speaking on the bill that talked
19 about locking the dumpsters, the
20 littering. I do agree with that
21 bill.

22 I believe it's -- there
23 we go, 250843. So that's the bill
24 that I do agree on -- sure, no

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 problem. All right. So what I
3 want to talk about, last time I was
4 here I told you guys that I got an
5 opportunity, I get an opportunity
6 to watch you guys on social, come
7 here and work with you guys, talk
8 to you guys. And like I said, you
9 know, no matter what you do,
10 everybody's going to complain. It
11 is what it is. That's what y'all
12 signed up for. Okay.
13 Congratulations.

14 Now, what I want to come
15 in here to do is try to help you
16 guys get to some solutions --

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: What bill are you
19 speaking on, sir?

20 MR. EDWARDS: I said I'm
21 agreeing on Bill --

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

23 JOHNSON: What's the name of the
24 bill, sir?

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 MR. EDWARDS: It's your
3 bill. It says, introduced by
4 Councilman Squilla for Councilman
5 President Johnson, 250843. I agree
6 with that.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: The dumpster bill.

9 MR. EDWARDS: Yes, I
10 agree with that.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: Yes, sir.

13 MR. EDWARDS: We
14 definitely want to keep our streets
15 clean.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: Sure.

18 MR. EDWARDS: Okay. So
19 what I wanted to say, a lot of
20 times when I come in here and
21 listen, because I haven't missed a
22 City Council meeting since y'all
23 started, so for me evaluating
24 everything, everybody come in here

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 and talk about a couple things,
3 money for the school district,
4 that's one of the biggest things.
5 And then people, you know, they
6 come in here with the nonprofits
7 that are doing good work in the
8 community and they're asking for
9 more funding.

10 So just a little bit
11 about me. I ran track and field
12 Division 1, Eastern Illinois
13 University, so I'm a big sports
14 person. I mean, how many people in
15 this chamber did sports by a show
16 of hands? High school, college.
17 So I think here in Philadelphia we
18 need to just start rewarding
19 excellence when it comes to
20 nonprofits.

21 So I do have a thing I
22 think we should do. I'll be real
23 quick. Think about it like the
24 Olympics. You got nonprofits who

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 are new. Let's call them

3 Babyboomers. One --

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

5 JOHNSON: Can you speak on the bill

6 though, sir, about the dumpsters?

7 That's the content of the bill that

8 you --

9 MR. EDWARDS: Okay.

10 Well, I'll let y'all go.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: If you don't mind, sir.

13 MR. EDWARDS: Yeah, no
14 problem. I'll let you go. But as
15 soon as we can get some time to
16 talk about how to get those
17 nonprofits some more money, I have
18 some ways to get them more money.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

20 JOHNSON: Thank you --

21 MR. EDWARDS: The School
22 District of Philadelphia --

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: Yes, sir.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 MR. EDWARDS: I have
3 some ways to help you guys do that
4 too.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: Thank you very much for
7 your comment, sir. Thank you, sir.

8 MS. TEMPLE: Good
9 morning, everyone. My name is
10 Katrina Temple. I am a resident of
11 Philadelphia for a very long time.
12 I have seen some of you
13 constituents and Councilpeople out
14 here. I support the Licenses and
15 Inspections bill with Nick
16 O'Rourke. I was one of those
17 victims of being a tenant, being
18 illegally evicted out of my home,
19 okay, without a landlord's rentals
20 license. From 2000 -- I mean, 2012
21 to 2017, the landlord didn't have a
22 rentals license. Okay.

23 We're talking about they
24 was collecting my money throughout

1 3/19/26 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 the course of them not having a
3 rental license. When I wanted to
4 speak up about inhabitable living
5 conditions, guess what? They took
6 my locks off my doors. And I've
7 been fighting for this for a long,
8 long time and I was very, very
9 angry. But God told me time will
10 come.

11 So now is the time that
12 people will stand up and fight back
13 for what they believe in. I have
14 seen Black people being displaced
15 in the City of Philadelphia. It's
16 a cryful shame. You got lawyers
17 and judges upstairs working
18 together putting evictions on Black
19 people. I'm one of them.

20 I have a \$16,000
21 judgment that I want removed. I
22 pay my bills. Okay. I am an
23 activist in the city. I have got
24 some of y'all on the boards. Okay.

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2 I'm out here in these streets with
3 these people. So I feel these
4 people paying One PA and all them,
5 that they being evicted out of
6 their house.

7 We have a right because
8 the Pennsylvania Human Relations
9 Department states in the appendix,
10 laws state that people should have
11 inhabitable living conditions, so
12 it's a right that we speak up. I'm
13 just upset, okay. But you guys
14 need to think about this has been
15 going on for a long, long time.

16 (Applause.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you very
19 much.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Council
21 President, there are no other names
22 for public comment.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 That concludes today's public
3 comment period.

4 We will now consider the
5 bills and resolutions on the Second
6 Reading and Final Passage
7 Calendars.

8 Chief Clerk, could you
9 please read the title of Resolution
10 No. 260218.

11 CHIEF CLERK: A
12 resolution also naming the 6200
13 block of Osage Avenue "Gerald Wayne
14 Renfrow Way" to honor the life,
15 leadership and enduring legacy of
16 Gerald Wayne Renfrow in the Osage
17 Avenue and Pine Street community.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
19 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
20 Councilmember Jamie Gauthier for a
21 motion regarding Resolution No.
22 260218.

23 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:
24 Thank you, Council President.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 I move for the adoption
3 of the resolution.

4 (Duly seconded.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
7 properly seconded that Resolution
8 No. 260218 be adopted.

9 All those in favor of
10 the motion will signify by saying
11 aye.

12 (Aye.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

15 (No response.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: The ayes have it and the
18 motion carries. The resolution is
19 adopted.

20 (Applause.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

22 JOHNSON: Will the Clerk please
23 read the title of Resolution No.
24 260219.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK: A

3 resolution authorizing
4 Councilmember Gauthier to
5 intervene, on behalf of and as a
6 representative of City Council, in
7 the appeal against the Zoning Board
8 of Adjustment with respect to 4283
9 Viola Street.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

11 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes
12 Councilmember Jamie Gauthier for a
13 motion regarding Resolution No.
14 260219.

15 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

16 Thank you, Council President.

17 I move for the adoption
18 of the resolution.

19 (Duly seconded.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

21 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
22 properly seconded that Resolution
23 No. 260219 be adopted.

24 All those in favor of

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 the motion will signify by saying
3 aye.

4 (Aye.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

7 (No response.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: The ayes have it. The
10 motion carries. The resolution is
11 adopted.

12 Will the Clerk please
13 read the title of Bill No.
14 250329-A.

15 CHIEF CLERK: An
16 ordinance amending Chapter 9-3900
17 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled
18 "Property Licenses and Owner
19 Accountability," to clarify
20 licensing requirements, authorize
21 the department to create a
22 Proactive Inspection program,
23 require public reporting related to
24 Code compliance and establish

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 remedies, damages and protection
3 for tenants, all under certain
4 terms and conditions.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes
7 Councilmember Nicolas, Nick
8 O'Rourke for a motion.

9 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:

10 Thank you, Mr. President.

11 I move that Bill No.
12 250329-A be removed from the
13 Calendar and recommitted to the
14 Committee on Housing, Neighborhood
15 Development and The Homeless.

16 (Duly seconded.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
19 properly seconded.

20 All those in favor of
21 the motion will signify by saying
22 aye.

23 (Aye.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

5 JOHNSON: The ayes have it. The
6 motion carries. Bill No. 250329-A
7 will be removed from the Calendar
8 and recommitted to the Committee on
9 Housing, Neighborhood Development
10 and The Homeless.

