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COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

3

STATED MEETING

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Room 696, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Thursday, May 1, 2003
10:50 a.m.

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PRESENT:

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COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNA C. VERNA

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COUNCILWOMAN JANNIE BLACKWELL

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COUNCILWOMAN BLONDELL REYNOLDS BROWN

COUNCILMAN DARRELL L. CLARKE

COUNCILMAN DAVID COHEN

13

COUNCILMAN FRANK J. DI CICCIO

14

COUNCILMAN W. WILSON GOODE, JR.

COUNCILMAN JAMES F. KENNEY

15

COUNCILWOMAN JOAN L. KRAJEWSKI

COUNCILMAN W. THACHER LONGSTRETH

COUNCILMAN RICHARD T. MARIANO

16

COUNCILWOMAN DONNA REED MILLER

COUNCILMAN MICHAEL A. NUTTER

17

COUNCILMAN BRIAN J. O'NEILL

COUNCILMAN ANGEL L. ORTIZ

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COUNCILMAN FRANK RIZZO

COUNCILWOMAN MARIAN B. TASCO

19

PATRICIA RAFFERTY, CHIEF CLERK

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1 05/01/03 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: I note that the
3 hour has come and that a quorum is present. Council
4 will please come to order. Members will take their
5 seats.

6 To give our invocation this morning, the
7 Chair welcomes the Rev. Dr. Edward Vincent Avery,
8 Chaplain at Nazareth Hospital. Father Avery is here
9 today as the guest of Councilman Rizzo.

10 Members and guests will please rise.

11 FATHER AVERY: Let us pray. Almighty
12 God, maker of all things and creator of all people,
13 we thank you for this opportunity to gather in your
14 name this morning. What is most sacred in our lives
15 are the people who share their lives with us. So we
16 thank you in a special way for all of the members of
17 Philadelphia the City Council who continue providing
18 dedicated leadership, example, and interest in and
19 for the residents of Philadelphia.

20 We see the world in many moods: In a
21 mood of war and in a mood of peace. In days of
22 plenty and in days of want. What makes us your true
23 followers in this world is not when we boast that we
24 have survived difficult days, but when we know that
25 our lives are making a difference. If in war we

1 05/01/03 - STATED - INVOCATION

2 brought peace closer, if in need ourselves and yet
3 we share with our fellow men and women, if in peace
4 we work for the common good. All of us have
5 experienced your unfailing help, guidance, and
6 strength when we needed it most. And as we think
7 about your boundless generosity and how you have
8 filled us with blessings beyond all that we deserve,
9 we cannot fail to be reminded of our shortcomings
10 toward others. May we never be jealous of those who
11 have what we do not, nor forgetful of those who are
12 less fortunate than we. Let us share with generous
13 hearts and open hands the fruits of the earth which
14 you have given us, reminding us of what Dickens
15 said, "No one is useless in this world who lightens
16 the burden of it for anyone else."

17 Oh, almighty God, we are reminded that
18 you have told us to have courage, hold on to what is
19 good, return no one evil for evil, strengthen the
20 faint-hearted, support the weak, help the suffering,
21 honor everyone, love and serve the Lord. With you
22 present among us, our communities are more than
23 human. Our lives can never be the same. We thank
24 you, Father, for these and for all your gifts. May
25 you be blessed and praised and loved by everyone now

1 05/01/03 - STATED - APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

2 and forever. Amen.

3 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair thanks
4 Father Avery for his very inspiring invocation.

5 Council will be at ease.

6 (Council at ease.)

7 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The next order of
8 business is the approval of the Journal of the
9 meeting of Friday, April 25, 2003. And the Chair
10 recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell.

11 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
12 Madam President. I move that the Journal of the
13 meeting of Friday, April 25, 2003 stand approved.

14 (Duly seconded.)

15 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: It has been moved
16 and properly seconded that the meet willing of the
17 meeting of Friday, April 25, 2003, stand approved.

18 All in favor will indicate by saying
19 aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Those opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The ayes have it.
24 And the Journal of the meeting of Friday, April 25,
25 2003 has been approved.

1 05/01/03 - STATED - LEAVES OF ABSENCE

2 The next order of business requests for
3 leaves of absence. And the Chair again recognizes
4 Councilwoman Blackwell.

5 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
6 Madam President. There are no requests for leaves
7 of absence on the part of the Majority.

8 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair thanks
9 the Councilwoman.

10 The Chair recognizes Councilman O'Neill.

11 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Madam President, on
12 behalf of the Republicans, there are no requests for
13 leaves of absence.

14 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair thanks
15 the gentleman.

16 The Chair will dispense with the regular
17 order of business to recognize the guests and
18 visitors joining us in Chambers this morning. On
19 behalf of all Members of City Council, I welcome you
20 to our Council Session today. We appreciate your
21 taking the time to join us as we attend to the
22 legislative affairs of our City. We certainly
23 invite you to come again.

24 The next order of business is
25 communications.

1 05/01/03 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 The Chair recognizes Sergeant-at-Arms
3 for the purpose of delivering the messages from the
4 Mayor to the Chief Clerk.

5 The Chief Clerk will please read the
6 messages from the Mayor.

7 THE CHIEF CLERK: To the President and
8 Members of the Council of the City of Philadelphia,
9 I am transmitting herewith for the introduction and
10 consideration of your Honorable Body a proposed
11 resolution approving the Annual Program Statement
12 and Budget for the expenditure for the Neighborhood
13 Transformation Initiative bond proceeds for the
14 Fiscal Year 2004;

15 And an ordinance approving the 3rd
16 Amendment of the Redevelopment proposal for the
17 Point Breeze Ease Urban Renewal Area;

18 And an ordinance approving the 14th
19 Amendment of the Redevelopment proposal for the
20 South Central Urban Renewal Area;

21 And an ordinance approving the 1st
22 Amendment in the Redevelopment Proposal for the
23 Kingsessing Urban Renewal area;

24 And an ordinance approving the 1st
25 Amendment of the Redevelopment Proposal for the

1 05/01/03 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 Jefferson Square Urban Renewal Area;

3 And an ordinance approving the 10th
4 Amendment of the Redevelopment Proposal for the
5 Whitman Urban Renewal Area;.

6 And an ordinance approving the 4th
7 Amendment of the Redevelopment Proposal for the New
8 Kensington and Fishtown Urban Renewal Area;

9 And an ordinance approving the 5th
10 Amendment of the Redevelopment Proposal for the
11 Franklin Urban Renewal Area;

12 And an ordinance approving the
13 redevelopment proposal of the Redevelopment
14 Authority of the City of Philadelphia for the
15 redevelopment of the Frankford Creek Urban Renewal
16 Area;

17 And an ordinance approving the 2nd
18 Amendment of the Redevelopment Proposal for the
19 American Street Industrial Corridor Urban Renewal
20 Area;

21 And an ordinance approving the
22 Redevelopment Proposal of the Redevelopment
23 Authority of the City of Philadelphia for the
24 redevelopment of the Fairhill Renewal Area;

25 And an ordinance approving the 11th

1 05/01/03 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 Amendment of the Redevelopment Proposal for the
3 Mantua Urban Renewal Area;

4 And an ordinance approving the 1st
5 Amendment of the Redevelopment Proposal for the 45th
6 and Samson Urban Renewal Area area;

7 And an ordinance approving the 8th
8 Amendment of the Redevelopment Proposal for the West
9 Mill Creek Urban Renewal Area;

10 And an ordinance approving the
11 Redevelopment Proposal for the Redevelopment
12 Authority of the City of Philadelphia for the
13 redevelopment of the 44th and Aspen Urban Renewal
14 Area;

15 And an ordinance approving the
16 Redevelopment Proposal of the Redevelopment
17 Authority of the City of Philadelphia for the
18 redevelopment of the Tioga Urban Renewal Area;

19 An ordinance approving the 1st Amendment
20 of the Redevelopment Proposal for the West Parkside
21 Urban Renewal Area;

22 And an ordinance approving the 1st
23 Amendment of the Redevelopment Proposal for the
24 Brewerytown Urban Renewal Area;.

25 And an ordinance approving the 11th

1 05/01/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 Amendment of the Redevelopment Proposal for the
3 Cecil B. Moore Urban Renewal Area;

4 And an ordinance approving the 31st
5 Amending of the Redevelopment Proposal for the Model
6 City's Urban Renewal Area;

7 And an ordinance approving the 7th
8 Amendment of the Redevelopment Proposal for
9 Southwest Temple Urban Renewal Area.

10 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The messages will
11 be printed in the Journal.

12 The Chief Clerk will please read any
13 other communications in her possession.

14 THE CHIEF CLERK: That's all I have,
15 Madam President.

16 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you. The
17 next order of business is the introduction of bills
18 and resolutions. And the Chair recognizes
19 Councilwoman Blackwell.

20 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
21 Madam President. I move that the Rules of Council
22 be suspended so as to permit immediate consideration
23 of resolutions at their time of introduction.

24 (Duly seconded.)

25 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: It has been move

1 05/01/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS
2 and properly seconded that the Rules of Council be
3 suspended so as to permit immediate consideration of
4 the resolutions at the time of introduction.

5 All in favor will signify by saying aye.
6 (Aye.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those opposed?
8 (No response.)

9 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The ayes have it
10 and the motion carries.

11 The Chair recognizes Councilman Kenney.

12 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Thank you, Madam
13 President. I have no bills or resolutions today.

14 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair thanks
15 the gentleman.

16 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman
17 Blackwell.

18 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
19 Madam President. This morning I introduce two bills
20 and one resolution on your behalf, and three bills
21 and one resolution for myself.

22 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

23 The Clerk will please read the title of
24 the first bill.

25 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance approving

1 05/01/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS
2 the 1st Amendment of the Redevelopment Proposal for
3 the Kingsessing Urban Renewal Area.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: This bill will
5 be referred to the appropriate committee.

6 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
7 approving the 5th Amendment of the Redevelopment
8 Proposal for the Franklin Urban Renewal Area.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The bill will
10 be referred to the appropriate committee.

11 THE CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
12 authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property to
13 execute and deliver to the Redevelopment Authority
14 deeds located in the 30th, 36th and 40th Wards of
15 the City of Philadelphia.

16 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: The Chair
17 recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell.

18 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
19 Madam President. I move for the adoption.

20 (Duly seconded.)

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

24 All in favor will signify by saying aye.

25 (Aye.)

1 05/01/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The ayes have
5 it, and the motion carries.

6 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
7 approving the 1st Amendment of Redevelopment
8 Proposal 45 and Samson Urban Renewal Area.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The bill will
10 be referred to the appropriate committee.

11 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
12 approving the 8th Amendment of the Redevelopment
13 Proposal for the West Mill Creek Urban Renewal Area.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: This bill will
15 be referred to the appropriate committee.

16 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
17 approving the Redevelopment Proposal of the
18 Redevelopment Authority of the City of Philadelphia
19 for the redevelopment of the 44th and Aspen Urban
20 Renewal Area.

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The bill will
22 be referred to the appropriate committee.

23 THE CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
24 approving the Annual Program Statement and Budget
25 for the expenditure of the Neighborhood

1 05/01/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 Transformation Initiative bond proceeds for the
3 Fiscal Year 2004.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This
5 resolution will be referred to the appropriate
6 committee.

7 The Chair recognizes Cohen.

8 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Madam President, I
9 have no bills or resolutions today.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
11 thanks the gentleman.

