

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
STATED MEETING

Via Microsoft Teams
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Thursday, April 29, 2021
10:10 a.m.

PRESENT:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT DARRELL L. CLARKE
COUNCILWOMAN CINDY BASS
COUNCILWOMAN KENDRA BROOKS
COUNCILMAN ALLAN DOMB
COUNCILWOMAN JAMIE GAUTHIER
COUNCILWOMAN KATHERINE GILMORE RICHARDSON
COUNCILMAN DEREK S. GREEN
COUNCILWOMAN HELEN GYM
COUNCILMAN BOBBY HENON
COUNCILMAN KENYATTA JOHNSON
COUNCILMAN CURTIS JONES, JR.
COUNCILMAN DAVID OH
COUNCILMAN BRIAN J. O'NEILL
COUNCILWOMAN CHERELLE L. PARKER
COUNCILWOMAN MARIA D. QUINONES-SANCHEZ
COUNCILMAN MARK SQUILLA
COUNCILMAN ISAIAH THOMAS

MICHAEL A. DECKER, CHIEF CLERK

- - -

1 4/29/21 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 REVEREND BABOWITCH: In the
3 name of the Father, of the Son, and the
4 Holy Spirit. Amen.

5 May the Lord who went about
6 doing good be with you.

7 God is love. In the desire to
8 make us share in his love, he sent his
9 son into the world to come to our aid and
10 in gentle kindness to help those who are
11 weak, sick, or unfortunate.

12 In his great love for us,
13 Christ said that whatever we do for the
14 least among us, we do for him. He called
15 those who show mercy blessed of his
16 father and promised them eternal life.

17 Let us then pray for the Lord's
18 richest blessing on the members of City
19 Council who are devoted to helping our
20 brothers and sisters. Let us pray.

21 Heavenly Father, we call upon
22 your blessings of all the members of City
23 Council. We ask you to bless their
24 families, all their constituents, all
25 that they minister to in their

1 4/29/21 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 deliberations in City Council today and
3 every Thursday and what they do for the
4 entire city.

5 Bring an end to violence to our
6 City of Philadelphia. May the Lord bless
7 all those that are sick and their
8 families, and may they bless them always
9 in doing the great work that they do in
10 our City of Philadelphia.

11 Let us pray.

12 Blessed are you, Lord God of
13 Mercy, who through your son gave us a
14 marvelous example of charity and the
15 great commandment of love for one
16 another. Send down your blessings upon
17 these, your servants of City Council, who
18 so generously devote themselves to
19 helping others. When they are called on
20 in times of need, let them faithfully
21 serve you and their neighbor. And bless
22 all those that protect our city and all
23 those who are doing the great work in
24 blessing our city and building new
25 shopping centers and everything that they

1 4/29/21 - STATED - INVOCATION
2 do to build up our City of Philadelphia.
3 We make this prayer through
4 Christ, our Lord.
5 Amen.
6 And may almighty God bless you
7 all, the Father, the Son, and the Holy
8 Spirit.
9 Amen.
10 Go in the peace of Christ.
11 (Amen.)
12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
13 Thank you so much, Father Bobowitch. We
14 really appreciate you, Father Bobowitch,
15 who is the guest of Councilman O'Neill
16 from the Lady of Calvary Parish.
17 Father, we really thank you so
18 much for your very, very spiritual
19 guidance.
20 REVEREND BABOWITCH: You're
21 welcome. God bless you all. Take care.
22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
23 Thank you.
24 We're going to get started. I
25 understand that the state law currently

1 4/29/21 - STATED - ROLL CALL

2 requires that the following announcement
3 be made at the beginning of every remote
4 Council session:

5 Due to the current public
6 health emergency, City Council is
7 currently meeting remotely. We are using
8 Microsoft Teams to make this remote
9 meeting possible. Instructions for how
10 the public may view the meeting and offer
11 public comment are included in the Stated
12 Meeting notice that was published in the
13 Daily News, Inquirer, and the Legal
14 Intelligencer prior to the meeting, and
15 can also be found on PHLCouncil.com.

16 I now note that the hour has
17 come. The Clerk will please call the
18 roll to take attendance. Members that
19 are in attendance will please indicate
20 that they are present, or whatever they
21 may choose, to make sure that their image
22 is displayed on the screen.

23 Mr. Decker, please call the
24 roll.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

1 4/29/21 - STATED - ROLL CALL

2 Bass.

3 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Good
4 morning, Council President, colleagues,
5 and the City of Philadelphia.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
7 morning, Councilwoman.

8 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Good
9 morning.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
11 Brooks.

12 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Good
13 morning, Council President, colleagues,
14 and the City of Philadelphia.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
16 morning, Councilwoman.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

18 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Good morning,
19 Council President, colleagues, and good
20 morning, Philadelphia.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
22 morning, Councilman.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
24 Gauthier.

25 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Good

1 4/29/21 - STATED - ROLL CALL
2 morning, Council President and colleagues
3 and Philadelphia. Present.
4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
5 morning, Councilwoman.
6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
7 Gilmore Richardson.
8 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Good
9 morning, Council President. Good
10 morning, colleagues. And good morning,
11 Philadelphia.
12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
13 morning, Councilwoman.
14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.
15 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Good
16 morning, Council President. Good
17 morning, colleagues. Good morning to the
18 City.
19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
20 morning, Councilman.
21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.
22 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Good
23 morning, Council President. Good
24 morning, colleagues. I am present.
25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

1 4/29/21 - STATED - ROLL CALL
2 morning, Councilwoman.
3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.
4 COUNCILMAN HENON: Good
5 morning, Council President. Good
6 morning, colleagues. I am present.
7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
8 morning, Councilman.
9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
10 Johnson.
11 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Good
12 morning, Council President. Good
13 morning, colleagues. Prayers go out to
14 all the families who have lost loved ones
15 to senseless gun violence.
16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
17 morning, Councilman.
18 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Good
19 morning.
20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.
21 COUNCILMAN JONES: Good
22 morning, Mr. President. Good morning,
23 colleagues. And good morning, NFL Draft
24 Pick No. 12.
25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

1 4/29/21 - STATED - ROLL CALL

2 Fingers crossed. Good morning,
3 Councilman.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

5 COUNCILMAN OH: Good morning,
6 Council President. Good morning,
7 colleagues.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
9 morning, Councilman.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
11 O'Neill.

12 (No response.)

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
14 Parker.

15 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Good
16 morning, Mr. President, colleagues, and
17 Philadelphia.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
19 morning, Councilwoman.

20 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Councilman
21 O'Neill. Present.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
23 morning, Councilman.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
25 Quinones-Sanchez.

1 4/29/21 - STATED - ROLL CALL

2 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Good
3 morning. Good morning. Good morning,
4 Council President and colleagues.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
6 morning, Councilwoman.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
8 Squilla.

9 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Good
10 morning, Council President. Good
11 morning, colleagues. Present.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
13 morning, Councilman.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
15 Thomas.

16 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Good
17 morning, Council President. Good
18 morning, colleagues. Good morning to the
19 listening public.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
21 morning, Councilman.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Council President
23 Clarke.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: And
25 good morning to all. I hope you all have

1 4/29/21 - STATED - APPROVAL OF JOURNAL
2 a great day today.

3 Our first order of business is
4 the approval of the Journal of the
5 meeting on Thursday, April 22nd, 2021,
6 and the Chair recognizes Councilman
7 Squilla.

8 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you,
9 Mr. President. I move that the Journal
10 of the meeting of Thursday, April 22nd,
11 2021 be approved.

12 (Duly seconded.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
14 Thank you. It has been moved and
15 properly seconded that the Journal of the
16 meeting of Thursday, April 22nd, 2021
17 stand approved.

18 All in favor indicate by saying
19 aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
22 Those opposed?

23 (No response.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
25 ayes have it, and the Journal is

1 4/29/21 - STATED - LEAVES/COMMUNICATIONS
2 approved.

3 And our next order of business
4 is requests for leave of absence, and the
5 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Parker.

6 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
7 you, Mr. President. On behalf of the
8 members of Council, there are no requests
9 for leaves of absence today.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
11 Chair thanks the Councilwoman.

12 Our next order of business is
13 communications. And, Mr. Decker, would
14 you please read the messages from the
15 Mayor and any other communications that
16 you may have in your possession.

17 CHIEF CLERK: From the Mayor to
18 the President and members of the Council
19 of the City of Philadelphia, I am pleased
20 to advise you that on April 28, 2021, I
21 signed the following bill which was
22 passed by Council at its session on
23 April 15, 2021: Bill No. 210078-A, and
24 that on April 28, 2021, I signed the
25 following bills which were passed by

1 4/29/21 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 Council at its session on April 22, 2021:
3 Bill Nos. 200625 and 210226.

4 And I am transmitting for the
5 consideration of your honorable body a
6 resolution authorizing the Philadelphia
7 Land Bank to dispose of 2013 East Hazzard
8 Street located in the 1st Councilmanic
9 District; and

10 A resolution authorizing the
11 Philadelphia Land Bank to dispose of 5559
12 Locust Street located in the 3rd
13 Councilmanic District; and

14 A resolution authorizing the
15 Philadelphia Land Bank to dispose of 19,
16 21, 23, 25, 27 East Somerset, 3022, 3024,
17 3026, 3028 North American Street, 2907
18 Gransback Street, 413 West Norris Street,
19 419 West Norris Street, 2552 North
20 Randolph Street, located in the 7th
21 Councilmanic District, all under certain
22 terms and conditions.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

24 Thank you very much, Mr. Decker.

25 That concludes our

1 4/29/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 communications, and our next order of
3 business is the introduction of bills and
4 resolutions. And by way of a reminder,
5 we are asking that all resolutions,
6 including privileged resolutions, be
7 placed on the Final Passage Calendar for
8 the next session of Council, unless they
9 are being referred to committee. In our
10 current remote environment, this
11 procedure will provide an opportunity for
12 public comment. I want to thank you very
13 much for your anticipated cooperation.

14 Mr. Decker, would you please
15 read the titles of the legislation that
16 is being offered today by our members.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Yes,
18 Mr. President.

19 Councilwoman Parker offers two
20 resolutions, entitled a "Resolution
21 urging the United States House of
22 Representatives to pass House Resolution
23 2553, also known as the Real Estate
24 Valuation Fairness and Improvement Act of
25 2021."