11 Would the Clerk please
12 read the title of Bill No.
13 250330-A.

14 CHIEF CLERK: An
15 ordinance amending Chapter 9-800 of
16 The Philadelphia Code, entitled
17 "Landlord and Tenant," to modify
18 the requirements related to good
19 cause for ending a tenancy, add
20 protections against retaliation and
21 harassment for tenants and tenant
22 organizations, specify tenants'
23 rights related to implied warranty
24 of habitability, and provide a

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 legal presumption related to
3 breaches of the implied warranty of
4 habitability, create a tenant right
5 to organize, specify deadlines for
6 asserting claims and establish
7 enhanced enforcement mechanisms,
8 remedies damages and protections,
9 all under certain terms and
10 conditions.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
13 Councilmember Nicolas O'Rourke for
14 a motion.

15 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:

16 Thank you, Mr. President.

17 I move that Bill No.
18 250330-A be removed from the
19 Calendar and recommitted to the
20 Committee on Housing, Neighborhood
21 Development and The Homeless.

22 (Duly seconded.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: It has been moved and

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 properly seconded.

3 All those in favor of
4 the motion will signify by saying
5 aye.

6 (Aye.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

11 JOHNSON: The ayes have it. The
12 motion carries and Bill No.
13 250330-A will be removed from the
14 Calendar and recommitted to the
15 Committee on Housing, Neighborhood
16 Development and The Homeless.

17 Would the Clerk please
18 read the title of Bill No.
19 250843-AA.

20 CHIEF CLERK: An
21 ordinance amending Chapter 10-700
22 of the Philadelphia Code, entitled
23 "Refuse and Littering," to require
24 locking dumpsters, all under

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 certain terms and conditions.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

4 JOHNSON: This bill has been read
5 on two different days. The
6 question now is shall the bill pass
7 finally.

8 Chief Clerk, please call
9 the roll.

10 CHIEF CLERK:

11 Councilmember Phillips.

12 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS:

13 Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK:

15 Councilmember Gilmore Richardson.

16 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

17 RICHARDSON: Aye.

18 CHIEF CLERK:

19 Councilmember Gauthier.

20 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

21 Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK:

23 Councilmember Jones.

24 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK:

3 Councilmember Landau.

4 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:

5 Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK:

7 Councilmember Young.

8 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK:

10 Councilmember Harrity.

11 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:

12 Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK:

14 Councilmember O'Rourke.

15 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:

16 Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK:

18 Councilmember Driscoll.

19 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

20 Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK:

22 Councilmember O'Neill.

23 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL:

24 Aye.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK:

3 Councilmember Squilla.

4 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

5 Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK:

7 Councilmember Bass.

8 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK:

10 Councilmember Ahmad.

11 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

12 Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: And,

14 Council President Johnson.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: Aye. The ayes are 14 and

17 nays are 0. Majority of all

18 members having voted in the

19 affirmative, the bill passes.

20 Will the Clerk please

21 read the title of Bill No. 251025.

22 CHIEF CLERK: An

23 ordinance regulating the direction

24 of movement of traffic on Ryan

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Avenue between Leon Street and
3 Frankford Avenue.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

5 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes
6 Councilmember Mike Driscoll for a
7 motion regarding Bill No. 251025.

8 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

9 Thank you, Mr. President.

10 I move that Bill No.
11 251025 be withdrawn.

12 (Duly seconded.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
15 properly seconded that Bill No.
16 251025 be withdrawn.

17 All those in favor of
18 the motion will signify by saying
19 aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

22 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

23 (No response.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 JOHNSON: The ayes have it. The
3 motion carries and Bill No. 251025
4 has been withdrawn.

5 Would the Clerk please
6 read the title of Bill No. 260021.

7 CHIEF CLERK: An
8 ordinance amending Chapter 19-1700
9 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled
10 "Finance, Taxes and Collections,"
11 to amend excluded transactions to
12 the realty transfer tax, all under
13 certain terms and conditions.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

15 JOHNSON: This bill having been
16 read on two different days, the
17 question now is shall the bill pass
18 finally.

19 Chief Clerk, please call
20 the roll.

21 CHIEF CLERK:
22 Councilmember Phillips.

23 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS:
24 Aye.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK:

3 Councilmember Gilmore Richardson.

4 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

5 RICHARDSON: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK:

7 Councilmember Gauthier.

8 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

9 Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK:

11 Councilmember Jones.

12 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK:

14 Councilmember Landau.

15 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:

16 Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK:

18 Councilmember Young.

19 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Aye.

20 CHIEF CLERK:

21 Councilmember Harrity.

22 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:

23 Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK:

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Councilmember O'Rourke.

3 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:

4 Aye.

5 CHIEF CLERK:

6 Councilmember Driscoll.

7 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

8 Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK:

10 Councilmember O'Neill.

11 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL:

12 Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK:

14 Councilmember Squilla.

15 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

16 Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK:

18 Councilmember Bass.

19 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

20 CHIEF CLERK:

21 Councilmember Ahmad.

22 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

23 Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK: And,

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Council President Johnson.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

4 JOHNSON: Aye. The ayes are 14.

5 The nays are 0. Majority of all
6 members having voted in affirmative
7 the bill passes.

8 Chief Clerk, please read
9 the title of Bill No. 260022.

10 CHIEF CLERK: An
11 ordinance to amend the Philadelphia
12 Zoning Maps by changing the zoning
13 designations of certain areas of
14 land located within an area bounded
15 by Main Street, Ridge Avenue, the
16 Wissahickon Creek, Kelly Drive,
17 Falls Road, the Schuylkill River
18 and Dawson Street extended.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

20 JOHNSON: This bill having been
21 read on two different days, the
22 question now is shall the bill pass
23 finally.

24 Chief Clerk, please call

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 the roll.

3 CHIEF CLERK:

4 Councilmember Phillips.

5 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS:

6 Aye.

7 CHIEF CLERK:

8 Councilmember Gilmore Richardson.

9 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

10 RICHARDSON: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK:

12 Councilmember Gauthier.

13 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

14 Aye.

15 CHIEF CLERK:

16 Councilmember Jones.

17 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

18 CHIEF CLERK:

19 Councilmember Landau.

20 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:

21 Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK:

23 Councilmember Young.

24 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Aye.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK:

3 Councilmember Harrity.

4 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:

5 Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK:

7 Councilmember O'Rourke.

8 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:

9 Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK:

11 Councilmember Driscoll.

12 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

13 Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK:

15 Councilmember O'Neill.

16 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL:

17 Aye.

18 CHIEF CLERK:

19 Councilmember Squilla.

20 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

21 Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK:

23 Councilmember Bass.

24 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK:

3 Councilmember Ahmad.

4 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

5 Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK: And,

7 Council President Johnson.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: Aye. The ayes are 14.

10 The nays are 0. Majority of all

11 members having voted in the

12 affirmative the bill passes.

13 Chief Clerk, please read

14 the title of Bill No. 260055.

15 CHIEF CLERK: An

16 ordinance amending Title 14 of The

17 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Zoning

18 and Planning," by revising and

19 clarifying certain provisions and

20 making technical changes to text

21 that has expired, all under certain

22 terms and conditions.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: This bill having been

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 read on two different days, the
3 question now is shall the bill pass
4 finally.

5 Chief Clerk, please call
6 the roll.

7 CHIEF CLERK:
8 Councilmember Phillips.

9 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS:
10 Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK:
12 Councilmember Gilmore Richardson.

13 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE
14 RICHARDSON: Aye.

15 CHIEF CLERK:
16 Councilmember Gauthier.

17 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:
18 Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK:
20 Councilmember Jones.

21 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK:
23 Councilmember Landau.

24 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Aye.

3 CHIEF CLERK:

4 Councilmember Young.

5 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK:

7 Councilmember Harrity.

8 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:

9 Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK:

11 Councilmember O'Rourke.

12 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:

13 Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK:

15 Councilmember Driscoll.

16 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

17 Aye.

18 CHIEF CLERK:

19 Councilmember O'Neill.

20 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL:

21 Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK:

23 Councilmember Squilla.

24 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Aye.

3 CHIEF CLERK:

4 Councilmember Bass.

5 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK:

7 Councilmember Ahmad.

8 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

9 Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK: And,

11 Council President Johnson.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

13 JOHNSON: The ayes are 14. The

14 nays are 0. Majority of all

15 members having voted in affirmative

16 the bill passes.