12 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman
13 Krajewski.

14 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Madam
15 President, I have no bills or resolutions.

16 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you. The
17 Chair recognizes Councilman Mariano.

18 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: I have three bills.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Clerk will
20 please read the title of the first bill.

21 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance
22 approving the Redevelopment Proposal of the
23 Redevelopment Authority of the City of Philadelphia
24 for the redevelopment of the Fairhill Renewal Area

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The bill will

1 05/01/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 be referred to the appropriate committee.

3 THE CHIEF CLERK: And ordinance
4 Redevelopment proposal of Redevelopment Authority of
5 the City of Philadelphia for the Redevelopment of
6 the Frankford Creek Urban Renewal Area.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This bill will
8 be referred to the appropriate committee.

9 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
10 approving the 2nd Amendment of the Redevelopment
11 Proposal for the American Street Industrial Corridor
12 Urban Renewal Area.

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This bill will
14 also be referred to the appropriate committee.

15 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman Tasco.

16 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Madam President, I
17 have no bills or resolutions today.

18 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

19 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman
20 Miller.

21 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Thank you, Madam
22 President. I have two bills.

23 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Clerk will
24 please read the title of the first bill.

25 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance naming

1 05/01/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS
2 and designating the Gymnasium Young recreation
3 Center at 1100 East Cheltenham Avenue as the David P.
4 Richardson, Jr. Memorial Gymnasium.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The bill will
6 be referred to the appropriate committee.

7 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
8 approving the Redevelopment Proposal of the
9 Redevelopment Authority of the City of Philadelphia
10 for the redevelopment Tioga Urban Renewal Area.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This bill will
12 be referred to the appropriate committee.

13 The Chair recognizes Councilman Nutter.

14 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you, Madam
15 President. I offer one bill and two privileged
16 resolutions.

17 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you. The
18 Clerk will please read the title of the bill.

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance approving
20 the 1st Amendment of the Redevelopment Proposal West
21 Parkside Urban Renewal Area.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The bill will
23 be referred to the appropriate committee.

24 THE CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution
25 honoring Rabbi Henry Cohen.

1 05/01/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 THE CHIEF CLERK: And Chair recognizes
3 Councilman Nutter.

4 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you, Madam
5 President. I move the adoption of the resolution.
6 (Duly seconded.)

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

10 All in favor will signify by saying aye.
11 (Aye.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those opposed?
13 (No response.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The ayes have
15 it, and the motion carries.

16 The Clerk will please read the title of
17 the second resolution.

18 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution also
19 naming on a temporary basis the 1200 block of North
20 58th Street as Sears Way from May 12, 2003 to May
21 17, 2003.

22 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
23 recognizes Councilman Nutter.

24 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you, Madam
25 President. I move the adoption of the resolution.

1 05/01/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 (Duly seconded.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It has been
4 moved and properly seconded that the resolution be
5 adopted.

6 All in favor will say aye.

7 (Aye.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Those opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The ayes have
11 it, and the motion carries.

12 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman Brown.

13 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you, Madam
14 President. I offer one resolution this morning.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The Clerk will
16 please read the title of the resolution.

17 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution honoring
18 Kevin Millwood for his no-hitter on April 27, 2003.

19 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: The Chair
20 recognizes Councilwoman Brown.

21 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you, Madam
22 President. I move for the adoption.

23 (Duly seconded.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: It has been
25 moved and properly seconded that the resolution be

1 05/01/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 adopted.

3 All in favor will signify by saying aye.

4 (Aye.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those opposed?

6 (No response.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The ayes have
8 it, and the motion carries.

9 The Chair recognizes Councilman Goode.

10 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Thank you, Madam
11 President. I have no bills or resolutions.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
13 thanks the gentleman.

14 The Chair recognizes Councilman Ortiz.

15 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Thank you, Madam
16 President. No bills or resolutions today.

17 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

18 The Chair recognizes Councilman DiCicco.

19 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Thank you, Madam
20 President. I offer five bills.

21 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

22 The Clerk will please read the title of
23 the first bill.

24 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance approving
25 the 10th Amending of the Redevelopment Proposal for

1 05/01/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 the Whitman Urban Renewal Area.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This bill will
4 be referred to the appropriate committee.

5 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
6 approving the 1st Amendment of the Redevelopment
7 Proposal for the Jefferson Square Urban Renewal
8 Area.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The bill will
10 be referred to the appropriate committee.

11 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
12 approving the 11th Amendment of the Redevelopment
13 Proposal for the Mantua Urban Renewal Area.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This bill will
15 be referred to the appropriate committee.

16 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
17 approving the 4th Amendment of the Redevelopment
18 Proposal for the New Kensington and Fishtown Urban
19 Renewal Area.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The bill will
21 be referred to the appropriate committee.

22 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
23 approving the 14th Amendment of the Redevelopment
24 proposal for the South Central Urban Renewal Area

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This bill will

1 05/01/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 be referred to the appropriate committee.

3 And the Chair recognizes Councilman
4 O'Neill.

5 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Madam President, I
6 offer one bill cosponsored by all Members of
7 Council.

8 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Clerk will
9 please read the title of the bill.

10 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance amending
11 an ordinance, Bill No. 877, approved September 16,
12 1994, by amending an exhibit thereto in order to
13 increase the limit of the amount of funding any
14 entity may receive in any fiscal year.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This bill will
16 be referred to the appropriate committee.

17 The Chair recognizes Councilman Clarke.

18 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Madam
19 President. I have four bills.

20 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Clerk will
21 please read the title of the first bill.

22 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance approving
23 the 11th Amendment of the Redevelopment Proposal for
24 the Cecil B. Moore Urban Renewal Area.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This bill will

1 05/01/03 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

2 be referred to the appropriate committee.

3 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
4 approving the first amendment of the redevelopment
5 proposal for the Brewerytown Urban Renewal Area.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This bill will
7 be referred to the appropriate committee.

8 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
9 approving the 31st Amendment to the Redevelopment
10 Proposal for the Model Cities Urban Renewal Area.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The bill will
12 be referred to the appropriate committee.

13 THE CHIEF CLERK: And an ordinance
14 approving the 7th Amendment of the Redevelopment
15 Proposal for the Southwest Temple Urban Renewal
16 Area.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This bill will
18 be referred to the appropriate committee.

19 The Chair recognizes Councilman Rizzo.

20 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Madam President, no
21 bills or resolutions.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
23 thanks the gentleman.

24 Our next order of business is reports
25 from committees, and the Chair recognizes Councilman

1 05/01/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 Cohen for a report from the Committee on Law and
3 Government.

4 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Madam President, the
5 Committee on Law and Government, after conducting
6 the investigation authorized pursuant to a previous
7 resolution, issues this report.

8 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chief Clerk
9 will please read the report.

10 THE CHIEF CLERK: To the President and
11 Members of the Council of the City of Philadelphia,
12 the Committee on Law and Government, after
13 conducting the investigation authorized pursuant to
14 resolution 030082, has issued a report which
15 recommends that City Council request the US
16 Environmental Protection Agency to withdraw its
17 changes to the new source review program.

18 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
19 recognizes Councilman Cohen.

20 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Madam President, I
21 offer the report and move its adoption by the City
22 Council.

23 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Do I hear a second?
24 (Duly seconded.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It has been

1 05/01/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 moved and seconded that City Council approve and
3 adopt the report of the Committee on Law and
4 Government and its recommendations.

5 All in favor will indicate by saying
6 aye.

7 (Aye.)

8 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Those opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The ayes have it
11 and the report and recommendations have been
12 approved.

13 The Chair recognizes Councilman DiCicco
14 for a report on the Committee of Streets and
15 Services.

16 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Thank you, Madam
17 President. The Committee on Streets and Services
18 reports eight bills with a favorable recommendation.

19 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chief Clerk
20 will please read the report.

21 THE CHIEF CLERK: To the President and
22 Members of the Council of the City of Philadelphia,
23 the Committee on Streets and Services to which was
24 referred Bill No. 020385, entitled an ordinance
25 amending Chapter 11-600 of the Philadelphia Code

1 05/01/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 entitled, "Construction, Encroachments and
3 Projections Over, On, and Under Streets," by adding
4 11-610, entitled "Construction Equipment," all
5 certain terms and conditions;

6 And Bill No. 030161, entitled an
7 ordinance authorizing the paving of Markoe Street,
8 Aspen Street, 45th Street and portions of 47th
9 Street;

10 And Bill No. 030162, entitled an
11 ordinance authorizing the revision of lines and
12 grand on a portion of City Plan No. 170 within an
13 area bounded by Fairmount Avenue, 47th Street, Brown
14 Street and 44th Street;

15 And bill No. 030164, entitled an
16 ordinance authorizing the revision of lines and
17 grades on a portion of City Plan No. 55 by striking
18 from the City Plan and vacating the legally open
19 portions of Bermuda Street from Adams Avenue to
20 Church Street;

21 And Bill No. 030167, entitled an
22 ordinance authorizing the revision of lines and
23 grades on a portion of City Plan No. 63 by striking
24 from the City Plan and vacating Melon Street from
25 16th Street to 17th Street;

1 05/01/03 - STATED - REPORTS

2 And Bill No. 030199, entitled an
3 ordinance authorizing David Dinh, 1122 South 10th
4 Street to construct, own, and maintain a one-story
5 vestibule addition on the south footway of
6 Washington Avenue;

7 Bill No. 030217 entitled, an ordinance
8 establishing a no truck parking regulation on
9 Whitaker Avenue from Adams Avenue to Godfrey Avenue,
10 both sides;

11 And Bill No. 030219, entitled an
12 ordinance establishing a no trucking parking
13 regulation on the 800 block of Foulkrod Street, from
14 Whitaker Avenue to Howland Street, both sides;

15 Respectfully reports it has considered
16 the same and returns the attached bills to Council
17 with a favorable recommendation.

18 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
19 recognizes Councilman DiCicco.

20 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Thank you, Madam
21 President. I move that the Rules of Council be
22 suspended so as to permit first reading this day of
23 Bills No. 020385, 030167, and 030199.

24 (Duly seconded.)

25 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: It has been moved

1 05/01/03 - STATED - SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
2 and properly seconded that the Rules of Council be
3 suspended as to permit this day reading of Bill Nos.
4 020385, 030167, and 030199.

5 All in favor will say aye.

6 (Aye.)

7 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Those opposed?

8 (No response.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The ayes have
10 it, and the bills just read will be placed today's
11 First Reading Calendar.

12 Bill Nos. 030161, 030162, 030164, 030217
13 and 030219 will be placed on the First Reading
14 Calendar for our next Session of Council.

15 That concludes the reports from
16 committees.

17 Council will now proceed under a special
18 order of business to the reconsideration of Bill No.
19 030014. This bill was passed by the Council at its
20 April 3, 2003 Session and was returned disapproved
21 by the Mayor to last week's Session of Council.

22 At this time, the Chair recognizes
23 Councilman Nutter.

24 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you, Madam
25 President. I move that Council reconsider Bill No.

1 05/01/03 - STATED - SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
2 030014 which was approved by Council on April 3,
3 2003.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Is there a
5 second?

6 (Duly seconded.)

7 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: All in favor, let
8 it be known by saying aye.

9 (Aye.)

10 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: Those opposed?

11 (No response.)

12 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: The ayes have it
13 the motion carries.