1 4/29/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Next
3 week's Calendar.

4 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
5 calling on the Sheriff of the City of
6 Philadelphia to request an Order from the
7 President Judge of the Philadelphia
8 County Court of Common Pleas of the First
9 Judicial District of Pennsylvania to
10 temporarily stay all mortgage and tax
11 foreclosure sales.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
13 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Parker.

14 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
15 you, Mr. President.

16 Mr. President, on today, as the
17 viewing public just heard, I'm
18 introducing two resolutions, and the
19 first one, Mr. President, urges the
20 United States House of Representatives to
21 pass HR 2553. It's also known as the
22 Real Estate Valuation Fairness and
23 Improvement Act of 2021.

24 I want to note for the record
25 that this resolution is a direct result

1 4/29/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 of Monday's hearing in the Committee on
3 Housing, Neighborhood Development and the
4 Homeless, which is chaired by
5 Councilmember Gauthier, and we examined
6 the race gap in home appraisals and its
7 impact on homeownership and wealth
8 accumulation in Philadelphia.

9 We want to note that this
10 resolution is clearly just the first step
11 that came out of this hearing as it
12 relates to our action agenda. The next
13 step will be more substantive in that we
14 will create a workgroup that will consist
15 of both local, state, and national
16 experts and stakeholders to work on this
17 issue and proffer solutions.

18 I also want to say that I was
19 glad to see that our Metro in our area, I
20 want to give a shout-out to Jack Tomczuk
21 for his writing a thorough sort of
22 article and just giving it the coverage
23 that this issue deserves, because it
24 hasn't been a sexy one that has gained
25 the attention of many journalists.

1 4/29/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Second, Mr. President, I am
3 introducing a resolution calling on the
4 Sheriff of the City of Philadelphia to
5 request an order from the President Judge
6 of the Philadelphia County Court of
7 Common Pleas of the First Judicial
8 District of Pennsylvania to temporarily
9 stay all mortgage and tax foreclosure
10 sales. Despite the correspondence that
11 14 members of our legislative body
12 received this morning noting that the
13 Sheriff is delaying for 60 days sheriff
14 sales, this resolution is still very much
15 needed.

16 This resolution is a direct
17 result of last Thursday's marathon
18 hearing in the Law and Government
19 Committee, which examined the decision to
20 move the sheriff sales online and to
21 explore the ramifications of and any
22 unintended consequences that may arise
23 from this decision.

24 Now, Mr. President, I need to
25 say a special thank you to the more than

1 4/29/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 two dozen individuals who provided spoken
3 and/or written testimony during what was
4 a six-hour hearing. We heard testimony
5 from people across the City and across
6 the country who had concerns about using
7 this out-of-state online auction company,
8 Bid4Assets, to conduct sheriff sales and
9 the implications that this may have on
10 opening up our city to even more bulk
11 buyers and speculators anywhere in the
12 world, allowing them to actually purchase
13 parcels and properties in our city
14 without ever having to step foot within
15 the City limits.

16 Now, I want to state for the
17 record that during the hearing, we also
18 heard from very seasoned legal aid
19 organizations that federal help is on the
20 way, and when they noted that, they
21 mentioned that millions of dollars,
22 Mr. President, will be coming in the next
23 few months to Philadelphia to homeowners
24 who have fallen behind on their mortgage
25 payments and property taxes as a result

1 4/29/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 of the COVID-19 pandemic.

3 So what it is very important
4 for me to put on the record is that --
5 and I want to read this. During our
6 hearing, so that the people in the City
7 of Philadelphia will know that this is
8 not new information, it was noted by Kate
9 Dugan from CLS, and I quote, that "The
10 U.S. Department of Treasury announced
11 that Pennsylvania would receive over
12 \$350 million to help homeowners who have
13 fallen behind in their mortgages,
14 property taxes, or utilities as a result
15 of the pandemic. This Homeowner
16 Assistance Fund was a part of President
17 Biden's American Rescue Plan, and with
18 help for homeowners on the way, CLS
19 welcomes the opportunity to talk to City
20 Council, the Sheriff's Office, and others
21 about how to ensure that homeowners do
22 not lose their homes before they have the
23 opportunity to benefit from this new
24 funding."

25 Mr. President, that was

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2 information that came out as a result of
3 the hearing that this City Council held.

4 I want to state to all of my
5 colleagues who signed our letters,
6 yourself, Mr. President, Katherine
7 Gilmore Richardson, Allan Domb, Jamie
8 Gauthier, Curtis Jones, Jr., Cindy Bass,
9 Kendra Brooks, Bobby Henon, Derek Green,
10 Helen Gym, and Isaiah Thomas, thank you
11 so very much for putting your name on the
12 line and working to ensure that we use
13 every tool possible to protect the best
14 interest of homeowners in the City of
15 Philadelphia and neighborhoods throughout
16 our city.

17 I also want to note,
18 Mr. President, that it's not a
19 coincidence that both of the resolutions
20 that I introduced today and many of my
21 bills and resolutions, quite frankly,
22 over the past few years have to do with
23 protecting homeowners, all homeowners,
24 and Black and Brown homeowners in
25 particular. This issue is of great

1 4/29/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 personal and professional concern to me.
3 Just today someone forwarded me an
4 article that was in Governing magazine,
5 and it was published and highlights the
6 very important research that a good
7 friend of mine, Alan Mallach,
8 Councilmember Jones, whose research
9 looked at six large cities, including
10 Philadelphia, and what they called the
11 fortunes of Black middle-class
12 neighborhoods.

13 The trend since the early 2000s
14 are not encouraging, to say the least,
15 and some might say that they were
16 downright alarming. I don't care whether
17 we're talking about discriminatory and
18 predatory lending practices, the dire
19 need for home repairs, or racial bias in
20 home appraisals or the concern that Black
21 and Brown homeowners are going to face an
22 avalanche of foreclosures and then
23 sheriff sales as we come out of this
24 pandemic. I am intentional and
25 unapologetic about sounding the alarm.

1 4/29/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 If we don't stand up for Philadelphia
3 homeowners today from all walks of life,
4 then we won't have homeowners in the
5 future and/or Black and Brown homeowners
6 in just a few decades.

7 There are constant,
8 ever-evolving forces at play that are
9 continually trying to strip equity from
10 hard-working Black and Brown people, and
11 we cannot allow them to win.

12 As the Governing article
13 concludes, there's no single solution
14 that will work for every struggling
15 neighborhood, but seemingly simple steps
16 can play a major role over time in making
17 neighborhoods healthier for residents,
18 more appealing to newcomers and, in
19 essence, given the headwinds that we see
20 against middle neighborhoods in general
21 and Black middle neighborhoods in
22 particular, it's an investment that might
23 be well worth making.

24 And so, again, I want to thank
25 you, colleagues, and note that we are

1 4/29/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 happy to hear that 60 days of relief have
3 been provided and sheriff sales will not
4 occur. We also want to note for the
5 record a special thanks to President
6 Judge Fox for our communication with the
7 courts, the correspondence that we just
8 sent to you yesterday, and you
9 immediately brought stakeholders together
10 to figure out whether or not there was
11 precedent in acting on the correspondence
12 we sent to you. And I find it quite
13 interesting that 24 hours, President
14 Judge, after we sent our correspondence
15 to you and when you brought those
16 stakeholders together from the legal
17 services community, that we received this
18 letter from the Sheriff noting that
19 sheriff sales will be halted for 60 days.

20 I want Philadelphians to know
21 if in 60 days that American Rescue Plan
22 support those dollars going to the state
23 that are to be funneled to Philadelphia,
24 if it hasn't made it through the process
25 within 60 days, we will be coming back

1 4/29/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 asking again for an extension, okay, to
3 ensure that Philadelphians get a chance
4 to benefit from that federal support
5 coming.

6 And to Councilmember Gauthier
7 and Councilmember Gym, if the delay in
8 sheriff sales is a surprise to you and
9 you don't know it, it would be,
10 Councilmembers, because correspondence
11 was sent from the Sheriff's Office about
12 9:30 today, but it only included or was
13 addressed and sent to 14 members of
14 Council.

15 Just for the record, because I
16 know sometimes these things get quite
17 confusing about the number of people who
18 serve in this body, there are 17 members
19 who serve in this body. I have the great
20 honor and privilege of serving as the
21 Majority Leader and the partner to our
22 City Council President, and Gauthier,
23 Gym, and Parker for the record are
24 members of this body. If you send
25 correspondence to us, make sure you

1 4/29/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 include the last names of GG and P.

3 Thank you, Mr. President.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

5 Thank you, Councilwoman. Thank you so
6 much.

7 That will be on next week's
8 Calendar.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
10 Gilmore Richardson offers three
11 resolutions. On behalf of Council
12 President Clarke, Councilwoman Gilmore
13 Richardson offers a resolution
14 authorizing the Commissioner of Public
15 Property to execute and deliver to the
16 Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority
17 deeds conveying fee simple title to
18 certain City-owned lots or pieces of
19 ground with the buildings and
20 improvements thereon situate in the Fifth
21 Councilmanic District.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Next
23 week's Calendar.

24 CHIEF CLERK: On her own
25 behalf, Councilwoman Gilmore Richardson

1 4/29/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 offers a resolution honoring and
3 congratulating Philadelphia High School
4 for Girls Principal Lisa Mesi on winning
5 a 2021 Lindback Award for Distinguished
6 Principals.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Next
8 week's Calendar.

9 CHIEF CLERK: And also on her
10 own behalf, a resolution recognizing
11 May 2021 as National Bike Month in the
12 City of Philadelphia.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Next
14 week's Calendar.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym
16 offers one resolution, entitled a
17 "Resolution recognizing and honoring
18 Eileen Duffey-Bernt as the 2021
19 Pennsylvania School Nurse of the Year by
20 the National Association of School Nurses
21 and for a quarter century of serving and
22 relentlessly advocating on behalf of
23 student health and education justice for
24 Philadelphia children."