17 Chief Clerk, please read

18 the title of Bill No. 260073.

19 CHIEF CLERK: An

20 ordinance amending Section 9-208 of

21 The Philadelphia Code, entitled

22 "Sidewalk Cafes," and Section

23 A-301.1.5 of Title 4, Subcode "A,"

24 ("The Philadelphia Administrative

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Code") of The Philadelphia Code,
3 entitled "Zoning and Use
4 Registration Permits," by removing
5 expired provisions related to
6 outdoor entertainment at sidewalk
7 cafes, under certain terms and
8 conditions.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: This bill having been
11 read on two different days, the
12 question now is shall the bill pass
13 finally.

14 Chief Clerk, please call
15 the roll.

16 CHIEF CLERK:
17 Councilmember Phillips.

18 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS:
19 Aye.

20 CHIEF CLERK:
21 Councilmember Gilmore Richardson.

22 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE
23 RICHARDSON: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK:

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Councilmember Gauthier.

3 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

4 Aye.

5 CHIEF CLERK:

6 Councilmember Jones.

7 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

8 CHIEF CLERK:

9 Councilmember Landau.

10 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:

11 Aye.

12 CHIEF CLERK:

13 Councilmember Young.

14 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Aye.

15 CHIEF CLERK:

16 Councilmember Harrity.

17 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:

18 Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK:

20 Councilmember O'Rourke.

21 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:

22 Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK:

24 Councilmember Driscoll.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

3 Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK:

5 Councilmember O'Neill.

6 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL:

7 Aye.

8 CHIEF CLERK:

9 Councilmember Squilla.

10 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

11 Aye.

12 CHIEF CLERK:

13 Councilmember Bass.

14 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

15 CHIEF CLERK:

16 Councilmember Ahmad.

17 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

18 Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK: And,

20 Council President Johnson.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

22 JOHNSON: Aye. The ayes are 14.

23 The nays are 0. Majority of all

24 members having voted in the

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 affirmative, the bill passes.

3 Would the Chief Clerk
4 please read the title of Bill No.
5 260074.

6 CHIEF CLERK: An
7 ordinance to amend Title 14 of The
8 Philadelphia Code by adding Section
9 14-546, entitled /SIX, Sixth
10 District Overlay District, revise
11 Section 14-515, the /NE, Northeast
12 Overlay District, remove Section
13 14-523, the /IMA, Industrial and
14 Manufacturing Area Overlay
15 District, and make other related
16 changes, all under certain terms
17 and conditions.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
19 JOHNSON: This bill having been
20 read on two different days, the
21 question now is shall the bill pass
22 finally.

23 Chief Clerk, please call
24 the roll.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK:

3 Councilmember Phillips.

4 COUNCILMAN PHILLIPS:

5 Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK:

7 Councilmember Gilmore Richardson.

8 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

9 RICHARDSON: Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK:

11 Councilmember Gauthier.

12 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

13 Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK:

15 Councilmember Jones.

16 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK:

18 Councilmember Landau.

19 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:

20 Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK:

22 Councilmember Young.

23 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK:

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Councilmember Harrity.

3 COUNCILMAN HARRITY:

4 Aye.

5 CHIEF CLERK:

6 Councilmember O'Rourke.

7 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:

8 Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK:

10 Councilmember Driscoll.

11 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

12 Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK:

14 Councilmember O'Neill.

15 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL:

16 Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK:

18 Councilmember Squilla.

19 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

20 Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK:

22 Councilmember Bass.

23 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK:

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Councilmember Ahmad.

3 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

4 Aye.

5 CHIEF CLERK: And,

6 Council President Johnson.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: Aye. The ayes are 14 and
9 the nays are 0. Majority of all
10 members having voted in the
11 affirmative the bill passes.

12 Chief Clerk, please read
13 any additional resolutions on
14 today's Final Passage Calendar.

15 CHIEF CLERK: A
16 privileged resolution honoring and
17 recognizing the women of the
18 Philadelphia Sheriff's Office
19 during Women's History Month 2026
20 for their tireless service,
21 sacrifice and invaluable
22 contributions to the safety and
23 well-being of the City of
24 Philadelphia. Introduced by

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Councilmember Gilmore Richardson on
3 behalf of Council President
4 Johnson.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes
7 Majority Leader Katherine Gilmore
8 Richardson for a motion.

9 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

10 RICHARDSON: Thank you,
11 Mr. President.

12 On your behalf, I move
13 for the adoption of the resolution.

14 (Duly seconded.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
17 properly seconded that the
18 resolution be adopted.

19 All those in favor will
20 signify by saying aye.

21 (Aye.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

23 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

24 (No response.)

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: The ayes have it and the
4 resolution is adopted.

5 Will the Clerk please
6 read the title of the next
7 resolution.

8 CHIEF CLERK: A
9 privileged resolution Honoring the
10 Schools and Principals of the
11 Fourth Council District for Their
12 Ongoing Commitment to Coordination
13 and Staying Informed Through Monday
14 Morning Roll Call Meetings.
15 Introduced by Councilmember Jones.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes
18 Councilmember Jones for a motion on
19 the resolution. And good job on
20 this one because they have been
21 meeting for the past several years
22 consistently, sir.

23 COUNCILMAN JONES: You
24 noticed. Thank you. Thank you,

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Mr. President.

3 I gleefully now move for
4 the adoption.

5 (Duly seconded.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

7 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
8 properly seconded that the
9 resolution be adopted.

10 All those in favor
11 signify by saying aye.

12 (Aye.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

15 (No response.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: The ayes have it. The
18 resolution is adopted.

19 Chief Clerk, please read
20 the title of the next resolution.

21 CHIEF CLERK: A
22 privileged resolution declaring
23 March 16-March 20, 2026 as National
24 LGBTQ Health Awareness Week in the

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 City of Philadelphia. Introduced
3 by Councilmember Landau.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

5 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
6 Councilmember Landau for a motion
7 on the resolution.

8 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:

9 Thank you, Council President.

10 I move for the adoption
11 of the resolution.

12 (Duly seconded.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

14 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
15 properly seconded that the
16 resolution be adopted.

17 All those in favor
18 signify by saying aye.

19 (Aye.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

21 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: The ayes have it and the

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 resolution is adopted.

3 Chief Clerk, please read
4 the title of the next resolution.

5 CHIEF CLERK: A
6 privileged resolution authorizing
7 the Committee on Public Health and
8 Human Services to hold hearings
9 examining the state of the LGBTQ+
10 health in Philadelphia. Introduced
11 by Councilmember Landau.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
13 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
14 Councilmember Landau for a motion
15 on the resolution.

16 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:
17 Thank you, Council President.

18 I move for the adoption
19 of the resolution.

20 (Duly seconded.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
22 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
23 properly seconded that the
24 resolution be adopted.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 All those in favor will
3 signify by saying aye.

4 (Aye.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

7 (No response.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: The ayes have it and the
10 resolution is adopted.

11 Chief Clerk, please read
12 the title of the next resolution.

13 CHIEF CLERK: A
14 privileged resolution recognizing
15 March 31, 2026 as Transgender Day
16 of Visibility in the City of
17 Philadelphia, a day to celebrate
18 and recognize the achievements and
19 contributions of transgender people
20 and to lift up the joy, light and
21 laughter that transgender people
22 experience and bring into our
23 communities. Introduced by
24 Councilmember Landau.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
4 Councilmember Landau for a motion
5 on the resolution.

6 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:

7 Thank you, Council President.

8 I move for the adoption
9 of the resolution.

10 (Duly seconded.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
13 properly seconded that the
14 resolution be adopted.

15 All those in favor will
16 signify by saying aye.

17 (Aye.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

19 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

20 (No response.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

22 JOHNSON: The ayes have it and the
23 resolution is adopted.

24 Chief Clerk, please read

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 the title of the next resolution.