14 Council will now consider the vote by
15 which Bill No. 030014 was passed.

16 The Chief Clerk read the title of the
17 bill.

18 THE CHIEF CLERK: Bill No. 030014, an
19 ordinance amending Section 19-1301 of the
20 Philadelphia Code entitled "Real Estate Taxes," by
21 providing that the taxes levied on a property under
22 that section shall not increase in any one year by
23 more than a specific percentage as the result of an
24 increase in the assessed value of the property as
25 returned by the Board of Revision of Taxes, under

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2 certain terms and conditions.

3 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you. The
4 Chair recognizes Councilman Kenney for a point of
5 information.

6 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Thank you, Madam
7 President. As matter of point of information, I
8 would request that, if possible, Councilman Nutter
9 would explain the bill and would also talk about
10 some of the changes that were made to this bill as
11 opposed to the last one that had a similar
12 percentage cap on that bill. I know we may have
13 done it anyway, but I just want to make sure the
14 request was made. Thank you.

15 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you, Madam
16 President. I had planned to ask for an opportunity
17 to speak because I do wish to put a variety of
18 pieces of information into the record. This issue
19 has been under discussion since last fall when the
20 aftermath of the assessments from last summer came
21 out and many of our constituents were outraged at
22 the amount of increase in assessment which
23 ultimately results in a significant increase in
24 their actual tax bill, came to them in the mail in
25 either August or September. Many of us have also

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2 been participants in the appeal process where a
3 significant number of homeowners and property owners
4 participated in that process. I appreciate the
5 Councilman's request.

6 This particular bill is a one-year 10
7 percent cap on the amount of assessment increase or
8 tax increase only the City tax portion of the
9 property tax. We all know that the property is
10 composed of two elements: There is a City rate, and
11 there is a School District rate. The City rate goes
12 to the City, and the School District rate portion
13 goes to the School District. So the bill in front
14 of us has no impact whatsoever on the School
15 District of Philadelphia. This is only for the City
16 portion of the real estate tax.

17 Second, there was a chart prepared at
18 the time of the first round of hearings. Members
19 will recall that there were a variety of bills, 4
20 percent, a 10 percent, and a 15 percent with a
21 deferral. This Council approved both the 4 percent
22 and the 10 percent back in December of 2002 by votes
23 of 17 to 0 on both of those bills. One was allowed
24 to become law without the Mayor's signature; that
25 was the 4 percent bill. The second, 10 percent cap

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2 bill, was the subject of a veto and a subsequent
3 attempt at an override where we fell two votes short
4 of an override all at that time.

5 This bill, as introduced, is also for
6 one fiscal year, the current fiscal year, the
7 numbers are the same in terms of a potential impact
8 to the City. From the chart, we know that the City
9 revenue portion as to compared to the City budget
10 that we approved last year for the current fiscal
11 year, the impact to the City would be \$980,000.

12 Now, in the veto message there was a
13 different figure used, and that's because when the
14 budget was approved last spring, the City
15 Administration had to estimate, based on previous
16 real estate assessment increases what the actually
17 revenues would be. And they estimated at the time,
18 and this Council approved, a budget for \$321.7
19 million.

20 Subsequent to that, the Board of
21 Revision of Taxes conducted the assessment process,
22 as they always do, in the summer. The assessments
23 came out. And when you take the total amount of
24 assessments, multiply them by the tax rates, the
25 City now would anticipate receiving \$328.7 million,

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2 a \$7 million difference.

3 Many of us have referred to that as
4 essentially a win fall to the City because it did
5 not budget for that amount of money, it did not
6 anticipate that amount of money. It did not
7 structure a budget around that amount of money, and
8 we told the citizens that we anticipated receiving
9 \$321.7 million. And now we found ourselves
10 receiving, through no particular action of the City
11 or the citizens, receiving \$328.7 million because we
12 have not adjusted our tax rates downward to reflect
13 the increased assessments so as to only generate the
14 \$321 million. So therefore, the City says if that's
15 the amount of money, then we claim that amount of
16 money. And when you add the 7 million to the
17 980,000 of the budget, that's where the 7.98 million
18 comes from.

19 But Madam President, I think there are
20 other components to this particular story. One, as
21 compared to budget, a 10 percent cap bill on the
22 City side would cost \$980,000 in a City budget of
23 over \$3 billion.

24 The 4 percent cap bill which was allowed
25 to become law without the Mayor's signature by way

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2 of the same chart expects to cost the City
3 \$6 million. And there are a variety of other bills
4 that have been approved by this Council that have
5 cost in the millions.

6 This is a one-time 10 percent cap solely
7 on the City portion of the real estate taxes with a
8 cost of \$980,000.

9 But the motivation behind this, Madam
10 President, other than good public policy is also
11 some of the correspondence from many of my
12 constituents and, certainly, for at at-large
13 members, your constituents as well. And I'm sure
14 that all Members have received letters. And I'd
15 like to read a couple of those into the record.

16 I received a letter last year from Ms.
17 Anita Smith who lives on Woodbine Avenue in the
18 Wynnefield Section. She writes to me:

19 "Dear Councilman Nutter, thank you for
20 holding the meeting on Wednesday, October 2, 2002,
21 at Penn Memorial Baptist Church. As you can
22 remember, the room was paced with concerned
23 neighbors about this issue. I listened to Mr.
24 Rizzo's quick remarks of support and your concern
25 that there is a problem with the system. Then I

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2 listened to Mr. Davis, I believe is his name,
3 detailed explanation of the property tax
4 calculation. Of course, once Mr. Davis informed
5 that the Taxation Board was not concerned about our
6 ability to pay, for me, this statement ended the
7 discussion. Basically from then there was nothing
8 to do but complain, and rightly so because the
9 increase is anything but fair.

10 Unfortunately, for us property taxes has
11 been a point of contention for as long as I can
12 remember, even as youth. And my faith in our public
13 officials is clouded by the fact that they can't
14 seem to remedy this situation.

15 "Let's get back to the meeting. I saw a
16 room of retired individuals who have no intention
17 selling their homes. In fact, they have spent a
18 great part of their lives fixing up their homes
19 inside and out throughout working careers. Now
20 their goal is to maintain the property, and here
21 comes a tax increase that is based on a calculation
22 that will only benefit them if they choose to SELL
23 their property. Previously, there was no intention
24 to sell. Now you may have to sell because you can't
25 afford to pay the taxes. If you do sell, you get

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2 the higher market value from the sale, but then you
3 can't afford the type of property you've lived in
4 for 40 years. And because the buyer paid the higher
5 market value, when the property is reassessed their
6 taxes will go up again. This is a cycle of doom.

7 "There is no question this City is
8 taxing people out of their homes. The City has got
9 to find another way to fund the school system. I
10 venture to say that if you took a pole at the
11 meeting, approximately 75 percent of the
12 participants do not have children in the school
13 system. How can we as good citizens expect these
14 people to pay for this? Many of us do not even have
15 children in public schools. Why is it taking so
16 long tackle this problem?

17 "Unfortunately, I see this as this as a
18 political football to be tossed around during
19 election time and then kicked but, as always, 10
20 yards short of the goal line.

21 "As for the younger crowd who attended
22 the meeting, I'm sure they will have the bills to
23 pay. We get a bill in July-August and I'm informed
24 that we have to come up with as much as \$500 in less
25 than 6 months. No provision for a payment plan or

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2 any assistance whatsoever. So this is how
3 Philadelphia cares about its people?"

4 That's Ms. Smith. 5100 block of
5 Woodbine avenue.

6 I received another letter, Madam
7 President, from Miss Siacci (ph), the 3400 block of
8 Bowman Street in the 38th Ward.

9 "Dear Councilman Nutter, the house I
10 live in was purchased by my parents in 1932 for
11 approximately 3,000. I was 2 years old. Their
12 mortgage payment was \$28, which was an amount they
13 struggled to pay each month. There was a
14 depression.

15 "I'm now 72, and after all these years,
16 I have to consider seriously the prospect of moving.
17 I'm being taxed out of the only home I've ever
18 owned.

19 "In 1996, my taxes rose by about \$50. I
20 appeal at the time and was told 'you're lucky they
21 didn't go up more.' Well, my luck changed. For
22 2001, they went up \$275. Now they will go up by an
23 additional \$368. My income is fixed and my budget
24 is also fixed to accommodate my monthly income.
25 There's no way I can reduce the amounts I get with

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2 others like that. There are 117,774 people in
3 Philadelphia who received an increase in their
4 property taxes of more than 10 percent, and they are
5 all over the City, whether it's in the 3rd District
6 the 4th District, the 5th District or the 9th
7 District which are the highest number of people who
8 received increases of more than 10 percent. These
9 people are all Philadelphia, and we an opportunity
10 here today to give them some relief and only cost
11 the City \$980,000.

12 I ask my colleagues to take a stand
13 today and do something for the homeowners and
14 property owners of the City of Philadelphia and give
15 them some relief to their outcry about last year's
16 incredibly onerous increases in their taxes.

17 Thank you, Madam President.

18 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

19 The chair recognizes Councilwoman Brown.

20 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you, Madam
21 Chair. Point of information. My colleague
22 indicates that this will hurt the City at a level of
23 \$980,000. Recognizing that this bill requires State
24 authorization, my question to my colleague is when
25 will taxpayers see relief, knowing that this bill

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2 requires State authorization?

3 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you, Madam
4 President.

5 Councilwoman Brown, I appreciate the
6 question. You and I have had an opportunity to talk
7 about this on a couple of occasions. I think that
8 this is just a point of a difference of opinion with
9 regard to whether or not this particular matter
10 needs State authorization. I'm respectfully,
11 certainly, of our Law Department. I've agreed with
12 them on many occasions; I've disagreed on many
13 occasions. It's never affected by general feeling
14 and respect for them. I believe that we do not need
15 State authorization. And under the circumstances,
16 given that this is May 1st, many taxpayers have
17 probably paid their taxes. I certainly hope so,
18 less they subject themselves to interest and
19 penalty. Under the circumstance, what those
20 taxpayers would have to do if this bill were passed
21 is apply for the Department of Revenue for a refund.
22 This particular bill, as I indicated earlier, is one
23 year. It is for FY '03. And it only affects FY '03
24 and so I think with cooperation from the Department
25 of Revenue, if this bill were to go into affect,

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2 those taxpayers shortly would be able apply for a
3 refund for the difference between what they paid and
4 what they would be required to pay with a 10 percent
5 cap. So I think the short answer to your is soon.

6 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: If the bill gets
7 State authorization, correct?

8 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Councilwoman, my
9 position is that the bill does not need State
10 authorization. That's my position.

11 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you,
12 colleague.

13 Thank you, Madam President.

14 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: You're welcome.
15 This bill having been read on two different days,
16 was duly approved by City Council on April 3, 2003,
17 and was returned to the Council by the Mayor as
18 disapproved at the April 25, 2003 Session of
19 Council. The question is shall Bill No. 030014
20 pass, notwithstanding the Mayor's disapproval?

21 Please note that a aye is a vote to
22 override the Mayor's veto. A vote of no is a vote
23 to sustain the Mayor's veto.

24 Any questions from anyone?

25 The Clerk will please call the roll.

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2 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

3 Blackwell.

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Again, a vote
5 of aye will be override.

6 Councilwoman Blackwell, how do you vote.

7 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: No.

8 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Clarke.

9 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: No.

10 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Cohen.

11 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Aye.