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Next

1 4/29/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 week's Calendar.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon
4 offers two bills, entitled "An ordinance
5 amending Chapter 9-1000 of The
6 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Trades,' to
7 modify licensing and conduct requirements
8 applicable to contractors"; and

9 An ordinance amending Title 4
10 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled "The
11 Philadelphia Building Construction and
12 Occupancy Code," and Title 9 of The
13 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Regulation
14 of Businesses, Trades and Professions,"
15 to revise provisions relating to
16 excavation work and work impacting
17 historic structures, create an excavation
18 contractor license, and institute
19 additional safeguards for property
20 adjoining certain construction
21 activities.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
23 Those two bills will be referred to
24 committee.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Thomas

1 4/29/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 offers two resolutions, entitled a
3 "Resolution honoring Coach Willie 'Billy'
4 Void for an impactful life and coaching
5 career of more than 35 years mentoring
6 hundreds of student athletes all across
7 Philadelphia as owner and coach for
8 Positive Image Youth Organization."

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
10 Chair recognizes Councilman Thomas.

11 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Thank you,
12 Council President. I was going to offer
13 remarks after both resolutions.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
15 After both? Okay.

16 Go ahead, Mr. Decker, read the
17 second one, please.

18 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
19 honoring Coach Paul Gripper for a life
20 lived as an outstanding coach and mentor
21 as a pillar of Philadelphia's basketball
22 community.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
24 Thank you.

25 The Chair now recognizes

1 4/29/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Councilman Thomas.

3 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Thank you,
4 Council President. I want to first take
5 a couple moments to frame the
6 conversation to explain how we got to
7 this point.

8 Councilmember Parker in her
9 leadership as our Majority Leader as well
10 as leading the fight as it relates to our
11 concerns around the sheriff sale had a
12 hearing that we were all a part of, and
13 in that hearing, there was some
14 heart-wrenching testimony, and one of the
15 people who came to testify was a woman
16 named Ashley Gripper, and Ashley Gripper
17 spoke about her concerns not just around
18 sheriff sales, the housing crisis that
19 we're facing not just in Philadelphia but
20 across the country, but she also talked
21 about inequities in the Black community
22 and spoke to how those inequities cost
23 her father his life. And her father
24 ended up unfortunately passing away last
25 year right, Council President, if you

1 4/29/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 remember, right when we were in the midst
3 of trying to figure out how do we adjust
4 and what are we allowed to introduce and
5 not introduce with the Sunshine Act and
6 other restrictions that we had prior to
7 transitioning fully into the process that
8 we have right now as far as virtual
9 hearings. And so unfortunately this
10 legislative body was not able to honor
11 her father last year and give him the
12 just due that he deserved.

13 So with that spirit and with
14 the energy that he put out there and she
15 spoke about it in the hearing when she
16 talked about the fact that he would give
17 the shirt off of his back or his last
18 dollar to a student athlete in need, she
19 wasn't exaggerating. She wasn't lying.

20 I knew Coach Gripper very well,
21 and he was just as she testified in that
22 hearing as far as his influence on young
23 people and the next generation.

24 So I commend Ashley, her
25 brother Joey Gripper, who is taking after

1 4/29/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 his father and coaching right now, and
3 their family and offer our condolences on
4 behalf of this body.

5 And then I also wanted to
6 acknowledge and recognize Coach Void,
7 Coach Bill Void, who we lost a little
8 while back. And, again, Coach Void was a
9 pillar in the basketball community and
10 somebody who had so much impact on so
11 many different people. And when I think
12 about Coach Gripper and Coach Void, the
13 one thing that they do have in common is
14 they have sons who also coach and give
15 back to the community as well too.

16 So as a father currently and as
17 a son of a father who coached, I know
18 what it means to lend your dad to so many
19 different people across the City and what
20 that means as far as not just the
21 influence that their fathers had, but
22 also the responsibility that they now
23 have to carry that torch and to carry
24 that legacy.

25 So I just want to commend both

1 4/29/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS
2 families. I want to thank both men for
3 their contribution to the City of
4 Philadelphia, and I also want to just let
5 those families know that our thoughts and
6 prayers are with them, and if there's
7 anything that this legislative body can
8 do to support them, we are here.

9 Thank you, Council President.
10 I appreciate the time.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
12 Thank you, Councilman.

13 That will be on next week's
14 Calendar.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
16 Squilla offers five bills and two
17 resolutions, entitled "An ordinance
18 establishing parking regulations in the
19 vicinity of: Dauphin Street and Belgrade
20 Street; Almond Street and Dauphin Street;
21 York Street and Almond Street; Taggart
22 Street and Norris Street; Cedar Street
23 and Norris Street; Marlborough Street and
24 Thompson Street"; and

25 An ordinance establishing

1 4/29/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 parking regulations in the vicinity of:

3 Ellsworth Street and South 9th Street;

4 Reed Street and South Broad Street;

5 Mountain Street and South 6th Street;

6 Latona Street and South 7th Street; and

7 An ordinance establishing

8 parking regulations in the vicinity of:

9 Moore Street and South 6th Street;

10 McClellan Street and South 5th Street;

11 Mifflin Street to South 6th Street; South

12 3rd Street to McKean Street; and

13 An ordinance amending Section

14 12-701 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled

15 "Designation of Bicycle Lanes," to

16 authorize bicycle lanes on Race Street

17 from North 5th Street to North 4th

18 Street; and making associated changes to

19 parking regulations within the same

20 limits; and

21 An ordinance authorizing

22 encroachments in the nature of a sidewalk

23 cafe in the vicinity of 941 South 8th

24 Street.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

1 4/29/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Thank you. Those five bills will be
3 referred to the appropriate committee.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Also offered are
5 two resolutions, entitled a "Resolution
6 authorizing the Philadelphia
7 Redevelopment Authority to execute and
8 deliver to the Philadelphia Land Bank
9 deeds conveying title to certain
10 properties located in the First
11 Councilmanic District pursuant to
12 requirements of the Commonwealth Land
13 Bank Act."

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Next
15 week's Calendar.

16 CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
17 authorizing the Philadelphia Land Bank to
18 dispose of 2013 East Hazzard Street
19 located in the 1st Councilmanic District.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Also
21 next week's Calendar.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Bass
23 offers one resolution authorizing the
24 Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority to
25 execute and deliver to the Philadelphia

1 4/29/21 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Land Bank deeds conveying title to
3 certain properties located in the Eighth
4 Councilmanic District.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Next
6 week's Calendar.

7 CHIEF CLERK: And Councilman Oh
8 offers one resolution, entitled a
9 "Resolution proclaiming May 2021 as Asian
10 American and Pacific Islander Heritage
11 Month in Philadelphia to pay tribute to
12 the rich history and significant
13 contributions made by generations of
14 Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to
15 our country, state, and city."

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Also
17 next week's Calendar.

18 CHIEF CLERK: There are no
19 other bills or resolutions being offered
20 today by the members, Mr. President.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
22 Thank you very much, Mr. Decker.

23 That concludes our introduction
24 of bills and resolutions.

25 We have no reports from

1 4/29/21-STATED-RESOLUTIONS ON CONSENT AGENDA

2 committee today, so our next order of
3 business is the consideration of the
4 Calendar.

5 There being no bills on the
6 First Reading Calendar, the Chair
7 recognizes Councilwoman Parker for a
8 motion concerning the resolutions on the
9 Final Passage Calendar.

10 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
11 you, Mr. President. I move that the
12 rules of Council be suspended to permit
13 use of a Consent Agenda to consider the
14 following resolutions on the Final
15 Passage Calendar today. They are
16 Resolutions No. 210365, 210366, 210367,
17 210368, 210369, 210370, 210371, 210373,
18 210374, 210376, 210377, 210378, and
19 210379.

20 (Duly seconded.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
22 Thank you. It has been moved and
23 seconded that the rules of Council be
24 suspended to permit the use of a Consent
25 Agenda to consider the resolutions just

1 4/29/21 - STATED - BILLS ON 2ND READING

2 read by Councilwoman Parker.

3 All in favor indicate by saying
4 aye.

5 (Aye.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

7 Those opposed?

8 (No response.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
10 ayes have it, the motion carries, and we
11 will consider the Resolution Consent
12 Agenda shortly.

13 The Chair again recognizes
14 Councilwoman Parker for the purpose of
15 calling up bills and resolutions on the
16 regular Second Reading and Final Passage
17 Calendar.

18 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
19 you, Mr. President. In addition to the
20 resolutions being considered on the
21 Consent Agenda, the following resolutions
22 and bills are being called up from the
23 Second Reading and Final Passage
24 Calendars today. They are Nos.
25 210135-AA, 210139-A, 200348, 210159,

1 4/29/21 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 210207, 210228, 210246, 210247, and
3 210249. All other bills and resolutions
4 are being held.

5 And, Mr. President, for the
6 benefit of our Chief Clerk, I did not
7 mention 210206 or 210215, because I was
8 sent a message to one of our colleagues
9 that those two be held, Mr. President.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
11 Thank you. Thank you, Councilwoman. Let
12 the record reflect that. Thank you.
13 Thank you very much.

14 So we will now move to our
15 public comment session, but before we
16 proceed with consideration of public
17 comment, we will now take a brief five-
18 to ten-minute recess to give our
19 technology professionals some time to
20 connect the speakers that we have for
21 today's meeting.

22 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER:
23 Mr. President, I apologize, sir. I just
24 looked in the Chat and I did not see this
25 while we were going through the Consent

1 4/29/21 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Agenda, that Councilmember David Oh has
3 objected to Resolution No. 210373 being
4 included on the Consent Agenda,
5 Mr. President.

6 So for our Chief Clerk, do I
7 need to make a motion or can it just be
8 removed, Mr. President?

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: We
10 can just state that based on the
11 objection that requires no debate, that
12 will be on the regular Second Reading and
13 Final Passage Calendar.

14 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
15 you, Mr. President.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
17 You're welcome.

18 So we're going to take that
19 brief break to allow our folks to connect
20 with our speakers today.

21 (Brief pause.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
23 Thank you. Thank you. We will now
24 proceed with our public comment session.

25 Now that everyone is connected

1 4/29/21 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 to the meeting and before considering the
3 resolutions and bills we have before us
4 today, we're going to consider our public
5 comment, and it will go as follows:

6 Public comment must concern
7 matters on the Second Reading and Final
8 Passage Calendars for possible action at
9 a session of Council. A speaker on any
10 of those matters must sign up in order to
11 testify. You must call 215-686-3406 by
12 3:00 p.m. the day before the session to
13 sign up for the public comment.