3 CHIEF CLERK: A

4 privileged resolution honoring and

5 recognizing March 24, 2026 as

6 National Cheesesteak Day in the

7 City of Philadelphia. Introduced

8 by Councilmember Young.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

10 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes

11 Councilmember Young.

12 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Thank

13 you, Mr. Pres --

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

15 JOHNSON: Can I do an amendment as

16 a part of that resolution, sir?

17 COUNCILMAN YOUNG:

18 Absolutely. That's a part of the

19 family too. We got the chicken

20 too.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

22 JOHNSON: Thank you, sir. I feel

23 included. Chair recognizes

24 Councilmember Jeffrey Jay Young for

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 a motion on the resolution.

3 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Thank
4 you, Mr. President.

5 I move for the adoption.

6 (Duly seconded.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
9 properly seconded that the
10 resolution be adopted.

11 All those in favor will
12 signify by saying aye.

13 (Aye.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

15 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

16 (No response.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: The ayes have it and the
19 resolution is adopted.

20 Chief Clerk, please read
21 the title of the next resolution.

22 CHIEF CLERK: A

23 privileged resolution honoring

24 Dr. Khine Zaw Arthur, President and

1 3/19/26 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Chief Executive Officer of the
3 Asian American Chamber of Commerce
4 of Greater Philadelphia for her
5 leadership, entrepreneurial
6 achievement and commitment to
7 advancing economic opportunity and
8 community empowerment in the City
9 of Philadelphia. Introduced by
10 Councilmember Ahmad.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: Chair recognizes
13 Councilmember Dr. Nina Ahmad for a
14 motion on the resolution.

15 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:

16 Thank you, Council President.

17 I move for the adoption
18 of the resolution.

19 (Duly seconded.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

21 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
22 properly seconded that the
23 resolution be adopted.

24 All those in favor will

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 signify by saying aye.

3 (Aye.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

5 JOHNSON: Those opposed?

6 (No response.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: The ayes have it and the
9 resolution is adopted.

10 Chief Clerk, please read
11 the title of the next resolution.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Council
13 President, there are no further
14 resolutions in my possession.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

16 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: Are there speeches on
19 behalf of the Minority?

20 The Chair recognizes
21 Councilmember Nicolas O'Rourke.

22 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:

23 Thank you, Mr. President.

24 As many of my colleagues

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 know, yesterday two members of
3 HAPCO filed an injunction to block
4 this Council from voting on the
5 Safe Healthy Homes Act. Today was
6 supposed to be a moment to
7 recognize over a year of hard work,
8 countless conversations, amendments
9 and real engagement across this
10 body. Instead we're facing a
11 bad-faith attempt to delay and to
12 distract.

13 And I'll be honest, it
14 doesn't just frustrate me. From
15 the calls and the texts that I've
16 received, I know many of you feel
17 the same way. It's a disrespect to
18 the democratic process and to this
19 institution. At the end of the
20 day, this is about whether we're
21 allowed to do the job our
22 constituents sent us here to do,
23 and I am not going to be deterred
24 from doing the thing that the

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 people sent me here to do.

3 I want to thank Council
4 President Johnson and each of my
5 colleagues for the support as well
6 as the encouragement that you've
7 shown in this moment. It really
8 does mean a great deal to me, not
9 just in this moment, but over the
10 course of the year of the
11 challenges that I've had with my
12 family. The care and concern and
13 the love that you have shared have
14 meant a great deal to me.

15 What's been clear though
16 in every conversation is that there
17 is shared commitment across this
18 body to keep moving, to schedule a
19 new hearing as soon as possible and
20 ultimately, deliver what we've
21 promised, safe healthy homes for
22 our constituents. To the
23 organizers, the tenants, the small
24 landlords who have pushed for this

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 legislation for months, keep on
3 pushing.

4 To the tenants of 42nd
5 and Chester who rallied yesterday
6 because of the lack of heat, the
7 power outages that they have faced
8 through this winter, keep on
9 pushing. To my team, who have
10 worked tirelessly to prioritize
11 those most in need not only to get
12 a paycheck, but because they
13 believe, like me, that the people's
14 needs are wholly. Keep on pushing.
15 It's unquestionable who is acting
16 in good faith here and who isn't.
17 It's the people whose safety is on
18 the line, not those worried about
19 their bottom line and don't want to
20 be bothered to actually follow the
21 law while they do it. So we're
22 going to keep on pushing and we're
23 going to see what the end is going
24 to be.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Thank you,

3 Mr. President.

4 (Applause.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

6 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

7 Justice delayed is not justice
8 denied.

9 Speeches on behalf of
10 the Majority?

11 The Chair recognizes
12 Councilmember Rue Landau.

13 COUNCILWOMAN LANDAU:

14 Thank you, Council President.

15 First of all, amen to my
16 colleague Councilmember Nick
17 O'Rourke. Today I introduced a
18 resolution declaring this week
19 March 16th to the 20th as National
20 LGBTQ+ Health Awareness Week in the
21 City of Philadelphia. The date
22 shows us that LGBTQ+ people,
23 especially trans people, and our
24 Black and Brown LGBTQ+ community

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 members, have significantly more
3 challenges when accessing health
4 care, resources and support in
5 comparison to their straight and
6 cis peers. There are existing
7 inequities in accessing health
8 care, finding quality and
9 affordable housing, getting fair
10 treatment and education and more.
11 Queer people also face a greater
12 risk of taking their own life.

13 This weekend my office
14 will be holding an LGBTQ+ Health
15 Fair in the Gayborhood that is open
16 and free to all Philadelphians. We
17 will offer vaccines, rapid testing,
18 menstrual products, sexual health
19 resources, housing case management,
20 legal advice on changing your name
21 and much more. Please stop by if
22 you have a chance.

23 Amid Trump's substantial
24 rollbacks to funding and access to

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES
2 LGBTQ+ health care, including
3 gender-affirming care, HIV
4 prevention and testing and mental
5 health resources, I also introduced
6 a resolution today authorizing the
7 Committee on Public Health and
8 Human Services to hold hearings
9 examining the state of LGBTQ+
10 health and health care access in
11 Philadelphia. I look forward to
12 hearing from the experts about
13 what's at stake and what needs to
14 be done to protect our queer
15 community.

16 Finally, today I
17 introduced a resolution recognizing
18 Monday, March 31st as Transgender
19 Day of Visibility, an opportunity
20 to honor the countless transgender
21 and non-binary Philadelphians who
22 have shaped our history and uplift
23 the work of those who stood at the
24 front lines of the future. But

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 visibility alone is not enough.

3 Across this country in the last
4 year, we've seen a wave of anti-
5 trans legislation, bills banning
6 health care, policing identities
7 and forcing people to live
8 inauthentically.

9 Philadelphia is a city
10 where trans people belong, where we
11 will continue to fight for rights,
12 health care access and protections.
13 I look forward to the Trans flag
14 being raised on March 31st outside
15 City Hall and other things to come.
16 Thank you so much.

17 (Applause.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

19 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

20 Good job, Member Landau.

21 Chair recognizes

22 Councilmember Majority Katherine
23 Gilmore Richardson.

24 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 RICHARDSON: Thank you. Thank you
3 so much, Mr. President.

4 Today I rise to thank
5 you and all of our Council
6 colleagues for voting in favor of
7 the legislation we just passed,
8 which was the Generational Wealth
9 Preservation bill, which removes a
10 significant financial barrier to
11 building generational wealth here
12 in the City of Philadelphia and
13 makes it easier for families to
14 pass down property for one
15 generation to the next.

16 Previously, only homes
17 that were fully paid off were
18 exempt from the city's realty
19 transfer tax. So if a home had an
20 outstanding mortgage, heirs were
21 required to pay the realty transfer
22 tax on the remaining debt before a
23 new deed could be recorded, which
24 could cost thousands and thousands

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 of dollars, ask me how I know.

3 As an example, if you
4 inherited your family home with an
5 outstanding mortgage of \$100,000
6 you would need to pay \$4,578 in
7 transfer taxes before you can
8 record the new deed. To many
9 Philadelphians, this could mean the
10 difference between keeping and
11 losing your family home. But after
12 today, not anymore.