12 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman DiCicco.

13 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Aye.

14 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

15 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.

16 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kenney.

17 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.

18 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

19 Krajewski.

20 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: No.

21 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Mariano.

22 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Aye.

23 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Miller.

24 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.

25 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Nutter.

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2 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Aye.

3 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman O'Neill.

4 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: No.

5 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Ortiz.

6 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Aye.

7 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

8 Reynolds-Brown.

9 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: No.

10 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.

11 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: No.

12 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Tasco.

13 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

14 THE CHIEF CLERK: Council President

15 Verna.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

17 The ayes are 10, the nays are 6. The
18 Mayor's veto is sustained.

19 Councilwoman Blackwell, I understand
20 that there is another bill to be introduced. Can we
21 do that now, please?

22 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
23 Madam President. I introduce one bill on your
24 behalf.

25 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

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2 The Clerk will please read the title of
3 the bill.

4 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance approving
5 the 3rd Amendment of the Redevelopment Proposal for
6 the Point Breeze East Urban Renewal Area.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This bill will
8 be referred to the appropriate committee.

9 Our next order of business is the
10 consideration of the Calendar. The Chief Clerk read
11 the bills on the First Reading Calendar.

12 THE CHIEF CLERK: Bill No. 010743, and
13 ordinance amending Chapter 2600 of the Philadelphia
14 Code, entitled "Standards of Conduct and Ethics," by
15 adding anti-nepotism provisions prohibiting City
16 officials from taking or recommending certain
17 personal actions affecting family members.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
19 agrees.

20 THE CHIEF CLERK: And Bill No. 030017,
21 an ordinance establishing an Neighborhood
22 Improvement District in an area that generally
23 includes both sides of Ridge Avenue from Main Street
24 to 7220 Ridge Avenue, all under certain terms and
25 conditions.

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2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The Chair
3 agrees.

4 THE CHIEF CLERK: Bill No. 030023, an
5 ordinance amending Chapter 19-200 of the
6 Philadelphia Code, entitled "City Funds, Deposits,
7 Investments, Disbursements," by revisiting the list
8 City depositories because of noncompliance with
9 certain provisions, under certain terms and
10 conditions.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The Chair
12 agrees.

13 THE CHIEF CLERK: And Bill No. 030141,
14 an ordinance amending Chapter 9-700 of the
15 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Amusement Business," by
16 amending Section 9-703 to prohibit the used of
17 pyrotechnic devices, fireworks, explosives or
18 similar materials within dance halls, all under
19 certain terms and conditions.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The Chair
21 agrees.

22 THE CHIEF CLERK: And Bill No. 020385,
23 an ordinance amending Chapter 11-600 of the
24 Philadelphia Code entitled Construction Encroachment
25 Projects over, on, under City streets, all under

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2 terms and conditions.

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
4 agrees.

5 THE CHIEF CLERK: And Bill No. 030167,
6 an ordinance authorizing the revision of lines and
7 grades on a portion City Plan No. 63, by striking
8 from he City Plan and vacating Melon Street from
9 16th Street to 17th Street.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
11 agrees.

12 THE CHIEF CLERK: And Bill No. 030199,
13 an ordinance authorizing David Dinh, 1122 South 10th
14 Street to construct, own, and maintain a one-story
15 vestibule addition on the south footway of
16 Washington Avenue.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
18 agrees.

19 The bills just read by the Chief Clerk
20 will be placed on the Second Reading and Final
21 Passage Calendar for our next Session.

22 That concludes the First Reading
23 Calendar.

24 The Chair at this time recognizes
25 Councilwoman Blackwell for the purpose of calling

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2 bills on the Second Reading and Final Passage
3 Calendar.

4 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank you,
5 Madam President. Today Bill Nos. 020728, 030068,
6 020076, 030163.

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERA: I'm sorry,
8 that's 020621.

9 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Yes. I didn't
10 get to that yet. 020621, 020810, 030016, 030097.
11 030098, 030178, 030220, 020809, 020084, 020817,
12 030034, 030106, 030189, 030231 all being called up
13 for second reading final passage. All other bills
14 are being held.

15 COUNCILWOMAN VERA: Councilwoman, did
16 you call up No. 030163 on page 7?

17 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: I sure did. I
18 just called it out of order.

19 COUNCILWOMAN VERA: Thank you.

20 We are going to consider a resolution
21 before the Calendar because they pertain to the
22 change of the Home Rule Charter.

23 The Clerk read the title of Resolution
24 No. 020084.

25 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution prosing

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2 an amendment to Section 2-102 of the Philadelphia
3 Home Rule Charter relating to the redistricting of
4 the City to revise the boundaries of the
5 councilmanic districts after each decennial census
6 and providing for the submission of the amendment to
7 the electors of Philadelphia.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
9 recognizes Councilman Nutter for at motion.

10 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you, Madam
11 President. I move for the adoption of Resolution
12 No. 020084.

13 (Duly seconded.)

14 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Since Resolution
15 No. 020084 proposes an amendment to the Home Rule
16 Charter, it requires the approval of two-thirds of
17 the Members of this Council.

18 The Clerk will please call the roll.

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
20 Blackwell.

21 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

22 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Clarke.

23 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: No.

24 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Cohen.

25 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Aye.

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2 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman DiCicco.
3 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Aye.
4 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.
5 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.
6 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kenney.
7 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.
8 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
9 Krajewski.
10 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: No.
11 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Mariano.
12 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Aye.
13 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Miller.
14 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.
15 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Nutter.
16 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Aye.
17 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman O'Neill.
18 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: No.
19 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Ortiz.
20 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Aye.
21 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
22 Reynolds Brown.
23 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.
24 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.
25 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: No.

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2 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Tasco.

3 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

4 THE CHIEF CLERK: Council President

5 Verna.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

7 The ayes are 12, the nays are 4. A
8 two-thirds majority having voted in the affirmative,
9 the Resolution No. 020084 has been adopted.

10 The Clerk will please read the title of
11 Resolution 020817.

12 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution proposing
13 an amendment to Section 6-400 of the Philadelphia
14 Home Rule Charter relating to the authorization for
15 City Controller audits of agencies receiving
16 appropriations from or performing services for the
17 City and providing for the submission of the
18 amendment to the electors of Philadelphia.

19 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
20 recognizes Councilman Kenney.

21 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Madam President, I
22 move for the adoption of the resolution.

23 (Duly seconded.)

24 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Since Resolution
25 No. 020817 proposes an amendment to the Home Rule

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2 Charter, it requires the approval of two-thirds of
3 the Members of this Council.

4 The Clerk will please call the roll.

5 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Madam

6 President, I would like to correct my vote as voting
7 no on the previous resolution. I will aye on this
8 one. Thank you.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The record
10 will reflect that Councilwoman Blackwell changed her
11 vote on Resolution No. 020084. And the votes now
12 are the ayes have 11 and the nays have 5 on that
13 particular bill.

14 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Madam President.

15 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Yes.

16 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Just a point of
17 information -- point of inquiry maybe. I just had a
18 conversation with Councilmembers Blackwell and
19 Krajewski who asked me a question which would seem
20 to indicate that there might be some lack of
21 information with regard to the redistricting
22 resolution. Either a concern that a commission
23 would be created, which was the concern raised by
24 one member, or possibly other questions. I didn't
25 know that that was a question by the members, so I'd

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2 certainly be available to answer any questions.

3 There seems to be also, I'm hearing, a
4 concern that we can only redistrict every 10 years.
5 This particular amendment to the Charter changes the
6 part that requires the Council to redistrict every
7 10 years. It doesn't affect whether we can or not
8 in any interim period. The Charter requires us to
9 redistrict every 10 years. This measure would
10 establish an actual process which, I think, all of
11 us might agree if we can find any agreement. There
12 is no present process. It still requires us to do
13 redistricting every 10 years and actually
14 establishes a Council Committee of our leadership to
15 put together a plan, take testimony, listen to the
16 Members and the public and then present such a plan
17 to the Committee of the Whole to take action. I
18 think we saw that notwithstanding the Charter
19 requirement on the every 10 year redistricting, we
20 just did a redistricting bill the tail end of last
21 year. And I do not believe that this particular
22 measure would impact that. So, I mean, I certainly
23 apologize if there was any lack of information or
24 misinformation about that particular issue.

25 What the bill does, Madam President, is

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2 a couple things: It establishes a Redistricting
3 Committee made up of the President, the Majority
4 Leader, the Majority Whip, the Minority Leader and
5 an At-Large Member appointed by the Council
6 President. That group of people would seek to
7 develop a redistricting plan to be presented to this
8 Council in the form of a report and a resolution.
9 It also establishes, I believe as the charter laid
10 out, that the Council would be the redistricting
11 process. It removes the penalty for not completing
12 the redistricting process by a certain date.
13 Philadelphia is the only City of the top 10 cities
14 in the country that has such a penalty, which is the
15 withholding of salary. No other City from New York
16 to Detroit has such a provision. It also maintains
17 the redistricting process as a Council matter, which
18 I think it should be a Council matter since it
19 involves districts and redistricting, which is
20 similar to how the process is conducted, again, in
21 virtually every major City in America.

22 So that's what the bill does. It does
23 not establish some unknown group of people as a
24 commission. I think we know all the proposed
25 commission members. They're the four leaders and

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2 one other person to be appointed by the President.

3 That's what the bill is. That's what it does. And

4 it actually lays out a somewhat detailed process

5 through which you would do redistricting. I think

6 anyone would have to acknowledge that under the

7 Charter there is no particular process presently

8 laid out for how to do redistricting other than

9 telling us when it has to be completed and that the

10 wards and divisions have to be contiguous to each

11 other.

12 So that's what the matter was, Madam

13 President. And that would be the shorter version of

14 the explanation.

15 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

16 Councilman Clarke, your light is on. Do

17 you want to be recognized?

18 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Madam

19 President. Madam President, I would like to thank

20 Councilman Nutter for the explanation because I was

21 in my explanation just going give what I perceived

22 the explanation of the bill. And I hate to bring up

23 old wounds, but I remind Members that had this

24 particular process been in place in the most recent

25 redistricting, I would not currently represent

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2 anything south of Fairmount Avenue. It was because
3 of, be you like it or not, the involvement of the
4 Mayor in the process that it allowed us to
5 ultimately come to a consensus on the final
6 redistricting process that, as the Councilman
7 indicated earlier, was just this past year. My
8 concern that a similar situation could happen
9 somewhere down the line, and not to suggest that it
10 would, that if the Mayor, whomever that Mayor may be
11 -- it surely won't be this particular Mayor in 10
12 years or whenever we decide to do redistricting
13 again -- a similar situation can happen with the
14 least senior Member of the City of Philadelphia. So
15 that is my primary concern about this particular
16 bill. I see that as one of the only two changes in
17 the current process.

18 I believe under the last redistricting
19 bill you, in fact, convened a committee. That
20 committee, in fact, issued a report and a map. I
21 see this simply as a way of getting the Mayor out of
22 the process and not penalizing us for not doing our
23 due diligence on getting this particular bill. So
24 that is my primary concern because of what happened
25 to me personally in the last redistricting process.

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2 And I think that this particular bill relates to the
3 Mayor's involvement, this particular Mayor's
4 involvement, in that last process. Thank you.