14 When you call, we will take
15 your name, phone number, the number of
16 the legislative item that you are
17 commenting on, and whether you are in
18 support of or against the legislation,
19 and add your name to the list. We will
20 telephone each person on the list during
21 the Council session and invite them to
22 our remote meeting.

23 I think today I think we have
24 ideal circumstances, so we're going to
25 allow three minutes for the speakers, but

1 4/29/21 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 I must say that from time to time, we may
3 vary given the volume of speakers that we
4 have on a particular day.

5 In order to be fair to all
6 those wishing to speak, I intend to hold
7 faithfully to the established time limit.

8 Once invited to the meeting and
9 asked to begin your testimony, a timer
10 will be started. We will monitor your
11 remaining time throughout your testimony,
12 and when there are 30 seconds remaining
13 to your time, you will be reminded of
14 this. Once your allotted time has
15 passed, you will be asked to conclude
16 your remarks, and shortly thereafter you
17 will be muted and disconnected from the
18 remote meeting.

19 I also reserve the right to
20 limit the number of speakers where
21 repetitious comments are being made on
22 the same subject matter and to limit the
23 scope of the testimony to only certain
24 items on the agenda during the emergency,
25 which could affect callbacks for the

1 4/29/21 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 public comment at the meeting.

3 Please be aware that this
4 public meeting is being recorded.
5 Because the meeting is public,
6 participants and viewers have no
7 reasonable expectation of privacy. So by
8 continuing to be in the meeting, you are
9 consenting to being recorded.

10 I will now ask Mr. Decker to
11 please read the name of our first
12 speaker.

13 CHIEF CLERK: The first speaker
14 is Kolson Schlosser, commenting on
15 210374.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
17 morning. State your name for the record
18 and please proceed with your testimony.

19 MR. SCHLOSSER: My name is
20 Kolson Schlosser. I'm an Associate
21 Professor in the Department of Geography
22 and Urban Studies at Temple, and I also
23 volunteer with Reclaim Philadelphia and
24 POWER Interfaith. I'm here to speak in
25 support of Resolution 210374 and to

1 4/29/21 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 suggest we vehemently oppose State Bill
3 275.

4 I have a Ph.D. in geography
5 from Penn State. We often tell our
6 introductory students central questions
7 of geography are, where it is and why is
8 it there. In this case, the "it" is the
9 proper scale of environmental governance.

10 Republicans in the state
11 legislature want that to be located at
12 the state level, and the "why" of it is
13 obvious. They're shamelessly in the
14 pockets of the fossil fuel industry.
15 There's no bigger, loftier philosophical
16 reason for it. They're just afraid the
17 people of the Commonwealth might take
18 their energy futures into their own
19 hands.

20 But the proper scale of
21 environmental governance is tricky.
22 Climate change is simultaneously global,
23 regional, and local. If we're to achieve
24 rapid decarbonization, we need integrated
25 policymaking at all three levels. The

1 4/29/21 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 President's decarbonization plans will be
3 all for naught if urban municipalities
4 don't have the power to prepare their own
5 infrastructure for a just transition.

6 So I'm saying the "where" of it
7 is at the local scale, because that's how
8 we rest our energy and climate futures
9 out of the control of the fossil fuel
10 behemoths. That's how we begin the
11 process of healing in our environmental
12 justice communities that have
13 historically been burdened by these dirty
14 industries. That's how we usher along an
15 energy transition that provides good jobs
16 to our workers who have supported their
17 families in the energy sector; in other
18 words, a just transition.

19 The state doesn't care about
20 them and certainly not the republican
21 legislature, but we do. Ensuring that
22 Philadelphia can dictate its own building
23 codes to phase out fossil fuels is an
24 important first step in mitigating a
25 runaway climate change that threatens our

1 4/29/21 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 oceans, our coasts, our food
3 availability, our safety from major
4 storms and frankly a livable future for
5 our children.

6 I don't know whether this
7 legislation would mean anything to state
8 republicans -- this resolution, I mean,
9 whether it would mean anything to state
10 republicans, but State Bill 275 is a
11 blatant and shameless power grab that
12 should not go uncontested.

13 So just once again, I support
14 Resolution 210374 to allow Philadelphia
15 to enable a just transition as it sees
16 fit.

17 Thank you, and I yield the rest
18 of my time.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

20 Thank you. Thank you for your testimony.
21 We appreciate it.

22 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
23 is Nancy Goldenberg, commenting on
24 210365.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good

1 4/29/21 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 morning. State your name for the record
3 and just proceed with your testimony.

4 MS. GOLDENBERG: Thank you.

5 Good morning. I'm Nancy Goldenberg,
6 President and CEO of Laurel Hill and West
7 Laurel Hill Cemeteries. I'd like to
8 thank Councilmember Gilmore Richardson
9 and all of City Council for recognizing
10 the civic value of public gardens and
11 their contribution to the quality of life
12 for every community, and thank you for
13 reminding everyone that Philadelphia is
14 and always has been America's garden
15 capital.

16 Laurel Hill, together with its
17 sister cemetery, West Laurel Hill just
18 across the Schuylkill River in Bala
19 Cynwyd, constitute a single 265-acre
20 accredited arboretum dedicated to the
21 horticultural vision of their founder,
22 John Smith.

23 When Smith founded Laurel Hill
24 on the banks of the Schuylkill in 1836,
25 well before the establishment of

1 4/29/21 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 Fairmount Park, he was determined to
3 create a gardenesque urban respite for
4 pleasure and fullest to all. He knew
5 more about gardens than most. He was not
6 only the head librarian at the Library
7 Company, but a horticulturist and editor.
8 In fact, he edited Andrew Jackson
9 Downing's publication, The
10 Horticulturist. He designed his own
11 estate in Germantown, which featured
12 intricately planned gardens and fruit and
13 ornamental trees, and he was founder of
14 the Germantown Horticultural Society.

15 So while not formally trained
16 as a landscape designer, he and John
17 Notman, the architect, were landscape
18 innovators acting on the cutting edge of
19 design.

20 These are the values and
21 attitudes we inherited and use to inform
22 what we do today. We were not only
23 inspired by Smith, but also highly
24 motivated by visitor experience and
25 committed to our role as an anchor

1 4/29/21 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT
2 institution in our community.

3 We recently planted over 15,000
4 daffodils at Laurel Hill along Ridge
5 Avenue. We've added pollinator gardens,
6 dwarf conifer gardens, rock gardens. We
7 have a green burial area, and we proudly
8 show off our six state champion trees.

9 There's so much beauty to take
10 in at our arboretum, and I invite each of
11 you to come, especially now when
12 everything is blooming. Our visitation
13 has skyrocketed, particularly in the past
14 year, as more and more people have
15 discovered that Laurel Hill and West
16 Laurel Hill Cemeteries are safe, easily
17 accessible, and not only remarkable
18 historic cemeteries but also beautiful
19 gardens for everyone to enjoy.

20 Thank you so much.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

22 Thank you so much for your testimony. We
23 appreciate it.

24 CHIEF CLERK: The next speaker
25 is Bonita Cummings, commenting on 210159.

1 4/29/21 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good
3 morning. State your name for the record
4 and proceed with your testimony.

5 MS. CUMMINGS: Can you hear me?

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Yes.
7 State your name for the record and
8 proceed with your testimony.

9 MS. CUMMINGS: My name is
10 Bonita Cummings. I am the Director of
11 Strawberry Mansion Community Concern, and
12 I'm testifying today on Bill No. 210159.
13 I'd like to say good morning to the
14 President and the members of City
15 Council.

16 Scientifically we know drugs
17 are more addictive to African Americans
18 than other non-African Americans. We
19 experience more health and social
20 destructive disorders and, as we all
21 know, lack the neighborhood resources and
22 enforcement to address this exploitative
23 problem.

24 Our young college students will
25 not get to say, oh, I will just do these

1 4/29/21 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2 drugs and dust myself off after college
3 and go to work for the top firms or
4 companies in the world. They most likely
5 will only make it to the rank of the
6 homeless, where they're exploited and
7 then die lonely and forgotten.

8 The neighborhoods that are
9 suffering from the influx of
10 paraphernalia businesses know what it
11 takes to get legislation addressing
12 quality of life issues that are so
13 destructive to communities passed and
14 enforced. So I want to thank you,
15 Councilmember Katherine Gilmore
16 Richardson and co-sponsors Councilmembers
17 Cherelle Parker and Bobby Henon, for Bill
18 No. 210159, which brings attention to the
19 problem of excessive paraphernalia
20 businesses as taking an action to prevent
21 the continued destruction of
22 Philadelphia's neighborhoods or
23 communities.

24 So I say to the communities,
25 get behind the Councilmembers and get

1 4/29/21 - STATED - RESOLUTION CONSENT AGENDA

2 behind this bill. Hold Licenses and
3 Inspections accountable for enforcement.

4 Last, and most importantly, let
5 us not let this past familiar problem
6 mutate and spread like a virus and kill
7 any more young people than it already
8 has. Protect your Philadelphia
9 neighborhoods from this deadly
10 paraphernalia and its many drug uses.

11 Thank you.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

13 Thank you for your testimony. We
14 appreciate it.

15 CHIEF CLERK: We have no other
16 speakers on the public comment list,
17 Mr. President.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

19 Okay. Thank you. Thank you very much.

20 That concludes our public
21 comment session, and we will now consider
22 today's Resolution Consent Agenda.

23 I will ask, Mr. Decker, please
24 read the titles of all the resolutions on
25 the Consent Agenda. After each title is

1 4/29/21 - STATED - RESOLUTION CONSENT AGENDA

2 read, any member may object to the
3 inclusion of the resolution on the
4 Resolution Consent Agenda. Upon such an
5 objection and without debate, the
6 resolution will be immediately removed
7 from the Resolution Consent Agenda and
8 placed on today's regular Final Passage
9 Calendar.