13 The Generational Wealth
14 Preservation bill, which we passed
15 today, amends The Philadelphia Code
16 to clarify that heirs are not
17 required to pay the realty transfer
18 tax when inheriting a family home
19 with an outstanding mortgage that
20 cannot be paid off by the estate.
21 This is a commonsense change that
22 makes the process more fair and
23 equitable, while empowering
24 families to build and maintain

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 their generational wealth, because
3 a family home is often the most
4 meaningful thing a parent or a
5 grandparent or loved one can leave
6 to their loved ones.

7 This bill makes sure
8 that a tax bill is not standing
9 between a grieving family and their
10 ability to hold onto their
11 foundation, particularly when they
12 may already be navigating
13 challenges like tangled titles or
14 deed fraud. Today marks real
15 progress. And I want to thank
16 Community Legal Services and all of
17 our legal service partners, our
18 Department of Records, our
19 Commissioner Jim Leonard, Tracy,
20 his entire team, Department of
21 Revenue, our Commissioner Kathleen
22 McColgan, Rebecca Lopez, Chris and
23 their entire team, and also my
24 awesome, hard-working legislative

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES
2 and Comms team, the whole team KGR.
3 Thank you all so very much for all
4 of your hard work and to all the
5 organizations, and especially the
6 community members who came in to
7 provide public comment and
8 testimony during our Finance
9 Committee hearing earlier this
10 month in favor of this legislation.

11 So while we continue to
12 celebrate this win, know that the
13 work and the journey to empower
14 Philadelphia families continue, and
15 we will help all build generational
16 wealth here in the City of
17 Philadelphia. Thank you all so
18 much.

19 (Applause.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

21 JOHNSON: Thank you, Majority
22 Leader Gilmore Richardson. Great
23 job.

24 Chair recognizes

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Councilmember Jamie Gauthier.

3 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

4 Thank you, Council President.

5 Today I introduce

6 legislation that corrects the

7 zoning for 3rd district school

8 buildings slated for closure by the

9 School District of Philadelphia.

10 Specifically, I'm remapping five

11 at-risk schools as "Special Purpose

12 Civic," a category created a couple

13 years ago for public institutions

14 like schools.

15 This ensures that the

16 conversation around the School

17 District's Facilities Master Plan

18 stays focused on the most important

19 consideration our young people,

20 because when students and the

21 community asked the District about

22 their plans for Paul Robeson High

23 School and Blankenburg Elementary

24 buildings, the District said

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 redevelopment.

3 Last week I went to
4 Robeson High School to speak
5 directly with students about the
6 District's plan to close their
7 school. Robeson students expressed
8 unanimous opposition to the
9 closure, and I could hear the fear,
10 anger and confusion in their voices
11 as they talked about losing a place
12 that feels like a safe haven and a
13 second home.

14 But there is another
15 undercurrent moving through
16 Robeson's student body,
17 gentrification. During my visit, I
18 could not help but notice a sign
19 that students had put up in the
20 hallway. They graciously let me
21 borrow the sign for today's
22 meeting, which as you can see,
23 says, "Don't be a sellout. Stop
24 gentrification. Location,

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 location, location. Save Paul
3 Robeson." Our kids made that sign.
4 They know exactly what is happening
5 to their neighborhood and they are
6 not willing to go quietly.

7 When University City
8 High School closed, Paul Robeson
9 became the last public high school
10 in the heart of University City, a
11 stone's throw from some of the
12 world's finest scientific
13 institutions. It is also in the
14 former Black Bottom, a neighborhood
15 that the city and institutional
16 partners bulldozed and erased to
17 make space for campus expansion.

18 This sign and what I've
19 heard from Robeson's students,
20 teachers, staff, parents and
21 community members over and over
22 again, is that they see the
23 proposed closure for what it is,
24 the latest chapter in a long story

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES
2 of pushing working-class Black and
3 Brown families out of University
4 City. This is not paranoia. This
5 is pattern recognition.

6 Robeson students are
7 talking in their classrooms about
8 what's motivating the School
9 District to close a school with a
10 96% graduation rate that is sending
11 kids to Harvard, a school that is
12 succeeding by every measure that
13 matters. How could they not --
14 they can see the construction
15 cranes from their classroom window.
16 They see the new offices and new
17 luxury apartments rising all around
18 them, filled with people who did
19 not grow up in our neighborhoods.

20 So while this body may
21 not have a formal vote on the
22 School District's Facilities Plan,
23 we do have power to uncouple the
24 District's inappropriate choice to

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 talk about school closures and
3 redeveloping still open schools at
4 the same time. The School District
5 should be focused on educational
6 outcomes, not development ones.

7 You do not get to plan
8 the sale of a building while our
9 children are still sitting in it.
10 Not on my watch. To be clear, I
11 support the District working with
12 the City to transform already-
13 vacant schools, but I am fiercely
14 opposed to talking about
15 redeveloping buildings with
16 students in them. And while
17 Robeson may be the most vulnerable
18 to redevelopment, we are also
19 protecting Parkway West, Martha
20 Washington and Blankenburg too,
21 because they matter just as much.

22 I am grateful that the
23 School District says that they
24 heard the voices of the community

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 and will keep Motivation High open.

3 I am introducing a map change for
4 Motivation High too because it is
5 just that important. The students
6 at Robeson, Parkway West,
7 Motivation, Martha Washington and
8 Blankenburg deserve the same care
9 and commitment and the same
10 investment in their futures.

11 Our schools belong to
12 our communities, not developers.
13 And the School District does not
14 get to hand them over to developers
15 while our children's backs are
16 turned. My legislation says, Not
17 on my watch and not without a seat
18 at the table for the people who
19 built these communities, who filled
20 these classrooms and who are still
21 there and still fighting. Thank
22 you.

23 (Applause.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

3 Chair recognizes

4 Councilmember Curtis Jones, Jr.

5 COUNCILMAN JONES: Wow.

6 My daddy came from the Black Bottom
7 so I can relate to that expansion
8 thing.

9 So tomorrow,
10 God-willing, will come the end of
11 Ramadan, the Holy month of Ramadan.
12 Tens of thousands of Muslims will
13 be able to go back to eating during
14 the course of the day. But one of
15 the things that happened Saturday
16 was what is called an Iftar, and
17 that was the breaking of the fast
18 at my home.

19 One of the attendees was
20 recognized by Councilmember
21 Gauthier, Tone Barr, came to the
22 house. We were talking. After we
23 ate succulent lamb -- you wouldn't
24 be interested.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

3 JOHNSON: They got vegan lamb too.

4 COUNCILMAN JONES: We

5 had fish fried rice. We had

6 barbecue chicken off the grill.

7 Man, we ate. And so, we all sat in

8 the living room and I thought we

9 were going to start talking about

10 total religious stuff, but that did

11 not happen. It was more about what

12 is going on with our young people.

13 And Tone talked about it.

14 And one of the things

15 that he raised was the fact that we

16 have to not speak down to our young

17 people, but speak at our young

18 people and go through the means and

19 mechanisms that they understand and

20 relate to. And what that meant,

21 with a lot of fanfare, was video

22 games. This is called BlockVerse.

23 And as soon as I picked

24 up or he picked up this game, the

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 young person that was in the room
3 who was paying us no attention,
4 leaned in, started listening. So
5 briefly, what this is, if you ever
6 heard of Grand Theft Auto, which is
7 an exercise in beast kind of
8 behavior, you're on some beast mode
9 stuff where you are demonizing
10 young people, you're running over
11 seniors, you're snatching people's
12 pocketbooks, you're robbing people
13 and you get points for it. What
14 this does is entertains that but
15 with consequences.

16 Once you snatch a car
17 and get caught, here's how much
18 time you can get. If you go on
19 this "caper robbery mission" and
20 all of a sudden somebody snitches
21 on you, here's what happens when
22 you go to the court, and I just
23 thought, colleagues, that this
24 speaks to our young people where

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 they are.