5 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

6 The Chair recognizes Councilman Mariano.

7 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Thank you, Madam
8 President. I agree half way with Councilman Clarke
9 just said. And a person who is greatly affected by
10 the redistricting and I do appreciate what the Mayor
11 did and I do feel that if it wasn't for the Mayor's
12 involvement, as along with what Councilman Clark
13 said, it would have been a bigger problem for me and
14 for the 7th Council District. But what I do differ
15 from Councilman Clarke is I think this bill lays out
16 the ground rules and we won't need to have the Mayor
17 involved because I think -- thank you for helping
18 me, Mayor, and I appreciate it. But this wouldn't
19 be necessary next time because of this bill, and I
20 wholeheartedly supported this bill. We know the
21 ground rules going in and deal with it then. It may
22 be 10 years down the line or sooner if we chose to
23 do it. All I want is a fair redistricting process,
24 and this seems to lay it out.

25 So Councilman Nutter, thank you for your

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2 diligent work on this.

3 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

4 The Chair recognizes Councilman Nutter.

5 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you, Madam

6 President. I appreciate Councilman Clarke's

7 concerns and also deeply appreciate Councilman

8 Mariano's comments.

9 With regard to one of the issues that
10 Councilman Clarke raised, I think that -- I can
11 appreciate your concern about how the last process
12 was conducted. I think as you laid out what the
13 committee did, which is actually what this was
14 modeled after, my recollection is at least at one
15 time the report that the Committee that was
16 established put forward was not the report that was
17 ultimately accepted by the Body. But the way to
18 deal with the whole issue of making sure that
19 members are -- their concerns are addressed or taken
20 into serious consideration is the fact that under
21 this provision it is not a simple majority that
22 would approve a redistricting plan; it is a
23 two-thirds of this vote of this Council, which is a
24 much higher standard and is the same standard that
25 is in place with the present process because if the

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2 Mayor vetoed one of the last redistricting plans and
3 if 12 members overrode the Mayor's veto, that would
4 have been the plan in place. I think the Councilman
5 is quite well aware that there were not 12 votes at
6 any in time to override the veto, otherwise, we
7 wouldn't have gone the four and a half months, which
8 the salary penalty obviously did not work as the
9 Charter framers had intended, otherwise Members
10 would not have gone so long without pay.

11 So I sought to address that particular
12 certain and I thought the Councilman might have that
13 kind of concern by the fact that you establish the
14 same standard which is present, which is 12 members
15 overriding a veto which would end the process and
16 put in a provision that the redistricting plan has
17 to be approved by 12 members. It is the same
18 standard, the same hurdle that you have to get over.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: Councilman
20 Clarke, your light is on. Do you care to be
21 recognized?

22 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Absolutely. Madam
23 President, I agree with Councilman Nutter. And he
24 has essentially made my argument that if the 12
25 votes are required, why is the Mayor being taken out

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2 of the process?

3 COUNCILMAN GOOD: Point of order, Madam
4 President.

5 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Point of order by
6 Councilman Goode.

7 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Thank you, Madam
8 President. What are we considering right now? Are
9 we considering the resolution? Are we considering
10 the bill? What's being considered right now?

11 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilwoman
12 Blackwell, I think you changed your vote to no.
13 Does it still remain?

14 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Yes.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Okay. I don't
16 see any reason for us to be debating this. We will
17 be considering the bill shortly. So the ayes are 11
18 the nays are 5. This resolution having failed to
19 receive the approval of two-third members of
20 Council, the resolution is not adopted.

21 To have the Chief Clerk, did you read
22 the title of Resolution 020817?

23 THE CHIEF CLERK: I did. Do you want me
24 to do it again?

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Would you,

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2 please?

3 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution proposing
4 an amendment to Section 6-400 of the Philadelphia
5 Home Rule Charter relating to the authorization for
6 City Controller audits of agencies receiving
7 appropriations from or performing services for the
8 City.

9 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
10 recognizes Councilman Kenney.

11 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: I move again for the
12 adoption of the resolution.

13 (Duly seconded.)

14 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Since Resolution
15 No. 020817 proposes an amendment to the Home Rule
16 Charter, it requires the approval of two-thirds of
17 the Members of this Council.

18 The Clerk will please call the roll.

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
20 Blackwell.

21 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

22 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Clarke.

23 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.

24 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Cohen.

25 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Aye.

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2 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman DiCicco.
3 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Aye.
4 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.
5 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.
6 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kenney.
7 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.
8 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
9 Krajewski.
10 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.
11 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Mariano.
12 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Aye.
13 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Miller.
14 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.
15 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Nutter.
16 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Aye.
17 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman O'Neill.
18 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
19 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Ortiz.
20 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Aye.
21 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
22 Reynolds Brown.
23 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.
24 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.
25 COUNCILMAN RIZZ0: Aye.

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2 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Tasco.

3 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

4 THE CHIEF CLERK: Council President

5 Verna.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

7 The ayes are 16, the nays are 0. A
8 two-thirds majority having voted in the affirmative,
9 Resolution 020817 has been adopted.

10 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Point of order, Madam
11 President.

12 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Point of order,
13 Councilman Cohen.

14 COUNCILMAN COHEN: I think it would be
15 helpful to everybody to be informed that two-thirds
16 means two-thirds of the total membership of City
17 Council, the full complement 17. It is not
18 two-thirds of the vote cast because, obviously, 11
19 is more than two-thirds if there were 16 Charter
20 Members of City Council. But there having been 17,
21 the requirement under procedure of the Home Rule
22 Charter still requires the same 12 to be considered
23 two-thirds. That's 11 to 5 vote fails the Charter
24 test of two-thirds although it's actually more than
25 two-thirds of the voting members. So I just wanted

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2 to make that explanation. Councilman Rizzo was kind
3 enough to say, "Hey, aren't we doing it wrong
4 because isn't 11 more than two-thirds of 16?" Of
5 course he was right, but the Charter sets forth its
6 own requirements which we must obey.

7 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilman, thank
8 you. It was very thoughtful of you to bring that to
9 our attention. With our guests, I'm sure they were
10 being very quizzical about that, too. Thank you.

11 The Clerk will please read the title of
12 Resolution No. 030034.

13 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution proposing
14 an amendment to the Philadelphia Home Rule relating
15 to the composition of the Board of Pensions and
16 Retirement and providing for the submission of an
17 amendment to the electors of Philadelphia.

18 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
19 recognizes Councilman Nutter.

20 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Madam President, I
21 move the adoption of Resolution No. 030034.

22 (Duly seconded.)

23 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Since Resolution
24 No. 030034 proposes an amendment to the Home Rule
25 Charter, again, it requires the approval of

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2 two-thirds of the Members of this Council.
3 The Clerk will please call the roll.
4 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
5 Blackwell.
6 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.
7 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Clarke.
8 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: (No response.)
9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Continue.
10 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Cohen.
11 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Aye.
12 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman DiCicco.
13 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Aye.
14 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.
15 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.
16 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kenney.
17 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.
18 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
19 Krajewski.
20 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.
21 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Mariano.
22 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Aye.
23 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Miller.
24 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.
25 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Nutter.

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2 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Aye.

3 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman O'Neill.

4 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

5 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Ortiz.

6 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Aye.

7 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

8 Reynolds Brown.

9 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.

10 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.

11 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.

12 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Tasco.

13 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

14 THE CHIEF CLERK: Council President

15 Verna.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

17 The ayes are 15, the nays are 0.

18 Councilman Clarke is just arriving. How

19 do you vote, Councilman Clarke, regarding Resolution

20 No. 030034?

21 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: I'm sorry. I will
22 be voting aye on this particular resolution.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The ayes are

24 16, the nays are 0. A two-thirds majority of

25 Council having voted in the affirmative, Resolution

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2 No. 030034 has been adopted.

3 The Clerk will please read the title of
4 Resolution No. 030106.

5 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution proposing
6 an amendment to the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter
7 to establish that a bid preference can be allowed in
8 the awarding of public contracts to Philadelphia
9 firms and that the extent and nature of the bid
10 preference shall be provided by ordinance.

11 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
12 recognizes Councilman Nutter for a motion.

13 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you, Madam
14 President. I move that Resolution 030106 be
15 adopted.

16 (Duly seconded.)

17 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Since Resolution
18 No. 030106 proposes an amendment to the Home Rule
19 Charter, it requires the approval of two-thirds of
20 the Members of this Council.

21 The Clerk will please call the roll.

22 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
23 Blackwell.

24 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

25 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Clarke.

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2 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.
3 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Cohen.
4 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Aye.
5 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman DiCicco.
6 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Aye.
7 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.
8 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.
9 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kenney.
10 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.
11 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
12 Krajewski.
13 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.
14 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Mariano.
15 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Aye.
16 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Miller.
17 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.
18 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Nutter.
19 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Aye.
20 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman O'Neill.
21 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
22 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Ortiz.
23 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Aye.
24 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
25 Reynolds-Brown.

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2 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.

3 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.

4 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.

5 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Tasco.

6 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

7 THE CHIEF CLERK: Council President

8 Verna.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

10 The ayes are 16, the nays are 0. A
11 two-thirds majority having voted in the affirmative,
12 Resolution No. 030106 has been adopted.

13 The Clerk will please read the title of
14 Resolution No. 030189.

15 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution proposing
16 an amendment to Section 5-300 of the City Charter
17 relating to the functions of the Department of
18 Health by adding a new subsection declaring that the
19 health care is an essential safeguard of human live
20 and dignity and that there is an obligation for the
21 City of Philadelphia to ensure that every resident
22 is able to realize this fundamental right and
23 requiring the Department to prepare a plan for
24 universal health care coverage that permits everyone
25 in the City of Philadelphia to obtain decent health

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2 care on a regular basis.

3 COUNCILMAN COHEN: The Chair recognizes
4 Councilman Cohen for a motion.

5 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Madam President, I
6 move the adoption of the resolution and request the
7 opportunity to speak.

8 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
9 recognizes Councilman Cohen.

10 COUNCILMAN COHEN: What this does is to
11 place a responsibility upon the City Health
12 Department to come up with some thinking and plans
13 for what do we do with the uninsured Philadelphians.
14 Nationally, there are 42 million, at least, and
15 probably by this time 43 or 44 million Americans who
16 have no health insurance at all. What this
17 resolution does is aims to provide a series of plans
18 which the Legislative Body and the Mayor can
19 consider in determining how do we avoid that problem
20 for Philadelphians. Currently, we have health
21 clinics for the very poor that may not be covered by
22 welfare. But for middle class families and for
23 others, there is no coverage at all. This is aimed
24 at making every the responsibility ultimately of the
25 government to make sure there is some health plan

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2 available. What they'll come up with, we don't
3 know, but we think it's time to plan and plan in a
4 way that will produce results ultimately. So this
5 is just the plan to direct the Health Department
6 start spending time designing a program that you
7 recommend to us that Philadelphia people will
8 consider it and then later there may be a decision.
9 As of now, there's several hundred thousand
10 Philadelphians who have no access to health care at
11 all. Thank you, Madam President.

12 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: You're welcome,
13 sir.

14 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Since Resolution
15 No. 030189 proposes an amendment to Home Rule
16 Charter, it requires the approval of two-thirds of
17 the Members of this Council.

18 The Clerk will please call the roll.

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
20 Blackwell.

21 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

22 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Clarke.

23 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.

24 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Cohen.

25 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Aye.