10 Mr. Decker, can you please now
11 read the titles of the resolutions on the
12 Resolution Consent Agenda, please.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Resolution No.
14 210365, entitled a "Resolution honoring
15 and recognizing Philadelphia's public
16 gardens"; and

17 Resolution No. 210366, entitled
18 a "Resolution authorizing the creation of
19 a 'Special Committee on City
20 Infrastructure Projects under the
21 American Jobs Plan,' to develop and
22 recommend strategies for implementing,
23 leveraging, and ensuring inclusion in
24 City infrastructure projects funded under
25 the American Jobs Plan"; and

1 4/29/21 - STATED - RESOLUTION CONSENT AGENDA

2 Resolution No. 210367, entitled
3 a "Resolution honoring and recognizing
4 Sister Maureen McGarrity for her
5 commitment to the Sisters of the Holy
6 Family of Nazareth, leadership to Holy
7 Family University and service to
8 Philadelphia"; and

9 Resolution No. 210368, entitled
10 a "Resolution honoring the life and
11 legacy of Sister Francesca Onley and
12 acknowledging her lifelong commitment to
13 her faith, family, and Sisters of the
14 Holy Family of Nazareth, Holy Family
15 University, and Philadelphia"; and

16 Resolution No. 210369, entitled
17 a "Resolution congratulating St. Huberts
18 Cheerleading team for winning the 2021
19 PIAA Competitive Spirit State
20 Championship"; and

21 Resolution No. 210370, entitled
22 a "Resolution recognizing Tarik Khan's
23 incredible leadership and contributions
24 to the health and well-being of
25 Philadelphians and extending appreciation

1 4/29/21 - STATED - RESOLUTION CONSENT AGENDA

2 and admiration for his efforts to
3 vaccinate Philadelphia residents against
4 COVID-19"; and

5 Resolution No. 210371, entitled
6 a "Resolution calling for the
7 establishment of a 'Philly Youth Act' to
8 reduce" --

9 COUNCILMAN JONES: Mr.
10 President?

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
12 Chair recognizes Councilman Jones.

13 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
14 sir. Can you pull that one off? I'd
15 like to have it on the regular Final
16 Passage Calendar.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
18 Certainly.

19 Mr. Decker, did you get that?

20 CHIEF CLERK: Yes,
21 Mr. President.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
23 Thank you.

24 Thank you, Councilman.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Resolution No.

1 4/29/21 - STATED - RESOLUTION CONSENT AGENDA

2 210374, entitled a "Resolution calling
3 upon the General Assembly of the
4 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to reject
5 Senate Bill 275, which would restrict
6 municipalities from addressing climate
7 change through legislating energy and
8 heating infrastructure requirements"; and

9 Resolution No. 210376, entitled
10 a "Resolution also naming the 2700 block
11 of North 21st Street 'Dr. Ala Stanford
12 Way,' to recognize, honor, and celebrate
13 the legacy of Dr. Ala Stanford and her
14 dedication to the people of
15 Philadelphia"; and

16 Resolution No. 210377, entitled
17 a "Resolution recognizing April 30th as
18 Vietnamese Heritage and Freedom Flag Day
19 as a Symbol of the Contributions of the
20 Vietnamese-American Community in the City
21 of Philadelphia"; and

22 Resolution No. 210378, entitled
23 a "Resolution honoring historian and
24 educator Kerry L. Bryan on the occasion
25 of her 70th birthday"; and

1 4/29/21 - STATED - RESOLUTION CONSENT AGENDA

2 Resolution No. 210379, entitled
3 a "Resolution proclaiming the Week of
4 May 7, 2021 to May 15, 2021 as the 11th
5 annual Philly Tech Week presented by
6 Comcast, and honoring the broad and
7 vibrant Philadelphia technology
8 community."

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Is
10 that it, Mr. Decker?

11 CHIEF CLERK: Yes,
12 Mr. President.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
14 Thank you.

15 The Chair recognizes
16 Councilwoman Parker for a motion to adopt
17 each of the resolutions on the Resolution
18 Consent Agenda.

19 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank
20 you, Mr. President. I move the adoption
21 of each of the resolutions on the
22 Resolution Consent Agenda.

23 (Duly seconded.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
25 Thank you. It has been moved and

1 4/29/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 seconded that each of the resolutions on
3 the Consent Agenda be adopted.

4 All in favor indicate by saying
5 aye.

6 (Aye.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

8 Those opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
11 ayes have it, and each of the resolutions
12 on the Resolution Consent Agenda have
13 been adopted.

14 We will now consider the bills
15 and resolutions on the regular Second
16 Reading and Final Passage Calendar.

17 Mr. Decker, will you please
18 read the title of Resolution No. 210215.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Mr. President, we
20 got a last-minute request to hold that
21 resolution.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Oh,
23 I'm sorry. I didn't make my correction.
24 Thank you, Mr. Decker.

25 Mr. Decker, please read the

1 4/29/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 title of 210135-AA.

3 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
4 amending Chapter 9-208 of The
5 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Sidewalk
6 Cafes" and Title 4, Subcode "A" of The
7 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Zoning and
8 Use Registration Permits," by adding new
9 provisions allowing restaurants applying
10 for a sidewalk cafe permit or temporary
11 lot uses permit to allow outdoor
12 entertainment.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
14 Thank you.

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

18 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
20 Bass.

21 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
23 Brooks.

24 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

1 4/29/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

4 Gauthier.

5 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

7 Gilmore Richardson.

8 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

10 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

12 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

14 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

16 Johnson.

17 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

19 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

21 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

23 O'Neill.

24 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

1 4/29/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Parker.

3 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

5 Quinones-Sanchez.

6 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

8 Squilla.

9 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

11 Thomas.

12 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

14 Clarke.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

16 The ayes are 17; the nays are
17 zero. A majority of all members present
18 voting in the affirmative, the bill
19 passes.

20 Mr. Decker, please read the
21 title of Bill No. 210139-A.

22 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
23 amending Chapter 19-500 of The
24 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Taxes and
25 Rents - General," by adding required

1 4/29/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 conditions and information for reporting
3 adjustments to taxable income.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

5 Thank you.

6 The Chair recognizes Councilman
7 Green for an amendment to Bill No.
8 210139-A.

9 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Thank you,
10 Mr. President. I would like to offer an
11 amendment to Bill No. 210139-A. A copy
12 of the amendment has been circulated to
13 all members of Council. I move for the
14 adoption of the amendment.

15 (Duly seconded.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

17 Thank you. All in favor of the motion
18 will signify by saying aye.

19 (Aye.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

21 Those opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
24 ayes have it. Bill No. 210139-A has been
25 amended. Bill No. 210139-A, as amended,

1 4/29/21 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 will be placed on our Final Passage
3 Calendar for our next session of Council.

4 Mr. Decker, please read the
5 title of Bill No. 200348.

6 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
7 amending Title 14 of The Philadelphia
8 Code, entitled "Zoning and Planning," to
9 amend certain provisions of Chapter
10 14-500, entitled "Overlay Zoning
11 Districts," by creating the "/WCS, West
12 Chestnut Street Overlay District."

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
14 Thank you.

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

18 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
20 Bass.

21 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
23 Brooks.

24 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

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2 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

4 Gauthier.

5 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

7 Gilmore Richardson.

8 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

10 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

12 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

14 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

16 Johnson.

17 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

19 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

21 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

23 O'Neill.

24 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

1 4/29/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Parker.

3 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

5 Quinones-Sanchez.

6 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

8 Squilla.

9 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

11 Thomas.

12 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

14 Clarke.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

16 The ayes are 17; the nays are
17 zero. A majority of all members present
18 voting in the affirmative, the bill
19 passes.

20 Mr. Decker, please read the
21 title of Bill No. 210159.

22 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
23 amending Title 14 of The Philadelphia
24 Code, entitled "Zoning and Planning," to
25 revise certain provisions of Chapter

1 4/29/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 14-600, entitled "Use Regulations," by
3 amending the Retail Sales Use Category
4 and Use-Specific Standards.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6 Thank you.

7 This bill having been read on
8 two different days, the question now is
9 shall the bill pass finally.

10 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

12 Bass.

13 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

15 Brooks.

16 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

18 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

20 Gauthier.

21 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

23 Gilmore Richardson.

24 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

1 4/29/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

4 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

6 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

8 Johnson.

9 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

11 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

13 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

15 O'Neill.

16 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

18 Parker.

19 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

21 Quinones-Sanchez.

22 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

24 Squilla.

25 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.

1 4/29/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

3 Thomas.

4 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

6 Clarke.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

8 The ayes are the 17; the nays
9 are zero. A majority of all members
10 present voting in the affirmative, the
11 bill.

12 Mr. Decker, please read the
13 title of Bill No. 210207.

14 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance to
15 amend the Philadelphia Zoning Maps by
16 changing the zoning designations of
17 certain areas of land located within an
18 area bounded by Cottman Avenue, the
19 Montgomery County Line, the Bucks County
20 Line, Interstate 95, Grant Avenue, and
21 Roosevelt Boulevard.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
23 bill having been read on two different
24 days, the question now is shall the bill
25 pass finally.

1 4/29/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

4 Bass.

5 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

7 Brooks.

8 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

10 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

12 Gauthier.

13 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

15 Gilmore Richardson.

16 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

18 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

20 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

22 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

24 Johnson.

25 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

1 4/29/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

3 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

5 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

7 O'Neill.

8 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

10 Parker.

11 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

13 Quinones-Sanchez.

14 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

16 Squilla.

17 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

19 Thomas.

20 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

22 Clarke.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

24 The ayes are 17; the nays are
25 zero. A majority of all members having

1 4/29/21 - STATED - 2ND READING
2 voted in the affirmative, the bill
3 passes.

4 Mr. Decker, please read the
5 title of 210228.

6 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance to
7 amend the Philadelphia Zoning Maps by
8 changing the zoning designations of
9 certain areas of land located within an
10 area bounded by Spruce Street, 5th
11 Street, South Street, and 8th Street.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
13 bill having been read on two different
14 days, the question now is shall the bill
15 pass finally.

16 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
18 Bass.

19 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
21 Brooks.

22 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

24 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

1 4/29/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Gauthier.

3 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

5 Gilmore Richardson.

6 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

8 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

10 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

12 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

14 Johnson.

15 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

17 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

19 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

21 O'Neill.

22 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

24 Parker.

25 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.

1 4/29/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
3 Quinones-Sanchez.

4 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
6 Squilla.

7 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman
9 Thomas.

10 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Council President
12 Clarke.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

14 The ayes are the 17; the nays
15 are zero. A majority of all members
16 present voting in the affirmative, the
17 bill passes.