3 I kid you not, the young
4 man that attended the Iftar did not
5 care what we were talking about
6 until we picked up this thing. So
7 you can't buy this. We can't buy
8 it. But as it's developed, it may
9 be attracted to your schools to use
10 and as a R&D measure to kind of
11 have discussions about
12 consequences. And what is
13 interesting is based on Philly,
14 parts of your District are in
15 there, Member Gauthier, 52nd
16 Street, 56th Street and others, but
17 it is a real translatable way to
18 come to our young people and talk
19 about consequence.

20 So I'll end on this: To
21 let young people think that they
22 could go around doing whatever
23 without consequence is ludicrous.
24 There is a consequence to

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 everything we do. And it's about
3 time some of our young people learn
4 them.

5 Thank you,
6 Mr. President.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

8 JOHNSON: Thank you, Member Jones.

9 Chair recognizes
10 Councilmember Jeffrey Jay Young.

11 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Thank
12 you, Mr. President.

13 First, I want to commend
14 my colleague Majority Leader
15 Katherine Gilmore Richardson on
16 this incredible piece of
17 legislation. As an attorney who
18 represented folks in estates and
19 tangled titles, I can tell you
20 countless occasions how no taxes
21 and liens get in the way of really
22 allowing people to fully utilize
23 their generational wealth, fully
24 get the full value of that

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 generational wealth, so this
3 legislation is going to change
4 lives I think for people in our
5 city. So thank you, Councilmember,
6 for this legislation.

7 I also want to commend
8 my colleague Councilmember Gauthier
9 for your legislation and using your
10 power as a District Councilmember
11 to represent the best interests of
12 your district. That legislation I
13 think is our tools that we have to
14 fight some of these things that are
15 wrong with our communities, to
16 fight gentrification in our
17 community. So I stand with you on
18 that fight 100%.

19 This Saturday, March
20 21st from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.,
21 my office will be hosting a post-
22 Eid toy giveaway at Penrose
23 Recreation Center. That is at 11th
24 and Susquehanna. We are partnering

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES
2 with the Philly Majilis, Councilman
3 Jones, thank you. Commissioner
4 Omar Sabir, the Commissioner's
5 Office, thank you. Majilis Masjid,
6 thank you for participating and
7 supporting our toy drive this
8 Saturday.

9 This is a special
10 opportunity for us to continue
11 celebrating the joy of Eid by
12 making sure our young people feel
13 seen, supported and celebrated
14 while bringing neighbors and
15 families together in the spirit of
16 generosity and community. So I
17 just want to say Ramadan Mubarak.

18 On next Tuesday, March
19 24th, my office will be hosting a
20 community meeting on the proposed
21 School District's Facilities Plan
22 for families and community members
23 at the Bache-Martin, Waring and
24 Robert Morris catchments. We will

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 be joined by representatives of
3 schools, Friends of School groups.
4 The School District said they are
5 committed to attend. So we want to
6 bring answers to the community
7 regarding what's going to happen to
8 an elementary school with almost
9 900 kids.

10 So the meeting will take
11 place at the City School, which is
12 at 24th and Poplar, 860 North 24th
13 Street from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
14 That's again 24th and Poplar at the
15 City School from 6:00 p.m. to
16 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 24th. If
17 you can't make it in person, we
18 will also have it live-streamed on
19 my Facebook page. That is @
20 Jeffrey Young Jr.

21 Today, Mr. President, we
22 introduced the resolution honoring
23 National Cheesesteak Day. But
24 cheesesteak is more of a

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 celebration than a sandwich. It's

3 a celebration of Philadelphia.

4 It's what Philadelphia is. From

5 its origins in South Philly to its

6 global recognition today,

7 cheesesteaks represent our city's

8 history, resilience and pride.

9 This resolution honor is

10 not only the iconic food, but

11 remember small businesses, right,

12 small businesses in our communities

13 that make up these shops, the

14 generations of workers that have

15 kept the tradition alive and

16 strengthening our local economy and

17 preserving our cultural staple that

18 continues to bring people together

19 from across Philadelphia and

20 worldwide. Cheesesteak shops

21 across the city contribute to our

22 economy, to our tourism, to our

23 cultural life and while

24 withstanding some of the traditions

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 that we love.

3 Just in our district, in
4 the 5th Council District alone, we
5 have Del Rossi's, who is a Michelin
6 Bib Gourmand winner. There are
7 other cheesesteak spots who have
8 also been recognized by Michelin,
9 Dalessandro's, Angelo's. I just
10 want to give a quick shout-out to
11 other iconic cheesesteak spots in
12 the 5th Council District. I
13 mentioned Del Rossi's. We have
14 Cleavers, which is down here in
15 Center City, Joe Steaks in
16 Fishtown, Larry's is in North
17 Philadelphia. And of course, the
18 iconic Max's Cheesesteaks in
19 Germantown at Erie. And the new
20 Black-owned cheesesteak spot,
21 Cheesesteak Bar, Taste Cheesesteak
22 Bar down here in Center City on
23 JFK, also in the 5th Council
24 District.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 I know Councilmember

3 Phillips mentioned a new

4 cheesesteak spot, Bob's at 19th and

5 Norris. I got to get there. I

6 haven't gotten there yet, but I

7 plan to get there this weekend.

8 But we just really want to

9 recognize the small businesses that

10 contribute. So I recognize

11 cheesesteaks, but it's really in

12 honor of the small businesses here

13 in our city. You can find them at

14 any pizza store and any Papi store

15 in the city, right. And as long as

16 we continue to support those

17 stores, those stores will continue

18 to support our communities.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

20 JOHNSON: What's a Papi store?

21 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: So my

22 favorite cheesesteak to be honest

23 is --

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 JOHNSON: Now, before you say that,
3 remember --

4 COUNCILMAN YOUNG:

5 Listen, I'm going -- listen,
6 cheesesteak is my favorite food.
7 So this is, you know, this is --
8 I'm not going to -- I'm from Philly
9 through and through. Cheesesteaks
10 are my favorite food and anywhere
11 we go, I'm going to see if they
12 have a good Cheesesteak. If it's
13 not Philly in front of it, I don't
14 get it, right.

15 But my favorite
16 cheesesteak spot that's just iconic
17 to me and just hanging out is
18 Ishkabibble's. So just hanging out
19 on South Street and just loving
20 that South Street vibe and enjoying
21 myself. But I love Dalessandros as
22 well. I love Max's as well. You
23 know, so -- and then I love the
24 cornerstore cheesesteaks. I love

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 City View Cheesesteaks, right.

3 Pizza stores got good cheesesteaks

4 too. But just support our small

5 businesses is what I really want to

6 get at and what I want to say, so

7 we can continue to grow our city

8 and grow our commercial corridors.

9 COUNCILMAN JONES: Let's

10 have a challenge. Let's bring it

11 to the floor. Bring your best from

12 your district and let's decide.

13 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Let's

14 go. We can have that. That's so

15 Philly. I love that.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

17 JOHNSON: (Inaudible). I

18 officially appoint Member Jones and

19 Member Young to the City Council

20 Cheesesteak-Off Committee.

21 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: And

22 Angelo's got a Michelin Bib as

23 well, right. But on a serious

24 note, again I just really want to

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 know thank those small businesses
3 because cheesesteaks are rooted in
4 working classness in Philadelphia
5 and neighborhood pride. As we're
6 all talking about different
7 neighborhoods, that is neighborhood
8 pride and that is something that's
9 so special to Philly. So we're
10 going to continue to eat
11 cheesesteaks and we're going to
12 continue to support our small
13 businesses.

14 And, Mr. President, we
15 will make sure we have some veggie
16 steaks for you as well.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

18 JOHNSON: Thank you, sir.

19 COUNCILMAN YOUNG: On a
20 late night, veggie steaks hit the
21 spot too. But on a more serious
22 note, today we introduced
23 legislation that would hold
24 corporate landlords accountable to

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 its tenants when it comes to
3 Airbnbs and limited lodging. This
4 legislation is about transparency
5 and respect for neighbors.