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2 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman DiCicco.
3 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Aye.
4 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.
5 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.
6 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kenney.
7 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.
8 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
9 Krajewski.
10 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.
11 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Mariano.
12 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Aye.
13 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Miller.
14 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.
15 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Nutter.
16 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Aye.
17 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman O'Neill.
18 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
19 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Ortiz.
20 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Aye.
21 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
22 Reynolds Brown.
23 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.
24 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.
25 COUNCILMAN RIZZ0: Aye.

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2 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Tasco.

3 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

4 THE CHIEF CLERK: Council President
5 Verna.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

7 The ayes are 16, the nays are 0. A
8 two-thirds majority having voted in the affirmative,
9 the resolution has been adopted.

10 (Applause.)

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Clerk will
12 please read the title of Resolution No. 030231.

13 THE CHIEF CLERK: A resolution proposing
14 an amendment to the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter
15 to create the Office of the Insurance Public
16 Advocate and providing for submission of the
17 amendment to the electors of Philadelphia.

18 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
19 recognizes Councilman DiCicco.

20 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Thank you, Madam
21 President. I move for the adoption of the
22 resolution.

23 (Duly seconded.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Since
25 Resolution No. 030231 proposes an amendment to the

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2 Home Rule Charter, it requires the approval of
3 two-thirds of the Members of this Council.

4 The Clerk will please call the roll.

5 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

6 Blackwell.

7 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

8 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Clarke.

9 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Madam President, I
10 have to abstain on this particular resolution.

11 Currently serving as the Co-Chair of the Mayor's
12 Automobile Insurance Task Force, we are currently
13 indicating three cases before the Insurance
14 Commissioner, and I think that it would be
15 inappropriate to vote for this resolution today.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank you,
17 Councilman.

18 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Cohen.

19 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Aye.

20 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman DiCicco.

21 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Aye.

22 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

23 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.

24 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kenney.

25 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.

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2 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
3 Krajewski.

4 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.

5 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Mariano.

6 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: I have a quandary
7 here. I'm in favor of this. I signed it, but since
8 my Co-Chair seems to think -- I think I need some
9 legal advice here. If we're going to get in
10 trouble, I don't need anymore trouble. Can I speak
11 to the lawyer? Let me talk to Council's counsel
12 first.

13 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Would you please
14 proceed. We'll come back to Councilman Mariano.

15 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Miller.

16 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.

17 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Nutter.

18 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Aye.

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman O'Neill.

20 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

21 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Ortiz.

22 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Aye.

23 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
24 Reynolds Brown.

25 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.

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2 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.

3 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.

4 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Tasco.

5 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

6 THE CHIEF CLERK: Council President

7 Verna.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

9 Councilman Mariano, have you decided how
10 you're voting?

11 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: I've spoke with my
12 bevy of lawyers in the back here that you so
13 graciously supplied for me and, listen, I'm going to
14 have to abstain, too. Thank you.

15 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: You're welcome.

16 So the ayes are 14. And the record will
17 reflect there were 2 abstention. A two-thirds
18 majority having voted in the affirmative, Resolution
19 No. 030231 has been adopted.

20 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chief Clerk
21 will please read the title of Bill No. 020728 on
22 page 6.

23 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance amending
24 Title 21 of the Philadelphia Code, entitled
25 "Miscellaneous," by adding provisions requiring

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2 members of Board and Commissions of the City of
3 Philadelphia to conduct certain of their
4 deliberations, including deliberations with respect
5 to adjudications pending before the board or
6 commission only at meetings open to the public with
7 certain exceptions and under certain terms and
8 conditions.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This bill
10 having been read on two different days, the question
11 now is shall the bill pass finally?

12 The Clerk will please call the roll.

13 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
14 Blackwell.

15 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: No.

16 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Clarke.

17 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.

18 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Cohen.

19 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Aye.

20 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman DiCicco.

21 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Aye.

22 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

23 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.

24 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kenney.

25 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.

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2 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
3 Krajewski.
4 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.
5 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Mariano.
6 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Aye.
7 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Miller.
8 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.
9 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Nutter.
10 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Aye.
11 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman O'Neill.
12 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
13 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Ortiz.
14 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Aye.
15 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
16 Reynolds-Brown.
17 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.
18 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.
19 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.
20 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Tasco.
21 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.
22 THE CHIEF CLERK: Council President
23 Verna.
24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.
25 The ayes are 15; the nays, 1. This bill

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2 having majority of members voting in the affirmative
3 it passes.

4 The next bill to be called for
5 consideration is Bill No. 030068.

6 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance to amend
7 the Philadelphia Zoning Maps by changing the zoning
8 designations of certain areas of land located within
9 an area bounded by Bridge Street and Frankford
10 Creek.

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This bill
12 having been read on two different days, the question
13 now is shall the bill pass finally?

14 The Clerk will please call the roll.

15 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
16 Blackwell.

17 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

18 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Clarke.

19 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.

20 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Cohen.

21 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Aye.

22 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman DiCicco.

23 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Aye.

24 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

25 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.

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2 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kenney.
3 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.
4 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
5 Krajewski.
6 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.
7 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Mariano.
8 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Aye.
9 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Miller.
10 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.
11 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Nutter.
12 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Aye.
13 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman O'Neill.
14 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
15 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Ortiz.
16 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Aye.
17 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
18 Reynolds Brown.
19 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.
20 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.
21 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.
22 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Tasco.
23 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.
24 THE CHIEF CLERK: Council President
25 Verna.

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2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

3 The ayes are 16, the nays are 0. A
4 majority of all Members of Council having voted in
5 the affirmative, the bill passes.

6 The next bill to be called for
7 consideration is Bill No. 030163.

8 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance amending
9 Chapter 19-1500 of the Philadelphia Code, entitled
10 "Wage and Net Profits Tax," by decreasing in stages
11 the rates of the tax imposed upon certain low income
12 persons and providing for refunds of excess taxes
13 paid, all under certain terms and conditions.

14 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

15 Councilman Nutter, your light is on. Do
16 you care to be recognized.

17 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: No, Madam President.

18 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

19 The Chair recognizes Councilman Cohen.
20 Councilman Cohen, you want to be recognized? We're
21 considering Bill No. 030163.

22 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Yes.

23 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
24 recognizes Councilman Cohen.

25 COUNCILMAN COHEN: This is the bill

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2 which will introduce for the first time fairness and
3 equity in the City wage tax. In the City of
4 Philadelphia, long known as a City that supports
5 labor and low-income people and working people, the
6 City wage tax represents a very regressive, unfair
7 tax because it attacks the poorest citizens no
8 matter how little they make. Whenever anybody earns
9 anything -- for example, originally, until a
10 legislation that I introduced about 20 years ago
11 passed, even an election day worker who worked two
12 days a year earning at that time about \$50 each day
13 for serving on the Election Board had a wage tax
14 deducted. What this means is that -- what
15 Councilman Lucien Blackwell used to describe as the
16 little old ladies with the gray sneakers who would
17 do a little baby-sitting or get a part-time job at a
18 department store nearby or a retail shop, whatever
19 they made to supplement their small social security
20 income would be taxed. At the federal and at the
21 state levels, people with lower incomes are exempt
22 from income taxation. Yet here in Philadelphia,
23 they pay the wage tax. That's very unfair. It's
24 unfair to senior citizens who often times have to
25 get a part-time job to supplement their small social

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2 security payments. Sometimes it's unfair to a
3 single mother to gets a little job and maybe earns
4 5,000 or \$10,000 a year earning it but pays a wage
5 tax.

6 This bill is aimed at using the same
7 standards that the state and federal government use
8 to determine exemption from income taxation. And it
9 introduces fairness and equity in our tax system in
10 Philadelphia.

11 We have a very impressive NTI program,
12 the Neighborhood Transformation Plan. It is aimed
13 at rebuilding neighborhood. But a real problem in
14 the neighborhoods is that retail businesses can't
15 stay in the neighborhood because there isn't enough
16 income in the neighborhood. We know that when you
17 add money to the income of people who live in the
18 neighborhoods in Philadelphia, you increase the
19 purchasing power so that can also be seen as a way
20 of revitalizing neighborhoods. It fits perfectly
21 into a plan to rebuild our neighborhoods, to get
22 supermarkets, retail shoe stores, clothing stores,
23 and so forth into the neighborhoods.

24 It also stimulates business economy
25 because it means that workers from an outside plant

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2 or from an outside retail establishment don't face
3 the loss of 4 to 5 percent in their income if the
4 company moves into Philadelphia neighborhood because
5 once they move into the neighborhood, the wage tax
6 applies.

7 This is a win/win for everybody and it
8 would be forward and historic moment in Philadelphia
9 life. It would indicate that we're fair to
10 everybody.

11 Just before on the universal health
12 matter, we dealt with a matter which is strange in
13 that the very low income have more health protection
14 than the upper income and the middle group that.
15 That resolution looking for a Home Rule amendment
16 was aimed at giving fairness to middle-income
17 workers. This bill is aimed at giving fairness to
18 the low-income workers by increasing their income.

19 In the past, whenever this matter has
20 been voted upon in City Council 12, that's
21 three-quarters of the current Members have indicated
22 their support. Eleven of them have voted for this
23 bill when it was before the Committee on the Whole
24 in an earlier version. The earlier version, this
25 bill over a six-year period would cut the wage tax a

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2 half percent each year. But the first time the City
3 would have to pay out money to refund wage tax
4 payments under this bill would not occur until 2006.
5 So that the City has plenty of time to make the
6 plans. It is my judgment -- I can't say I can prove
7 it by hard facts. It's my judgment that this bill
8 will not cost any money but will actually make money
9 for the City because it will produce a healthier
10 City. But in the event that the Mayor's concerns
11 proved to be true and there is some kind of a loss,
12 it the won't be very much.

13 But that's the reason for this version
14 of the bill which sets this working date two years
15 later. It gives the Mayor two more years, any
16 Mayor. The current Mayor or whoever is Mayor at the
17 time. This bill comes into life, gives them two
18 more years to plan the program.

19 It's the road to fairness and justice,
20 and I point out that 12 of the 16 Councilmembers
21 have supported this in the past; one, through
22 sponsorship of the original bill, and 11 who voted
23 for it for the Finance Committee. Whenever there's
24 been a vote, it's had strong support in City
25 Council. I hope that will be the case today. Thank

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2 you, Madam president.

3 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: You're welcome,
4 sir.

5 The Chair recognizes Councilman Ortiz.

6 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Madam Chair, I'll be
7 brief. We have given tax relief here to the very
8 rich and the upper echelons of society. This
9 affects those individuals that make \$30,000 or less.
10 I suggest that my colleagues support this
11 legislation. Thank you.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: You're
13 welcome.

14 The Chair recognizes Councilman Kenney.

15 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Thank you, Madam
16 President. I know that our Rules provide for the
17 opportunity to propose a motion to table any bill
18 that's before this Council on final passage.
19 Frankly, I don't understand how that rule
20 historically ever came about. I'm sure there must
21 be some legislative history as to why in this
22 particular Rule of Order that we follow here, why a
23 motion to table exists at all. I really think
24 people need to know, especially on an issue as
25 important as this how we stand on things, what we

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2 believe and whether or not we're willing to cast our
3 vote based on our beliefs. I don't think I've every
4 -- and correct me if I'm wrong; I think the record
5 will. But I don't think I've ever proposed a motion
6 to table in almost 12 years that I've been here. I
7 don't mind taking a stand and taking a position and
8 also taking some grief for it or some praise for it
9 if in fact it's due to me. But I think that we
10 really need on this important issue to let ourselves
11 and let our constituents know where we stand. And
12 if a motion to table is issued, I duly thing we're
13 putting our constituents and voters and taxpayers at
14 a severe disadvantage not knowing where we stand on
15 a particular issue as important as this. Thank you,
16 Madam President.