18 Mr. Decker, 210246.

19 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance to
20 amend the Philadelphia Zoning Maps by
21 changing the zoning designations of
22 certain portions of the land located
23 within an area bounded by Delaware
24 Expressway, Richmond Street, Lewis
25 Street, Delaware Avenue, and Castor

1 4/29/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Avenue.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: This
4 bill having been read on two different
5 days, the question now is shall the bill
6 pass finally.

7 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
9 Bass.

10 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
12 Brooks.

13 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

15 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.

16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

17 Gauthier.

18 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

20 Gilmore Richardson.

21 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

23 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

25 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.

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2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

3 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

5 Johnson.

6 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

8 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

10 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

12 O'Neill.

13 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

15 Parker.

16 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

18 Quinones-Sanchez.

19 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

21 Squilla.

22 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

24 Thomas.

25 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.

1 4/29/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK: Council President
3 Clarke.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

5 The ayes are 17; the nays are
6 zero. A majority of all members present
7 voting in the affirmative, the bill
8 passes.

9 Mr. Decker, please read the
10 title of Bill No. 210247.

11 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
12 amending the Philadelphia Zoning Maps by
13 changing the zoning designations of
14 certain areas of land located within an
15 area bounded by 63rd Street, Lansdowne
16 Avenue, Felton Street, Haddington Lane,
17 Edgewood Street, Lansdowne Avenue, 54th
18 Street, Girard Avenue, 59th Street, and
19 Callowhill Street.

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

24 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

1 4/29/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Bass.

3 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

5 Brooks.

6 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

8 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

10 Gauthier.

11 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

13 Gilmore Richardson.

14 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

16 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

18 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

20 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

22 Johnson.

23 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

25 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

1 4/29/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

3 COUNCILMAN OH: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

5 O'Neill.

6 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

8 Parker.

9 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

11 Quinones-Sanchez.

12 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

14 Squilla.

15 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.

16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

17 Thomas.

18 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

20 Clarke.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

22 The ayes are 17; the nays are
23 zero. A majority of members present
24 voting in the affirmative, the bill
25 passes.

1 4/29/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Mr. Decker, please read the
3 title of 210206.

4 CHIEF CLERK: That's being
5 held, Mr. President.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: I'm
7 sorry. Another correction I failed to
8 make.

9 Mr. Decker, please read the
10 title of Bill No. 210249.

11 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
12 amending various chapters of the
13 Philadelphia Code to amend the
14 definitions of certain terms, and provide
15 protections for persons affected by
16 coercive control, including in the
17 context of employment discrimination,
18 employment leave, and housing
19 protections, and making technical
20 changes.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
22 Thank you.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Council
24 President, Councilwoman Brooks would like
25 to be recognized before the vote on this

1 4/29/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 bill.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Yes.

4 The Chair recognizes

5 Councilwoman Brooks.

6 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Thank

7 you, Council President.

8 I want to thank my colleagues
9 once again for their strong support for
10 this bill. I also want to acknowledge
11 Councilmember Oh's concern regarding this
12 bill's impact on the rights of parents.

13 My team has consulted with the
14 Law Department on this issue, and we are
15 confident that this bill would be
16 enforced as intended to expand
17 protections for victims of coercive
18 control.

19 This legislation, as I
20 mentioned when I introduced it, honors my
21 cousin Tianna Thompson, whose life was
22 stolen as a result of domestic violence
23 eight years ago. Today would have been
24 Tianna's 38th birthday, and it is
25 incredibly meaningful to be able to vote

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2 on this bill on this day.

3 So many survivors of abuse do
4 not speak out because fear, stigma, or
5 shame and because their abuse does not
6 align with what people normally think
7 domestic violence is, but the reality is
8 that domestic violence can take a number
9 of forms and is not always physical, and
10 these non-physical forms of abuse -
11 manipulation, control, threat, forced
12 isolation from friends and family - often
13 lead to more deadly forms of violence.

14 So it is a privilege to say
15 loudly and clearly to all survivors out
16 there and anyone who may be experiencing
17 abuse, you matter and your experiences
18 matter. You are more than the worst
19 thing that has happened to you, and help
20 is available.

21 Thank you, Council President,
22 and thank you, Council colleagues.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

24 Thank you, Councilwoman.

25 Councilman Johnson, did you

1 4/29/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 want to be recognized?

3 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Not at
4 all, sir.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: I'm
6 seeing somebody's hand up.

7 Councilman Oh. I'm sorry.

8 COUNCILMAN OH: Thank you very
9 much, Council President. That in fact is
10 my hand.

11 First of all, I want to thank
12 Councilmember Kendra Brooks for this very
13 important bill and raising this very
14 important issue and of course her
15 personal connection that makes it all the
16 more relevant.

17 I am sure this bill is going to
18 pass. I will explain why I will vote
19 against it.

20 While I agree with the
21 intention of the bill, the examples that
22 have been provided have been between two
23 consenting adults in their relationship.
24 My concern is that the definition is
25 overly broad in the sense that it

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2 includes minors living in a parent's home
3 and it includes adults living under the
4 roof of their parents.

5 Parents are the first line of
6 care and defense, and many times parents
7 behind closed doors deal with the
8 toughest problems in our lives, including
9 drug addiction and abusive relationships.
10 Parents are controlling. That's the
11 truth of the matter. And when it comes
12 to government, I don't trust government.
13 I don't believe government has common
14 sense. I don't believe that government
15 distinguishes what this bill means,
16 because it's overly broad.

17 I do believe that the good
18 intentions should be specifically defined
19 so that government does not start doing
20 things on its own accord when parents are
21 engaged in trying to act as parents.

22 I will say, for example, as a
23 former prosecutor and a former defense
24 attorney and a former civil attorney, I
25 have had cases where domestic violence

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2 laws require that people in the same
3 household be removed. There is typically
4 a requirement that some violent action
5 take place before a police officer will
6 forcibly remove a party from the home.
7 It could be parents, it could be a child,
8 it could be an adult child, it could a
9 brother, it could be a sister. They just
10 come out and do what they're told.

11 Coercive control is an
12 important step in this, but I do think it
13 has to be narrowed so that police
14 officers who arrive at a scene or when it
15 comes to other laws that are going to
16 follow this, that it is not -- it does
17 not result in unintended consequences.

18 I will just say an example that
19 I deal with that I know Councilmember
20 Kendra Brooks is very concerned about and
21 has been an advocate of is
22 misinterpretation of the law by the
23 Department of Human Services, Child
24 Protective Services, or just a blatant
25 disregard of the law, which is targeted.

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2 It's selective. It does not apply to
3 everybody. It doesn't apply to the
4 wealth and the privileged. It doesn't
5 generally apply to professional White
6 people. I'm just saying what the data
7 is. It applies to poor women, mostly
8 minority women, Black women, and the data
9 is overwhelming.

10 I deal with that consistently
11 and constantly about wrongful taking of
12 children, separation of siblings by
13 good-hearted people who are following
14 what they understand the law to be and
15 some not so good-hearted people.

16 Anyway, I do understand the
17 intention of the bill. I hope through
18 some type of regulations or something it
19 will be handled, and I just wanted to
20 explain that's my concern, and I have had
21 the courtesy of Councilmembers Brooks'
22 engagement and conversation, and I thank
23 her for that discussion.

24 Thank you very much.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

1 4/29/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 Thank you.

3 The Chair recognizes Councilman
4 Henon.

5 COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you,
6 Council President.

7 I just want to ask the sponsor
8 for clarity, we can put it out there on
9 the record, that this definition only
10 applies to housing and employment, and
11 there is a difference between acting like
12 a parent and coercively controlling an
13 adult child.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
15 Councilwoman Brooks.

16 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Yes.
17 Councilmember Henon, yes. It only aligns
18 for housing and employment issues. It
19 does not have anything to do with the
20 coercive control of a child.

21 COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you.
22 I just wanted to make sure that -- I just
23 wanted to make sure that statement got on
24 the record. Thank you for the clarity.

25 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Thank

1 4/29/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 you.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

4 Thank you. Thank you, Councilmembers.

5 Okay. If there's no other
6 comment on that, I'll call for a vote.

7 This bill having been read on
8 two different days, the question now is
9 shall the bill pass finally.

10 Mr. Decker, call the roll.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
12 Bass.

13 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
15 Brooks.

16 COUNCILWOMAN BROOKS: Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Domb.

18 COUNCILMAN DOMB: Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

20 Gauthier.

21 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

23 Gilmore Richardson.

24 COUNCILWOMAN RICHARDSON: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

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2 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Gym.

4 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Aye.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Henon.

6 COUNCILMAN HENON: Aye.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

8 Johnson.

9 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

11 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Oh.

13 COUNCILMAN OH: Nay.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

15 O'Neill.

16 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

18 Parker.

19 COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Aye.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

21 Quinones-Sanchez.

22 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

24 Squilla.

25 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Aye.

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2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

3 Thomas.

4 COUNCILMAN THOMAS: Aye.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

6 Clarke.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Aye.

8 The ayes are 16; the nays are
9 one. A majority of all members present
10 voting in the affirmative, the bill
11 passes.

12 Mr. Decker, additional
13 resolutions.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Resolution No.
15 210371, entitled a "Resolution calling
16 for the establishment of a 'Philly Youth
17 Act' to reduce gun violence and foster,
18 coordinate, and promote peace treaties
19 amongst our Philadelphia youths,"
20 introduced by Councilman Jones.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
22 Chair recognizes Councilman Jones.

23 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
24 Mr. President. First, I want to thank
25 the members of the Public Safety

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2 Committee for today the first thing this
3 morning meeting with the Prisons
4 Commissioner to discuss some of the
5 urgent conditions in that facility.

6 One of the things that came out
7 that Member Thomas said, which I
8 appreciate some light shown on and some
9 good news, was that there was an
10 apprehension of the individual that came
11 onto prison property and assassinated a
12 newly released inmate.

13 I raise that because that
14 individual was also alleged to be the
15 subject and suspect in two murders in the
16 Overbrook Park section, bringing his
17 total case to four.

18 What is truly disturbing after
19 realizing that this was a continuation of
20 a beef or altercation or problem between
21 two neighborhoods, that this individual,
22 this young person is 16 years old.

23 I raise that in conjunction
24 with this resolution to create mediations
25 between neighborhoods to try to almost go

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2 back in time and prevent those kinds of
3 scenarios where two neighborhoods get
4 into Twitter beefs and war on Facebook
5 and Twitter gangsters and take it out on
6 the streets of Philadelphia.