6 Too often residents sign
7 the lease or they buy into a condo
8 building without knowing that
9 short-term rentals may be operating
10 right next door. This bill ensures
11 that tenants and owners are clearly
12 informed upfront so they can make
13 decisions that are right for their
14 families, for their quality of
15 life.

16 I don't want to move
17 into an apartment building and find
18 out that it's a hotel, right. That
19 destroys the quality of life. We
20 have some in our district right now
21 that are used for Airbnbs where
22 there are parties every week and
23 they're setting fires. Who wants
24 to live like that. So this measure

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 is about accountability to those
3 corporate landlords.

4 By requiring disclosure
5 communication, we are setting clear
6 expectations for landlords and
7 operators while giving residents a
8 voice and basic protections,
9 including the ability to act if
10 those expectations are not met.
11 And so, we look forward to having
12 this conversation.

13 Again, Mr. President,
14 some of the best legislation comes
15 out of the voice of our
16 constituents. We've gotten
17 multiple, multiple, multiple calls
18 on these properties in our
19 districts, because for some reason
20 these corporate landlords if they
21 can't fill the building up with
22 quality tenants or they're just
23 greedy and want to take away the
24 housing stock from our city.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 You depress demand,
3 right -- you depress the supply
4 rather and the demand rises, prices
5 rise, right. So that's simple
6 economics. And so, we have to do
7 something about that in ensuring
8 that there are quality places for
9 our residents to live.

10 Today we also introduced
11 a resolution that turns vacant and
12 underutilized land into real
13 opportunities for families in the
14 5th Council District. By
15 authorizing these properties and
16 transferring these properties,
17 we're taking a concrete step toward
18 creating new pathways to
19 homeownership under the Turn the
20 Key program.

21 These homes will be made
22 affordable and accessible to
23 Philadelphia residents, helping
24 more families put down roots and

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 build that generational wealth that
3 we speak about. At its core, this
4 is about an equity investment
5 ensuring that development in our
6 neighborhoods benefit the people
7 who live there and that the future
8 of the 5th District includes more
9 homeowners, stronger communities
10 and lasting opportunities.

11 And I want to say this:

12 We get flack from people all the
13 time about our land-use policies.
14 We are legislating in a manner that
15 our constituents elected us to
16 legislate in. And so, when it
17 comes to supporting projects like
18 Turn the Key, yes, we are
19 supportive. We want to move the
20 units. You want to have 30,000
21 units, but we have to understand
22 that each neighborhood is a
23 different market, right.

24 Sometimes the market

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 can't withstand a property that's
3 \$280,000, right, or the people who
4 live in that market, for lack of
5 better words, can't afford that
6 \$280,000. So I want to commend my
7 colleague Councilmember Lozada for
8 fighting for her community, because
9 those residents even with the
10 \$280,000, even with all the
11 subsidies, still can't afford it.
12 So let's increase those subsidies.

13 Let's increase the
14 subsidy to \$100,000 right. We have
15 \$800 million in this H.O.M.E. bond.
16 Let's figure out how to put that
17 money in the hands of the people of
18 the City of Philadelphia so they
19 can really afford a house at 280.
20 Some neighborhoods just is a
21 market-driven model. Some markets
22 can't withstand -- the people in
23 that market can't withstand that.

24 So let's work for

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 people, right, and not
3 corporations, not developers. Work
4 for the people and ensure that the
5 people can afford some of these
6 homes. And it just so happens that
7 in my Council District, this is
8 what the market is. And these
9 particular units that we are
10 supportive of today are going to be
11 condo units. We're going to offer
12 a different style of housing to
13 residents.

14 And this neighborhood is
15 a mixed neighborhood. A block
16 away, we have low-income housing
17 being developed by Pathways, right.
18 That's traditional low-income
19 housing. We're creating mixed
20 communities. That's how
21 communities thrive. Create that
22 balance. We're going to continue
23 to create that balance. We're
24 planning with the people and not

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 planning for those people.

3 So thank you,

4 Mr. President. I look forward to

5 continuing to work with the

6 residents in North Philadelphia as

7 we improve their quality of life.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

9 JOHNSON: Thank you, sir. Planning
10 with, not for the people. Very
11 well said.

12 Shout-out to Phillips
13 Steaks in South Philadelphia.
14 Phillips Steaks in South
15 Philadelphia.

16 Chair recognizes
17 Councilmember Dr. Nina Ahmad.

18 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD:
19 Thank you, Council President, and
20 to Councilmember Young. It's Eid
21 tomorrow. We could use some
22 cheesesteaks. Advance Eid Mubarak
23 to all who celebrate.

24 Today in recognition of

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Women's History Month, I introduced
3 a resolution honoring Dr. Khine Zaw
4 Arthur, President and Chief
5 Executive Officer of the Asian
6 American Chamber of Commerce of
7 Greater Philadelphia for her
8 exceptional leadership,
9 entrepreneurial achievements and
10 commitment to supporting Asian
11 American businesses and
12 strengthening economic opportunity
13 throughout the region.

14 Since 2016, Dr. Arthur
15 launched entrepreneurial ventures
16 here in the United States dedicated
17 to women facing significant
18 hardships, including survivors of
19 domestic violence, human
20 trafficking and creating pathways
21 to economic stability for women
22 through employment, mentorships and
23 business training.

24 Beyond our border, she

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 built an international career
3 rooted in service and leadership,
4 contributing to initiatives as a
5 Senior Officer for social welfare,
6 women, labor and migrant workers
7 with the Association of Southeast
8 Asian Nations in Jakarta as well as
9 a career in journalism with NHK
10 World International in Tokyo. So
11 it was my pleasure to introduce
12 this resolution today and to
13 recognize the outstanding member of
14 our community that Dr. Khine Zaw
15 Arthur is.

16 I also yesterday joined
17 Representative Malcolm Kenyatta and
18 medical professionals, scientists
19 and community climate advocates for
20 the Philadelphia public health
21 leaders responding to the Weakening
22 of Air Quality Protections event.
23 And we spoke about what the federal
24 government is doing, dismantling

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 all of the precautions that we need
3 to take in order to be have a
4 healthy environment.

5 And while we were doing
6 that, it reminded me, in the
7 company of so many environmental
8 justice leaders, about the Lankenau
9 Environmental Science Magnet High
10 School. This is the place that is
11 creating our environmental stewards
12 of tomorrow. Lankenau is the only
13 CTA program for eco-agriculture,
14 food and natural resources in the
15 entire city. Students participate
16 in local internships, have access
17 to incredible partnerships with
18 organizations like The Food Trust,
19 the EPA, the Pennsylvania
20 Horticultural Society, and can
21 engage in hands-on learning due to
22 their 17 acres of lab attached to
23 the Schuylkill River.

24 Lankenau High School

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 provides a direct workforce
3 pipeline to one of our state's
4 biggest industry, agro-ecology.
5 The school has a 98% minority
6 enrollment, with 100% students
7 coming from economically-
8 disadvantaged backgrounds. And all
9 of them leave Lankenau with
10 leadership skills as peer
11 educators, guides and, again as I
12 said, stewards of our globe. And I
13 cannot understand why the School
14 District continues to recommend to
15 close it.

16 I will stand with
17 Lankenau, its students and its
18 families and with many other
19 schools on that list. And I
20 applaud my colleague Councilmember
21 Gauthier for her introduction of
22 her resolution today to protect
23 these pieces of property, to keep
24 them for educational purposes.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 So I implore all of you
3 to please take a look -- the only
4 silver lining that has come out of
5 this is people have discovered
6 Lankenau. There were so many --
7 including our Chair of the
8 Education Committee, who said in a
9 meeting that he was not aware of
10 the Lankenau High School, even
11 though his children are not quite
12 ready for high school yet, and
13 we've heard from other parents who
14 said, oh, we have to look at that
15 school. So for us to be so
16 cavalier in throwing away a crown
17 jewel of our education system seems
18 to me extremely problematic.