17 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: You're welcome.

18 The Chair recognizes Councilman Clarke.

19 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Madam
20 President. Madam President, while I am truly
21 supportive of this particular initiative
22 conceptually, one of the concerns that I have, first
23 of all, is that we didn't do this before we did Bill
24 92 because I think that, frankly speaking, providing
25 relief to those most needy should have been a part

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2 of our earlier agenda as it relates to wage tax
3 cuts. But I do have a couple concerns about the
4 timing of this. One is the proposed state budget
5 where Governor Rendell, if he's successful in
6 getting reductions through the state for wage taxes
7 for the citizens of Philadelphia, hopefully below 4
8 percent, that obviously will have a substantial
9 impact, not only on low-income individuals, but
10 people across the City of Philadelphia. And I'm not
11 sure how this particular bill impacts upon that as
12 we move ahead.

13 So I, frankly speaking, would have liked
14 for the sponsor to hold this particular bill. And
15 I'm not suggesting that he's going to do that, but I
16 would have like to have seen him hold this because I
17 am interested in the issue. Until after the State
18 finishes its budget process, particularly since one
19 of the primary focuses of that is wage tax cuts for
20 citizens for the City of Philadelphia.

21 The other issue is as it relates to its
22 impact on the Five-Year Plan, which I understand
23 that we will probably have to resubmit a new
24 Five-Year Plan. I'm not clear how this will impact
25 the out years. In the earlier version, as the

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2 Councilman indicated, there was a substantial --
3 based on Administration projections -- substantial
4 increase in the first fiscal year. And fortunately
5 the Councilman has moved this process back, but it
6 still could impact on the Five-Year Plan and I'm
7 somewhat concerned without seeing an analysis of
8 what that would be on that Five-Year Plan, which
9 also we haven't determined what it will ultimately
10 be, us locking ourselves into some legislation that
11 can impact on that without knowing what ultimately
12 both the State and the five-year projection will be
13 for this particular bill.

14 I would like to ask -- I don't
15 anticipate that I'll receive a positive response,
16 but I would like to ask the sponsor to hold the bill
17 until we can, at a minimum, receive the Five-Year
18 Plan next, I believe, and hopefully, most ideally,
19 to wait until the State is finished in its
20 deliberations on this wage tax cut proposal for the
21 citizens of Philadelphia.

22 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Councilman Cohen.

23 COUNCILMAN COHEN: I would not want to
24 wait until the State acted. I have no idea when the
25 State will act. I don't know how they will accept

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2 Governor Rendell's proposal. I hope Governor
3 Rendell's wage tax proposal will incorporate this
4 idea because it makes sense, it's good judgment; and
5 if we pass it, it will be an indication to the Mayor
6 that that's the way he ought to go instead of having
7 the same kind of wage tax cut that occurred before
8 that applied to everybody and gave very little
9 relief to the people in the neighborhoods and to
10 low-income workers. So I don't think it's wise to
11 wait. I think we've got to act. But in the event
12 that there were some unforeseen great problems, the
13 beauty of this bill is that it gives us plenty of
14 time to correct it. In the Caucus, I talked about
15 the Mayor having followed the Mariano principle.
16 Councilman Mariano introduced a bill that might
17 affect revenue cuts a couple of years down the road,
18 and the Mayor said, "Yes, I can sign it because this
19 if something develops and we have to revisit the
20 question, we have the time to do it."

21 So I suggest we have plenty of time to
22 revisit this question if it ever prove necessary.
23 As I said in my opening statement, actually no
24 refunds will be paid until either the end of Year 6
25 which is 3 and a half years from now, or Year 7

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2 which is 4 years from now. Plenty of time to
3 reconsider changes. In life, we learn things occur
4 to change the situation day by day. Although
5 everything seems permanent today, by tomorrow it may
6 look altogether different.

7 But this sets a plan in motion, it sets
8 Philadelphia on a fairness course, and it will be
9 ample time to make any changes if ever any were
10 needed. I would hope not because I think this, for
11 the first time, as I said before, introduces
12 fairness into the tax structure. Thank you.

13 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you,
14 Councilman.

15 The Chair recognizes Councilman Clarke.

16 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Madam
17 President. I'll try not to delay the issue. A
18 couple of things in response to my colleague's
19 statement. One was it's impact as it related to the
20 State and your preference that the State would use
21 this as a framework. I want to ask the question,
22 have we talked to anyone from the Governor's Budget
23 Office to talk about him adopting the principles of
24 this particular bill. As the State deliberates on
25 this --

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2 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Not as yet because
3 there's no reason to until the Council takes action.

4 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Well, I've never
5 known to be a barrier from having a discussion.

6 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Because it would have
7 no meaning to propose an idea that hasn't taking any
8 form. If we pass this bill, which I hope we will,
9 and the Mayor signs it, I will certainly be moving
10 in the direction of Governor Rendell very, very
11 quickly because it will be expression of what
12 Philadelphia desires. And that's what I would hope
13 to do, and this will indicate whether there is
14 sufficient support in City Council for that bill.

15 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: I've never known the
16 passage of the bill to be barrier for dialog. So to
17 suggest that we have pass the bill before we can
18 have a dialog with the Governor's Office --

19 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Well, if you know
20 Governor Rendell, you know you're waisting your time
21 unless you have something very specific. And very
22 specifically, we'll have this bill and say "This is
23 the will of City Council," hopefully, also the will
24 of the Mayor, and then we'll have a strong point.
25 At least that's my point of view. But I would have

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2 no objection if you raised it today with Governor
3 Rendell. I think the more people that raise it, the
4 better. But my view is that we have to have action
5 locally or Governor Rendell has an easy answer. He
6 says, "What are you talk about? That's your idea.
7 Tell me what the City feels."

8 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: I don't know that
9 particular Governor. I found the Governor to be
10 open to debate. He may not ultimately agree with
11 your proposal, but I've never known him not to hear
12 it, whatever stage --

13 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Well, he can hear
14 whatever, but I'm talking about Philadelphia policy,
15 not Governor policy. I don't understand why we
16 should wait to have the Governor of Pennsylvania
17 decide whether it's a good thing. What we are
18 trying to do is formulate policy covering the people
19 of Philadelphia. He is now the Governor; he's not
20 the Mayor. And we want to go to him in a strong
21 position, not a weak-kneed position on our knees,
22 saying "Dear Mr. Mayor, would you consider at some
23 later point the idea of helping the poor folks who
24 earn small sums of money in Philadelphia to exempt
25 them from the wage tax."

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2 I want to go to him saying, "This City
3 Council has spoken on this issue." They represent
4 the people of Philadelphia, as they're elected
5 represent. We don't wait until Governors or Mayors
6 tell us what to do. We have a responsibility to our
7 constituents to express our opinion and then to
8 fight for that, and that's what I intend to do.

9 (Applause.)

10 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Councilman, I don't
11 want to get into a spirited debate with you, because
12 I surely would lose.

13 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Well, I think you
14 would.

15 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: I'm simply
16 suggesting that given the fact that we have a money
17 problem on the state level, on the national level,
18 on the municipal level, that we sit down and have
19 some reasonable dialog before we bankrupt the City.
20 That's all I'm asking you to do.

21 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Well, how come with
22 growing deficits with the elimination of surplus at
23 the federal level, the President of the United
24 States is still calling for tax cuts for the rich?
25 I mean, that's happening now, and we're not getting

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2 any tax relief for working people. It's about time
3 we got some tax relief.

4 And it won't bankrupt Philadelphia. As
5 I said before, it's going to strengthen particularly
6 your district, the non-affluent part of your
7 district -- Councilman Clarke has a district of both
8 rich and poor. He probably combines the -- he has
9 in his district the richest part Philadelphia and
10 the poorest. But for the poorest areas we need
11 this. We've got to strengthen our neighborhoods
12 because we have, not only loss the jobs in the City,
13 we have the loss of people.

14 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: The Chair
15 recognizes Councilman Goode for a point of order.

16 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Madam President, I
17 call for the question.

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: This bill
19 having been read on two different days, the question
20 now is shall the bill pass finally?

21 The Clerk will please call the roll.

22 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
23 Blackwell.

24 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

25 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Clarke.

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2 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: No.

3 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Cohen.

4 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Aye.

5 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman DiCicco.

6 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Aye.

7 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

8 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.

9 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kenney.

10 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.

11 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

12 Krajewski.

13 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: No.

14 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Mariano.

15 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Aye.

16 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Miller.

17 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.

18 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Nutter.

19 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Aye.

20 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman O'Neill.

21 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: No.

22 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Ortiz.

23 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Aye.

24 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

25 Reynolds Brown.

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2 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: No.

3 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.

4 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: No.

5 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Tasco.

6 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

7 THE CHIEF CLERK: Council President

8 Verna.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

10 The ayes are 11, the nays are 5. The
11 majority of all members having voted in the
12 affirmative, the bill passes.

13 (Applause.)

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The next bill
15 to be called up is Bill No. 020076.

16 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance providing
17 for the submission to the qualified electors of the
18 City of Philadelphia of an amendment to Section
19 2-102 of the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter related
20 to redistricting of the City to revise the
21 boundaries of the councilmanic districts after each
22 decennial census.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
24 recognizes Councilman Nutter.

25 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you, Madam

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2 President. Madam President, with regard to Bill
3 020076, Madam President, we know from the earlier
4 vote on Resolution 020084 that those are companion
5 bills to each other; it's a bill and a resolution.
6 What I'm asking at the moment, Madam President, is
7 if we could hold Bill 020076. And what I would ask
8 is, because of a number of questions were raised by
9 my colleagues, if I could subsequently make a motion
10 to ask for a reconsideration of the vote on
11 Resolution 020084 in order to allow that resolution
12 to be placed back on the Calendar. And I understand
13 that at that point I need to have further
14 conversation with Councilmembers about some of the
15 particulars of the redistricting resolution.

16 So I make that motion for
17 reconsideration of the vote on Resolution 020084 for
18 the purpose of putting it back on the Calendar.

19 (Duly seconded.)

20 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: It has been moved
21 and seconded that Resolution 020084 be reconsidered
22 and it be placed on the Calendar again.

23 All in favor will say aye.

24 (Aye.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those opposed?

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2 (No response.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Verna: The ayes have
4 it, and the motion carries.

5 Councilman Nutter, it's your request
6 then that both the resolution and the bill be held
7 on the Calendar?

8 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Yes, Madam
9 President. Given the vote and the discussion with
10 my colleagues, I am not asking for a vote on
11 Resolution 020084. The previous motion was just for
12 reconsideration of that vote in order to allow the
13 resolution to be placed back on the Calendar
14 available for subsequent action at another point in
15 time, but not today.

16 COUNCILWOMAN Verna: Understood. Thank
17 you very much.

18 The Clerk will now read Bill No. 020621.

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance amending
20 Title 2 Philadelphia Code, entitled "City County
21 Consolidation," by abolishing the Board of Revision
22 of Taxes and reassigning its powers, functions and
23 duties to three newly created City agencies to be
24 known as the Board of Property Assessment Appeals
25 and Review, the Property Assessment Oversight Board,

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2 and the Office of Property Assessment, all under
3 terms and conditions.