7 If we could get trusted
8 messengers, old heads, people with street
9 cred, people with resources, stakeholders
10 in the neighborhood to sit them down and
11 negotiate peace treaties like we used to
12 do at the House of Umoja and some people
13 continue to do today.

14 It's my understanding, Member
15 Johnson, that Mr. Schuler has
16 successfully negotiated those kinds of
17 peace treaties in Philadelphia, but to
18 get credible messengers at a table to be
19 able to use our resources to hold peace
20 for some time, maybe a summer or a year
21 and, Mr. President, be able to offer them
22 the right hand of fellowship, which might
23 include resources or a job, but also to
24 let them know that we're not playing and
25 that if those offers are broken, those

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2 treaties are broken, we will hold you
3 accountable.

4 So I want to take the best
5 minds, the resources that we have, and
6 present regional negotiating teams and
7 create a Philly Youth Act.

8 And with that, I move for the
9 adoption of the resolution,
10 Mr. President.

11 (Duly seconded.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

13 Thank you. It's been moved and properly
14 seconded.

15 All those in favor of the
16 resolution indicate by saying aye.

17 (Aye.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

19 Those opposed?

20 (No response.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
22 ayes have it, and that resolution is
23 adopted.

24 CHIEF CLERK: And Resolution
25 No. 210373, entitled a "Resolution

1 4/29/21 - STATED - 2ND READING

2 calling upon the United States Congress
3 to admit Washington, District of Columbia
4 as the 51st straight in our Union,"
5 introduced by Councilman Green.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The
7 Chair recognizes Councilman Green.

8 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Thank you,
9 Council President. I move for the
10 adoption of the resolution.

11 (Duly seconded.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's
13 been moved and properly seconded.

14 All those in favor indicate by
15 saying aye.

16 (Aye.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
18 Those opposed?

19 COUNCILMAN OH: I'd like to be
20 recorded as voting nay.

21 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Council
22 President, Councilman O'Neill. Same
23 thing.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: All
25 right. Let the record reflect Councilman

1 4/29/21 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 O'Neill and Councilman Oh have voted nay.

3 The motion passes. A majority
4 of members voting in the affirmative, the
5 resolution is adopted.

6 CHIEF CLERK: There are no
7 other resolutions on the Final Passage
8 Calendar, Mr. President.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:
10 Thank you very much, Mr. Decker.

11 Next on the agenda will be
12 speeches, but prior to recognizing the
13 members regarding speeches, I just want
14 note for the record at this time that we
15 will use the Chat feature available in
16 Microsoft Teams to allow the members to
17 signify that they wish to be recognized.
18 In order to comply with the Sunshine Act,
19 the Chat feature must only be used for
20 that particular purpose.

21 So with that said, members of
22 the minority, speeches?

23 The Chair recognizes Councilman
24 Oh.

25 COUNCILMAN OH: Thank you very

1 4/29/21 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 much, Council President. I have two
3 points to raise. The first concerns a
4 hearing that's going to be held before
5 the Committee on Global Opportunities and
6 Creative/Innovative Economy on May 7th at
7 9:00 a.m. It deals with reopening the
8 economy, particularly focused on the
9 creative arts economy.

10 But what I want to point out in
11 that is the first panel will deal with
12 technology, and there's a couple of
13 pieces of technology that I just want to
14 inform the public about.

15 I took a trip out to look at a
16 demonstration of two different
17 technologies -- three, actually. One I
18 don't think needs much explanation. It's
19 ultraviolet light. It's very good for
20 killing COVID when things are stationary,
21 such as buses or trains that return to
22 the station. They're not being used.
23 Ultraviolet light to kill COVID-19.

24 The other two are, I think,
25 kind of more novel in the public

1 4/29/21 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 discussion I think very important to
3 reopening our city. The first is an
4 ionizer. It simply produces positive and
5 negative ions. It's about the size of a
6 cell phone, and you can just turn it on
7 and stick it in an air duct or next to a
8 fan or next to a window unit. All it
9 does is produce positive and negative
10 ions. Turn it on, leave it there for
11 eight years. Don't need to touch it.
12 But it produces ions by the billions.
13 Because there's an equal number of
14 positive and negative ions, there's no
15 adverse effect to the atmosphere. Ions
16 are just simply put in the air.

17 What they do, however, is they
18 surround the protein shell of COVID-19,
19 positive and negative ions, and when
20 combined with the moisture in the air,
21 form hydrogen peroxide, and that
22 dissolves the protein shell and the virus
23 dies.

24 It is very inexpensive. It is
25 currently used in Delaware state prisons

1 4/29/21 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 and Delaware state schools. It is being
3 used in, I believe, North Carolina
4 schools. It is being put into certain
5 trains, certain airplanes, and certain
6 automobiles.

7 When you talk about, for
8 example, large venues, indoor venues,
9 from the Flyers to the Sixers or to
10 conventions or to schools or to music
11 venues, capacity is an issue,
12 restaurants, bars, all that. This is
13 something that is affordable, can be
14 done, and it is extremely effective in
15 destroying COVID-19.

16 The next one is an eye and
17 throat scanner. So basically in 10 to
18 15 seconds, I stood in front of a
19 scanner, opened my mouth and eyes, and in
20 10 seconds, it gave me the results that I
21 was negative for COVID-19 by scanning the
22 particles in my throat and in my eyes.

23 Another scanner will be
24 presented at the hearing. That takes
25 about three seconds. It's an eye

1 4/29/21 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 scanner. And both these are over
3 90 percent effective. Both scanners
4 92 percent effective, which is greater
5 than what we are doing right now.

6 The possibilities of going to
7 an event, buying a ticket, getting
8 scanned, and knowing that 100 percent of
9 the people in that location are COVID
10 free, knowing that the air is COVID free
11 I think is critical as we start talking
12 about how we reopen our economy and what
13 role the City has in facilitating,
14 helping, incentivizing, and even funding
15 the reopening of all our systems.

16 Again, some airlines are doing
17 it. Some auto manufacturers are doing it
18 and some are not. You know, that's
19 democracy in action. But given a choice
20 of getting in an Uber that has an ionizer
21 or getting on a bus that has an ionizer
22 or buying a car that has an ionizer and
23 one that doesn't, this is already proven
24 through years of effectiveness. It's
25 been in Humvees in the Israeli military.

1 4/29/21 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 It's at Yeshiva Hospital and other
3 places. So it's not a novel technology.
4 So I would like to point that out first.

5 The second thing, I'd like to
6 just note that yesterday was the 25th
7 anniversary of service for Highway Patrol
8 Officer Andy Chan, very popular highway
9 patrol officer, someone who is well
10 respected, and unfortunately if you
11 recall, he was in a terrible motorcycle
12 accident and landed on his head and has
13 been in a coma, and he was yesterday
14 being recognized and he's still in a
15 wheelchair.

16 I just want to say that people
17 like Andy Chan are a great value and
18 service to our city. We have acts of
19 people who do brave things. He is a
20 person, like many fellow officers and
21 firefighters and emergency personnel, who
22 do it 24/7, not once in a while, not once
23 a year, every day of the week whenever
24 they're on duty and often times off duty.

25 I just want to recognize him

1 4/29/21 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 and thank him for his service.

3 Thank you very much, Council
4 President.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6 Thank you, Councilman, and we recognize
7 him also. And I must say that hearing is
8 one that I'm actually going to pencil
9 into -- I've already said that this
10 Council is probably one of the most
11 enlightened City Councils in the country.
12 I look forward to hearing about that
13 information.

14 Speeches on behalf of the
15 majority?

16 The Chair recognizes
17 Councilwoman Parker.

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

20 Mr. President, on April
21 the 27th, I read an article that was in
22 the Patch newspaper, and the article
23 noted that President Biden was coming to
24 Philadelphia on Friday for his Getting
25 America Back on Track Tour and for an

1 4/29/21 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 event celebrating the 50th anniversary of
3 Amtrak. And last night, Mr. President,
4 I, I'm sure along with each of you and
5 all of Philadelphia, had the opportunity
6 to watch President Biden give his address
7 to a joint session of Congress, and after
8 listening, Mr. President, and taking
9 copious notes of the President's remarks,
10 I said to myself that I don't care where
11 you were during last year's presidential
12 election, whether or not you were a
13 democrat, a republican, an independent,
14 or someone else, you had to be proud as
15 an American on yesterday listening to him
16 give his presentation and talking about
17 how America can rise as we move through
18 this crisis and take advantage of many
19 opportunities that currently present
20 themselves to us as it relates to our
21 rebuilding our nation.

22 And in the midst of it,
23 Mr. President, I want to note for the
24 record that he talked about marshaling
25 every federal resource available to

1 4/29/21 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 protect both homeowners and renters. He
3 talked about loans to small businesses.
4 He talked about addressing the opioid
5 crisis. He reminded us that we are in
6 the midst of a global competition as it
7 relates to job creation and innovation.

8 He also talked about,
9 Councilmember Katherine Gilmore
10 Richardson, he talked about the climate
11 crisis and its opportunity to create
12 jobs. I thought about you and the
13 lessons you've taught me about urban heat
14 islands and how we should pay attention
15 to that, but that addressing climate
16 change in the crisis can help us create
17 jobs.

18 Councilmember Green, he was
19 unapologetic about encouraging us to
20 promote buy American, and he said this
21 wasn't anti-trade. He said this was just
22 pro-America.

23 In addition to that, he talked
24 about creating jobs that can't be
25 outsourced, that can't be outsourced.

1 4/29/21 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 In addition to that, he
3 mentioned that this was his blue-collar
4 blueprint for America.

5 Philadelphia, if you remember
6 when we were thriving the most, that was
7 when Tastykake and the Budd plant and all
8 of those jobs were available that didn't
9 require a college education, but they
10 paid a good wage, they gave you
11 healthcare, access to retirement
12 security, and put men and women on a path
13 to self-sufficiency so they could walk
14 with their backs straight and their heads
15 up and take care of their families.

16 He also reminded us that Wall
17 Street didn't build America, that the
18 middle class did. He talked about the
19 power of organizing and the power of
20 labor unions and helping to put people on
21 a path to self-sufficiency, that \$15
22 minimum wage that we've been advocating
23 for.

