

1

2

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

3

COMMITTEE ON LAW AND GOVERNMENT

4

- - -

5

Room 400, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Thursday, April 17, 2008
9:15 a.m.

6

7

- - -

8

9

PRESENT:

10

COUNCILMAN WILLIAM GREENLEE, CHAIR

11

COUNCILMAN FRANK DiCICCO

12

COUNCILMAN W. WILSON GOODE, JR.

13

COUNCILMAN JAMES F. KENNEY

14

BILL 080320 - An ordinance providing for the
submission to the qualified electors of the
City of Philadelphia of the proposal set forth
in a Resolution approved by Council proposing
an amendment of the Philadelphia Home Rule
Charter relating to civil service
regulations...

15

16

RESOLUTION 080336 - Resolution proposing an
amendment to the Philadelphia Home Rule
Charter relating to civil service
regulations...

17

18

19

- - -

20

21

V A R A L L O Incorporated
Litigation Support Services
Eleven Penn Center
1835 Market Street, Suite 600
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103
215.561.2220 215.567.2670

22

23

24

25

1

2

COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Good

3

morning, everybody. Sorry for the delay.

4

This is the Committee on Law and

5

Government.

6

For the record, we have a

7

quorum with myself; Councilman Kenney,

8

Vice-Chair of the Committee; Councilman

9

Goode; and Councilman DiCicco.

10

Mr. Boyle, the Clerk of the

11

Committee, will you please read the bill

12

and resolution before us today.

13

THE CLERK: Ordinance 080320,

14

an ordinance providing for the submission

15

to the qualified electors of the City of

16

Philadelphia of the proposal set forth in

17

a Resolution approved by Council

18

proposing an amendment of the

19

Philadelphia Home Rule Charter relating

20

to civil service regulations to provide

21

that, when eligible lists for

22

appointments and promotions are

23

established, those persons who have

24

maintained a bona fide residence in

25

Philadelphia for at least one year prior

1 4/17/08 - LAW & GOV'T - BILL 080320
2 to the date of the examination shall
3 prevail over all others who receive the
4 identical test score; and authorizing the
5 appropriate officers to publish notice
6 and to make arrangements for the special
7 election.

8 Resolution 080336, resolution
9 proposing an amendment to the
10 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter relating
11 to civil service regulations to provide
12 that, when eligible lists for
13 appointments and promotions are
14 established, those persons who have
15 maintained a bona fide residence in
16 Philadelphia for at least one year prior
17 to the date of the examination shall
18 prevail over all others who receive the
19 identical test score; and providing for
20 the submission of the amendment to the
21 electors of Philadelphia.

22 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Thank
23 you.

24 We're now ready for witnesses.

25 Mr. Armbrister.

1 4/17/08 - LAW & GOV'T - BILL 080320

2 (Witness approached witness
3 table.)

4 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Good
5 morning. Please identify yourself for
6 the record and proceed.

7 MR. ARMBRISTER: Good morning,
8 Councilman Greenlee and members of the
9 Council Committee on Law and Government.
10 My name is Clarence D. Armbrister, Chief
11 of Staff to Mayor Michael A. Nutter, and
12 I'm here this morning to testify in
13 support of proposed Home Rule Charter
14 amendment provided for in Resolution
15 080336 and Bill No. 080320.

16 The measure before you today
17 would amend the City's Charter to provide
18 that in the case of an identical score on
19 an eligible list an appointment or
20 promotion, that a preference will be
21 given to those who are Philadelphia
22 residents. The proposed Charter
23 amendment further specifies that the
24 individual must be a bona fide resident
25 of the City for at least one year prior

1 4/17/08 - LAW & GOV'T - BILL 080320

2 to the date of the examination.

3 While considering this measure,
4 I would like to take this opportunity to
5 thank the Philadelphia City Council for
6 passage of Bill No. 080003, which
7 eliminates the requirement that one must
8 be a City resident for at least one year
9 to be eligible for an appointment to a
10 City job. As you know, I testified in
11 support of that measure, and the Mayor
12 will be signing that bill into law very
13 soon. At the time Bill No. 080003 was
14 being considered, several members of
15 Council urged that some type of
16 preference be crafted for City residents.
17 Members expressed what came to be a very
18 legitimate issue, that those who have
19 been living in the City, paying taxes and
20 contributing to our City should receive a
21 preference for a City job.

22 The measure before you today
23 provides a reasonable approach to meeting
24 the desires of the City Administration to
25 increase the potential pool of applicants

1 4/17/08 - LAW & GOV'T - BILL 080320
2 through Bill No. 080003 while also
3 providing a reference for appointments
4 and promotions for City residents. I
5 thank Councilman Goode, the sponsor of
6 this Charter amendment, for his
7 leadership on this issue, and I thank the
8 rest of the Committee for your diligence
9 and working with the Administration and
10 coming up with a satisfactory resolution.

11 This concludes my written
12 testimony, and I would be pleased to
13 answer any questions you may have.

14 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Thank
15 you, Mr. Armbrister.

16 Are there any questions?

17 (No response.)

18 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Seeing
19 none, thank you very much.

20 Just for the record, I will
21 echo your feeling. Thank Councilman
22 Goode for his leadership on this issue
23 and obviously Councilman Kenney for the
24 many years of dealing with this issue.
25 Thank you.

1 4/17/08 - LAW & GOV'T - BILL 080320

2 Is there anyone else to testify
3 on this bill or resolution?

4 (No response.)

5 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Seeing
6 none, that will conclude the hearing on
7 the Committee on Law and Government.

8 We'll go into the public
9 meeting, and the Chair recognizes
10 Councilman Goode regarding Bill No.
11 080320.

12 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Thank you,
13 Mr. Chair. I move that Bill No. 080320
14 be reported out of Committee with a
15 favorable recommendation, that the rules
16 of Council be suspended so as to permit
17 first reading at our next Council
18 session.

19 (Duly seconded.)

20 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: It's been
21 moved and seconded.

22 All in favor please say aye.

23 (Aye.)

24 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Those
25 opposed?

1 4/17/08 - LAW & GOV'T - BILL 080320

2 (No response.)

3 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: The
4 motion carries and Bill 080320 is
5 reported out of this Committee with a
6 favorable recommendation and, further,
7 that the rules of Council be suspended to
8 ask for a first reading at our next
9 session of Council.

10 The Chair now recognizes
11 Councilman Goode regarding Resolution
12 080336.

13 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Thank you,
14 Mr. Chairman. I move that Resolution
15 080336 be reported out of Committee with
16 a favorable recommendation.

17 (Duly seconded.)

18 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: All those
19 in favor please say aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: The
24 motion carries, and Resolution 080336 is
25 reported out of this Committee with a

1 4/17/08 - LAW & GOV'T - BILL 080320

2 favorable recommendation.

3 Being no further business
4 before this Committee, the Committee
5 stands in recess.

6 Thank you very much.

7 (Committee on Law and
8 Government adjourned at 9:20 a.m.)

9 - - -

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1

2

CERTIFICATE

3

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the

4

proceedings, evidence and objections are

5

contained fully and accurately in the

6

stenographic notes taken by me upon the

7

foregoing matter on April 17, 2008, and that

8

this is a true and correct transcript of same.

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

MICHELE L. MURPHY

16

RPR-Notary Public

17

18

19

(The foregoing certification of this

20

transcript does not apply to any reproduction

21

of the same by any means, unless under the

22

direct control and/or supervision of the

23

certifying reporter.)

24

25