19 Anyway, I will move on
20 to say that we put Philadelphia on
21 the map yesterday as well
22 participating in the Women's
23 History Month panel on Lawmakers
24 Advancing Menopause Rights, along

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 with Senators and legislators from
3 other states, including Illinois,
4 Virginia, Massachusetts and Rhode
5 Island. And it was a privilege to
6 join so many powerful women in an
7 intergovernmental conversation,
8 learning from each other and
9 sharing what we've achieved in our
10 own jurisdictions.

11 And we're going to
12 actually, hopefully invite them to
13 our 250th birthday party in
14 Philadelphia so we can celebrate
15 making sure women are full
16 participants in our economy and
17 that we recognize what it is they
18 need in terms of accommodations and
19 make sure they're not discriminated
20 against asking for those
21 accommodations.

22 And lastly, I wanted to
23 thank Council President for
24 inviting me and my office to join

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 you and Councilmember Harrity as
3 part of your Quality-Of-Life Tour.
4 That place was packed and people
5 were there very late, hearing from
6 all different departments. It was
7 an extremely valuable exercise I
8 believe, and a lot of the community
9 members came up to me to talk about
10 when they can do more of these,
11 right.

12 And I think this is
13 where we take government to the
14 community. And I thank you,
15 Council President, for this
16 initiative.

17 Just to wrap up, what we
18 saw yesterday, what I did yesterday
19 is the favorite part of my job as a
20 legislator, connecting with our
21 constituents. And so, I was very
22 glad to be able to join all of you.
23 And hopefully there's more to come.

24 Thank you, Council

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 President.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

4 JOHNSON: Thank you.

5 Chair recognizes

6 Councilmember Cindy Bass.

7 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:

8 Thank you, Mr. President.

9 Just a couple of things

10 I wanted to mention today. And one

11 is that I introduced an ordinance

12 authorizing the Committee -- or the

13 Commissioner of Public Property to

14 execute and deliver a deed for the

15 Philadelphia Authority of

16 Industrial Development for property

17 located at 5928-30 Germantown

18 Avenue, which for those of us who

19 know, know it's the Germantown Town

20 Hall. And this legislation

21 represents another step forward in

22 advancing thoughtful redevelopment

23 and ensuring that publicly-owned

24 land is utilized in ways that

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 support economic growth and
3 community stability in our
4 neighborhoods.

5 And I wanted to mention
6 also as we think about the
7 Germantown Town Hall, also to
8 mention that because someone talked
9 a little bit earlier about
10 Germantown High School, and that it
11 was sold for \$100,000. And I just
12 really want to make sure that I'm
13 clear because I hear that quite
14 often. And what is said is that
15 the City of Philadelphia sold it,
16 City Council sold it, Councilwoman
17 Cindy Bass sold it.

18 And the fact of the
19 matter is all three of those things
20 are absolutely untrue because none
21 of us own Germantown High School.
22 It was owned by the School District
23 of Philadelphia. And I want to
24 just state for the record it was

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 sold as part of a package deal with
3 five properties to Concordia
4 Advisors for \$6.8 million and then
5 Concordia further unloaded it. So
6 I just wanted to put that out and
7 on the record.

8 And so, as we continue
9 this work it's important to make
10 sure that we hold the School
11 District accountable as we get
12 ready to do public hearings, as we
13 get ready to do our budget
14 hearings. It's important that we
15 make sure that the District
16 understands that when you make
17 these kinds of decisions, we are
18 the ones who are held accountable.

19 We are the ones that are
20 public-facing, that the public asks
21 questions of and want to see these
22 kinds of matters stop. We don't
23 want to feel played by the School
24 District when they come in and give

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 us the, oh, this is what's best.

3 When you haven't included the

4 community, you cannot make

5 decisions without including the

6 people who are most affected. So I

7 just want to say that in advance of

8 the budget hearings that we expect

9 coming up so soon.

10 I also wanted to share a

11 quick announcement for next week,

12 which is that we'll be hosting

13 Imhotep Institute Charter High

14 School STEM Program next week, who

15 has done just recently an

16 educational trip to Japan, sharing

17 both experiences and telling us

18 what they've learned through global

19 exposure and innovation. And I

20 just want to encourage all of my

21 colleagues to add that to their

22 schedule, to make sure that they

23 can be there next week, as this is

24 going to be just a great

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 presentation.

3 And we've heard from
4 Imhotep a number of times and
5 they've always been exceptional,
6 and this will be so as well. So we
7 just want to make sure everybody
8 knows and comes out.

9 And finally, also next
10 weekend is the renaming and street
11 dedication for Saudia Shuler Way.
12 We want to make sure everybody
13 knows it's going to be something.
14 You already know. It'll be next
15 Saturday between 9:00 and
16 11:00 a.m. at the corner of Broad
17 Street, North Broad and Pike in the
18 8th Council District. So we hope
19 folks can come out. Please add it
20 to your schedule.

21 Thank you,
22 Mr. President.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

24 JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Councilmember Mark

3 Squilla.

4 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

5 Thank You, Mr. President.

6 Real quick, a week from

7 tomorrow, March 27th we'll be

8 celebrating Philly Flag Day 2026

9 with the raising of the 250th

10 Philly Flag at City Hall. There's

11 an invitation on everyone's desk.

12 Hopefully, people can make it.

13 Please our RSVP and to my office if

14 you're available.

15 We'll also be honoring

16 the citizens who embody the

17 Philadelphia Memento Message, Let

18 Brotherly and Sisterly Love Endure,

19 displayed upon our city flag. H.

20 Chase Lenfest will be recognized

21 for his North 10 vision in the 5th

22 District. He lives in the 5th

23 district as example of the

24 Philadelphia Memento message in

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 action. Hope to see everybody
3 there. Thanks.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

5 JOHNSON: Thank you.

6 That's all for speeches.

7 Chair recognizes Councilmember Bass
8 for a motion to adjourn.

9 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:

10 Thank you, Mr. President.

11 Before I do that, I just
12 also wanted to again wish our
13 colleagues happy birthday,
14 Councilman Harrity. And also
15 tomorrow, Councilman Driscoll,
16 happy birthday.

17 (Applause.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

19 JOHNSON: Ayy.

20 COUNCILWOMAN BASS:

21 Happy birthday.

22 I move that Council
23 stand adjourned until Thursday,
24 March 26, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

1 3/19/26 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 (Duly seconded.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

4 JOHNSON: It has been moved and
5 properly seconded that Council
6 stand adjourned until Thursday,
7 March 26th at 10:00 a.m.

8 All those in favor
9 signify by saying aye.

10 (Aye.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

12 JOHNSON: Anyone opposed?

13 (No response.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

15 JOHNSON: The ayes have it and the
16 motion carries. Thank you all very
17 much today.

18 - - -

19 (Stated Meeting
20 adjourned at 1:25 p.m.)

21 - - -

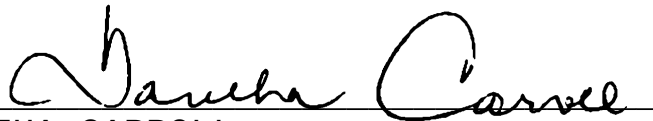
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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence noted are contained fully and accurately in the stenographic notes taken by me in the foregoing matter, and that this is a correct transcript of the same.



TANEHA CARROLL
Court Reporter - Notary Public

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\$	12-3000 71:11	1902 125:5
\$1,300 90:6	1212 49:19	1904 49:20
\$100,000 87:11 202:5 229:14 240:11	1216 49:21	19102 72:17
\$11 42:9	12th 134:11	1911 49:22
\$12,000 126:5	13 124:22	19134 73:2
\$16,000 152:20	13,000 114:13	19147 72:9
\$185,000 90:2	14 12:20 164:16 169:4 172:9,16 175:13 178:22 179:7 182:8	1925 125:6
\$280,000 90:2 229:3,6,10	14% 120:21	1932 49:22
\$4,578 202:6	14-515 179:11	1951 125:13
\$6.8 241:4	14-523 179:13	1953 39:20
\$800 229:15	14-546 179:9	1970 20:9 27:3
0	14-604 60:23	1981 21:7,18
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