24 One of the things he said that
25 I know some people closed their ears to

1 4/29/21 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 but it made me think about my tenure, my
3 tenure, tenure that was only long enough
4 to find my way to the bathroom in
5 Harrisburg, but he said out loud, which
6 has become dangerous today, that
7 bipartisanship isn't dead, Councilmembers
8 Brooks, O'Neill, and Oh, and that it's
9 okay for us to talk to each other when we
10 are trying to get something done, even if
11 we agree to disagree.

12 Councilmember Sanchez, I know
13 your ears were wide open when he said,
14 listen, when we formalized 12 years of
15 education in the United States and made
16 that our standard operating procedure, it
17 worked. Twelve years is no longer
18 enough. He talked about access to free
19 community college. He talked about
20 HBCUs, talk about equity. He talked
21 about HBCUs providing quality education,
22 particularly for Black and Brown young
23 people and others, but that they don't
24 have the endowments that the Ivy League
25 institutions have and that it was

1 4/29/21 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 important for our federal government to
3 support HBCUs.

4 Councilmember Brooks and
5 Councilmember Greenlee, if you're
6 watching today, I thought about you all
7 when he talked about 12 weeks of paid
8 family medical leave. That's what you
9 advocated for, and Councilman Greenlee,
10 you laid the foundation for that and
11 bugged me to death when I was in
12 Harrisburg about it when they were about
13 to preempt our legislation. So thank
14 you.

15 In addition to that,
16 Mr. President, it's something that we've
17 been talking about recently that I want
18 Philadelphia to pay attention to, and
19 when we introduce our Gun Violence
20 Prevention and Opportunity Plan, one of
21 the things we said is that trickle-down
22 economics hasn't worked in the past. It
23 didn't work in the 1980s when it was
24 introduced as the savior to all of
25 America, and President Joe Biden, the

1 4/29/21 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 46th, just said trickle-down economics
3 won't work today.

4 So whenever we're talking about
5 tax cuts, Mr. President -- and we should
6 in Philadelphia think about this while
7 we're going through our budget process --
8 if we can't connect the tax cuts to new
9 net jobs or bringing back people to an
10 industry that otherwise would not be back
11 without those tax cuts, we need to think
12 carefully about them.

13 Councilman Kenyatta Johnson,
14 while we were up -- I'm sorry that I text
15 you so late at night, but when I heard
16 him talk about the gun violence epidemic
17 and he did mention the mass shootings,
18 but he also talked about those daily
19 shootings that are occurring, you know,
20 on a daily basis in cities and states
21 across the nation, I thought about
22 Councilmembers Jones and Johnson.

23 And, finally, I wanted to say
24 this, Mr. President. He talked about big
25 policy issues in a very personal way, but

1 4/29/21 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 what I loved about it the most is that he
3 didn't demonize those people who thought
4 different than he does as it relates to
5 these issues. As a matter of fact, he
6 kept repeating over and over, and I knew
7 it was intentional, that, listen, I've
8 introduced this and I want you to send a
9 bill to my desk, but if you have another
10 idea or another plan to fix it, let me
11 know what it is and let us work together
12 in order to get it done.

13 It's with that sentiment in
14 mind, Council colleagues, that I'm
15 honored to work with each and every one
16 of you. I'm proud of the work we've done
17 as a collective body, and I look forward
18 to working with each of you in the future
19 as we address systemically, layer by
20 layer, the systemic challenges facing
21 Philadelphia.

22 And to our 46th President of
23 the United States of America, President
24 Joe Biden, thank you for your leadership,
25 Mr. President. This City Council of

1 4/29/21 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Philadelphia appreciates you.

3 Thank you, Mr. President.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

5 Thank you, Councilwoman. And I got to
6 tell you, Councilwoman, you did a much
7 better job than anybody I saw on MSNBC or
8 CNN, right, last night after that speech
9 on laying out the particulars of his
10 speech. Thank you so much. I love it.

11 The Chair recognizes
12 Councilwoman Gym.

13 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Thank you
14 very much, Council President.

15 First of all, I just want to
16 give a shout-out to Beyond Literacy and
17 Exude Inc., who invited me to indulge in
18 my inner nerd and join my first spelling
19 bee since 5th grade on behalf of charity,
20 but proud to support Beyond Literacy and
21 the work that they are doing to expand
22 supports for adults who are learning to
23 read and to make sure that literacy is
24 top of mind for everybody.

25 So congratulations to Beyond

1 4/29/21 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Literacy, and proud to be your spelling
3 bee champ for the first time since
4 elementary school.

5 The second thing I wanted to
6 talk about was to thank Councilwoman
7 Parker for her leadership on the sheriff
8 sales issue. I have never been part of a
9 hearing, I think, in my six years on City
10 Council that was quite like the one that
11 unfolded over those six hours, and I
12 think the investment that was spent on
13 the front end on the research about it
14 was profoundly important. I also think
15 that it's important at this time to make
16 very clear that this is why Council
17 matters.

18 One of the things that has come
19 to light since then is that all contracts
20 are by Charter, by City Charter, must be
21 approved by the City Law Department.
22 Councilmember Parker, I think we heard in
23 the hearing that this contract was not
24 discussed with the City Law Department.

25 So there are a lot of issues

1 4/29/21 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 that are at stake, and we have decisions
3 that need to be made. The halting of the
4 sheriff sale was not only necessary, but
5 probably mandatory, and look forward to
6 continuing the work together as you
7 continue to champion this issue, but just
8 want to thank you very much for helping
9 lead that.

10 And then the final thing I
11 wanted to talk about was an issue that's
12 near and dear to my heart. Just this
13 week there have been two separate studies
14 on Philadelphia's eviction prevention
15 work and how much it did on a national
16 scale to really change the course of what
17 could have happened in our city.

18 There is a study that showed
19 how the eviction prevention work and
20 keeping people housed actually slowed the
21 spread of COVID. I know that's hard for
22 us as we are in the middle of this thing,
23 but it's not so much about what we
24 suffered but how much worse it could have
25 been had people been evicted, had we

1 4/29/21 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 packed them into shelters.

3 And then the other national
4 study was by the Urban Institute showing
5 Philadelphia as one of four models. We
6 are the first large city that they could
7 see in the nation to actually mandate
8 diversion, to ensure that cases would
9 start off with discussion, negotiation,
10 dialogue, and opportunities to resolve
11 conflict before they ever even hit the
12 courts, and that is largely because not
13 only does it avoid court, which is one of
14 the top things that we showed, an
15 overwhelming proportion, over 90 percent,
16 find something other than an eviction
17 filing when we get people to sit down
18 with a trained housing counselor and we
19 offer them rent assistance and a whole
20 bunch of other options.

21 But it also means that they
22 don't have an eviction record -- they
23 don't have an eviction filing on their
24 record, and that has caused enormous
25 damage to so many families and

1 4/29/21 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 communities who are seeking better
3 housing and deserve better housing all
4 the time.

5 The past year was difficult,
6 there's no question, but I think what
7 these two studies show is that we did one
8 thing incredibly well. We kept our
9 people housed. We didn't throw them out
10 based on poverty. And we found a way to
11 ensure that landlords could also get
12 paid. That doesn't just happen from
13 scratch last year. There is a reason why
14 we did so well, why we went from 20,000
15 evictions in 2019 to under 5,000
16 evictions in 2020. Meanwhile, a city of
17 our size comparable, Phoenix, ignored all
18 of those things and more than doubled
19 their eviction numbers to over 31,000
20 evictions in 2020. We showed the nation
21 there's a different path.

22 This, as I said, doesn't start
23 just because there was a pandemic. It
24 was the result of persistent and steady
25 work by this Council body, by City

1 4/29/21 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 agencies to invest in eviction prevention
3 that started with legal services and
4 expanded to rent assist, diversion, and
5 all the plethora of opportunities that
6 we're seeing right now, and certainly the
7 American Rescue Plan brings in so much
8 more opportunity.

9 But the legal services that
10 we're invested in allowed us to better
11 understand the needs. It helped us
12 understand the types of relationships
13 that were involved and helped identify
14 the profound and key roles that court
15 advocates, landlords, and others had to
16 play in this process, and to that, we
17 have to thank the tremendous work of Eva
18 Gladstein, Melissa Long and her shop,
19 Greg Heller, Sue Wasserkrug and her team
20 of counselors, and many of the different
21 agencies that participated and supported
22 this work so diligently and was just
23 inundated all last year.

24 But that's why I asked my
25 colleagues on this body that as we head

1 4/29/21 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 into budget session, we should not be
3 stepping away from what works. We need
4 to have a -- we should be strengthening
5 what works and actually investing in it.

6 This is why this Council body
7 matters. Because people are calling our
8 offices asking for help not to get
9 evicted, helping to pay their rent, to
10 ask about their rights, and negotiate
11 with their landlords if they ever lose a
12 job, if they ever got sick, if ever a
13 loved one or someone who is bringing
14 money into the household has ever passed
15 away.

16 They need us to be on their
17 side. And so we cannot have a budget
18 that we pass where we put in \$343 million
19 into tax cuts and less than a million
20 dollars into eviction prevention.

21 We're going to have a
22 discussion about this. I look forward to
23 it. I want to thank all my colleagues
24 who have been champions on this issue and
25 just appreciate the time.

1 4/29/21 - STATED - ADJOURNMENT

2 Thank you very much, Council
3 President.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

5 Thank you, Councilwoman.

6 It doesn't appear that there
7 are other speeches. So with that, we're
8 going to recognize Councilman Jones for a
9 motion to adjourn.

10 COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,
11 Mr. President. I move that Council stand
12 adjourned until Thursday, May 6th, 2021
13 at 10:00 a.m.

14 (Duly seconded.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

16 Thank you. It has been moved and
17 seconded that Council stand adjourned
18 until Thursday, May 6, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

19 All in favor indicate by saying
20 aye.

21 (Aye.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

23 Those opposed?

24 (No response.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The

1 4/29/21 - STATED - ADJOURNMENT
2 ayes have it. The motion carries.
3 Thank you all very much.
4 Please be safe.
5 (Stated Meeting adjourned at
6 11:49 a.m.)

7 - - -

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CERTIFICATE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the
proceedings, evidence and objections are
contained fully and accurately in the
stenographic notes taken by me upon the
foregoing matter, and that this is a true and
correct transcript of same.

MICHELE L. MURPHY
RPR-Notary Public

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