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

7 The Clerk will please call the roll --
8 I'm sorry.

9 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Point of order.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Councilman
11 O'Neill.

12 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: I'd like to on the
13 record ask Councilman Nutter, the sponsor to hold
14 this for a week.

15 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Councilman O'Neill,
16 thank you very much for your question. I know that
17 you and I had an opportunity to talk very briefly
18 about this. And under the circumstances and given
19 the number of things that we've done here today, I
20 would certainly be pleased to accommodate the
21 request for a one-week delay on this particular
22 matter, and I look forward to any opportunity that
23 we might have to further discuss the matter. Thank
24 you.

25 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you. So Bill

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2 No. 020621 will be held.

3 The Clerk will please read the title of
4 Bill No. 020810.

5 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance providing
6 for the submission to the qualified electors of the
7 City of Philadelphia of an amendment to Section
8 6-400 of the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter,
9 relating to authorized audits by the auditing
10 department of certain agencies performing services
11 or receiving funding from the City.

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

15 The Clerk will please call the roll.

16 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
17 Blackwell.

18 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Clarke.

20 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.

21 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Cohen.

22 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Aye.

23 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman DiCicco.

24 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Aye.

25 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

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2 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.

3 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kenney.

4 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.

5 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

6 Krajewski.

7 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.

8 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Mariano.

9 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Aye.

10 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Miller.

11 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: (No response.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Is

13 Councilwoman Miller in the room?

14 (No response.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Please

16 continue.

17 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Nutter.

18 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Aye.

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman O'Neill.

20 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

21 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Ortiz.

22 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Aye.

23 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

24 Reynolds Brown.

25 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.

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2 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.

3 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.

4 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Tasco.

5 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

6 THE CHIEF CLERK: Council President

7 Verna.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

9 The ayes are 15, the nays are zero. A
10 majority of all members having voted in the
11 affirmative, the bill passes.

12 The next bill to be called for
13 consideration is Bill No. 030016.

14 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance providing
15 for the submission to the qualified electors of the
16 City of Philadelphia of an amendment to the
17 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter relating to the
18 composition of the Board of Pensions and Retirement.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This bill
20 having been read on two different days, the question
21 now is shall the bill pass finally?

22 The Clerk will please call the roll.

23 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
24 Blackwell.

25 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

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2 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Clarke.

3 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.

4 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Cohen.

5 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Aye.

6 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman DiCicco.

7 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Aye.

8 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

9 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.

10 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kenney.

11 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.

12 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

13 Krajewski.

14 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.

15 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Mariano.

16 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Aye.

17 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Miller.

18 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: (No response.)

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Nutter.

20 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Aye.

21 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman O'Neill.

22 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

23 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Ortiz.

24 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Aye.

25 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

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2 Reynolds Brown.

3 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.

4 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.

5 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.

6 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Tasco.

7 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

8 THE CHIEF CLERK: Council President

9 Verna.

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

11 The ayes are 15, the nays are 0. A
12 majority of all Members of Council having voted in
13 the affirmative, the bill passes.

14 The next bill to be called for
15 consideration is Bill No. 030097.

16 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance amending
17 Title 17 of the Philadelphia Code, entitled
18 "Contracts and Procurement," by adding a new Section
19 17-109 entitled "Local Bidding Preferences,"
20 providing for an establishment of a bidding
21 preference on City contracts for Philadelphia
22 businesses, all under certain terms and conditions.

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

1 05/01/03 - STATED - 2ND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE

2 The Clerk will please call the roll.

3 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

4 Blackwell.

5 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

6 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Clarke.

7 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.

8 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Cohen.

9 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Aye.

10 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman DiCicco.

11 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Aye.

12 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

13 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.

14 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kenney.

15 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.

16 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

17 Krajewski.

18 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Mariano.

20 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Aye.

21 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Miller.

22 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: (No response.)

23 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Nutter.

24 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Aye.

25 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman O'Neill.

1 05/01/03 - STATED - 2ND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE

2 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

3 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Ortiz.

4 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Aye.

5 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

6 Reynolds Brown.

7 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.

8 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.

9 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.

10 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Tasco.

11 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

12 THE CHIEF CLERK: Council President

13 Verna.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

15 The ayes are 15, the nays are 0. A
16 majority of all Members of Council having voted in
17 the affirmative, the bill passes.

18 The next bill to be called for
19 consideration is Bill No. 030098.

20 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance providing
21 for the submission to the qualified electors of the
22 City of Philadelphia of an amendment to the
23 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter to establish that a
24 bid preference can be allowed in the awarding of
25 public contracts to Philadelphia firms.

1 05/01/03 - STATED - 2ND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This bill
3 having been read on two different days, the question
4 now is shall the bill pass finally?

5 The Clerk will please call the roll.

6 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
7 Blackwell.

8 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

9 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Clarke.

10 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.

11 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Cohen.

12 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Aye.

13 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman DiCicco.

14 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Aye.

15 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

16 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.

17 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kenney.

18 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

20 Krajewski.

21 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.

22 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Mariano.

23 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Aye.

24 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Miller.

25 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: (No response).

1 05/01/03 - STATED - 2ND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE

2 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Nutter.

3 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Aye.

4 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman O'Neill.

5 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

6 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Ortiz.

7 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Aye.

8 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

9 Reynolds Brown.

10 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.

11 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.

12 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.

13 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Tasco.

14 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

15 THE CHIEF CLERK: Council President

16 Verna.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

18 The ayes are 15, the nays are 0. A
19 majority of all Members of Council having voted in
20 the affirmative, the bill passes.

21 The next bill to be called for
22 consideration is Bill No. 030178.

23 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance providing
24 for the submission to the qualified electors of City
25 of Philadelphia of an amendment to Section 5-300 of

1 05/01/03 - STATED - 2ND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE
2 the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter by adding a new
3 subsection as approved by resolution of the City
4 Council requiring the Health Department to prepare a
5 plan for universal health care coverage that permits
6 everyone in the City of Philadelphia to obtain
7 decent healthcare on a regular basis.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This bill
9 having been read on two different days, the question
10 now is shall the bill pass finally?

11 The Clerk will please call the roll.

12 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
13 Blackwell.

14 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

15 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Clarke.

16 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.

17 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Cohen.

18 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Aye.

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman DiCicco.

20 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Aye.

21 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

22 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.

23 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kenney.

24 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.

25 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

1 05/01/03 - STATED - 2ND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE
2 Krajewski.
3 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.
4 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Mariano.
5 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Aye.
6 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Miller.
7 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.
8 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Nutter.
9 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Aye.
10 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman O'Neill.
11 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.
12 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Ortiz.
13 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Aye.
14 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
15 Reynolds Brown.
16 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.
17 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.
18 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.
19 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Tasco.
20 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.
21 THE CHIEF CLERK: Council President
22 Verna.
23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.
24 The ayes are 16, the nays are 0. A
25 majority of all Members of Council having voted in

1 05/01/03 - STATED - 2ND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE

2 the affirmative, the bill passes.

3 (Applause.)

4 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The Chair
5 recognizes Councilwoman Miller.

6 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Thank you, Madam
7 President. I would like to be recorded as voting
8 aye on those bills that I missed on Page 8. I don't
9 whether it's the entire page.

10 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: The record will
11 reflect that Councilwoman Miller is voting aye on
12 Bill Nos. 020810, 030016, 030097, 030098.

13 The Clerk will please read the title of
14 Bill No. 030220.

15 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance providing
16 for the submission to the qualified electors of the
17 City of Philadelphia of an amendment to the
18 Philadelphia Home Rule Charter creating Office of
19 the Insurance Public Advocate as approved by
20 resolution of the City Council .

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

24 The Clerk will please call the roll.

25 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

1 05/01/03 - STATED - 2ND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE
2 Blackwell.
3 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.
4 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Clarke.
5 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Madam President, I
6 abstain for the aforementioned reasons.
7 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Cohen.
8 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Aye.
9 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman DiCicco.
10 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Aye.
11 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.
12 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.
13 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kenney.
14 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.
15 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
16 Krajewski.
17 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.
18 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Mariano.
19 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: I abstain for the
20 aforementioned reasons.
21 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Miller.
22 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.
23 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Nutter.
24 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Aye.
25 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman O'Neill.

1 05/01/03 - STATED - 2ND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE

2 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

3 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Ortiz.

4 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Aye.

5 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

6 Reynolds Brown.

7 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.

8 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.

9 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.

10 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Tasco.

11 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

12 THE CHIEF CLERK: Council President

13 Verna.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

15 The ayes are 14 and there are 2

16 abstentions. A majority of all Members having voted

17 in the affirmative, the bill passes.

18 The next bill to be called for

19 consideration is Bill No. 020809.

20 THE CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance amending

21 Title 9 of the Philadelphia Code relating to

22 regulation of business trades and professions by

23 amending Chapter 9-1300, entitled "Home Inspection

24 Business," by making certain changes to license

25 requirements, the license fee, the required conduct,

1 05/01/03 - STATED - 2ND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE

2 and other provisions, all under certain terms and
3 conditions.

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

7 The Clerk will please call the roll.

8 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
9 Blackwell.

10 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

11 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Clarke.

12 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.

13 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Cohen.

14 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Aye.

15 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman DiCicco.

16 COUNCILMAN DICICCO: Aye.

17 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

18 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.

19 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kenney.

20 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.

21 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman
22 Krajewski.

23 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.

24 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Mariano.

25 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Aye.

1 05/01/03 - STATED - 2ND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE

2 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Miller.

3 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.

4 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Nutter.

5 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Aye.

6 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman O'Neill.

7 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

8 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Ortiz.

9 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Aye.

10 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

11 Reynolds Brown.

12 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.

13 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.

14 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.

15 THE CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman Tasco.

16 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

17 THE CHIEF CLERK: Council President

18 Verna.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

20 The ayes are 16, the nays are 0. A

21 majority of all Members of Council having voted in

22 the affirmative, the bill passes.

23 Concludes our Calendar for today.

24 Are there any speeches on the part of

25 the Minority.

1 05/01/03 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 (No response.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Are there any
4 speeches on the part of the majority?

5 The Chair recognizes Councilman Ortiz.

6 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Thank you, Madam
7 Chair. Madam Chair, today at 12:01 this morning,
8 the United States navy left the island of Vieques
9 forever.

10 (Applause.)

11 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: After 60 years of
12 constant bombardment, military practices,
13 destruction of the environment, the fauna, the sea,
14 United States turned over those lands that they were
15 using for those practices to the people of Puerto
16 Rico.

17 This City Council in 1993, I think it
18 was, was the first City Council in the United States
19 to pass a resolution asking for the Navy withdrawal
20 and the secession of those practices. Today my
21 friends on the island of Vieques and Puerto Ricans
22 all over the United States are rejoicing. And the
23 only thing that could have kept me from being there
24 with them in this celebration is the fact that we
25 are now in the middle of primary. But

1 05/01/03 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 congratulations. And I want to thank President
3 George Bush for keeping the promise that he made
4 once he took office.

5 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you.

6 The Chair recognizes Councilman Cohen.

7 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Madam President, I
8 never thought I would be alive even into well toward
9 the next century before I would hear Councilman
10 Ortiz praise President Bush.

11 (Laughter.)

12 COUNCILMAN COHEN: But congratulations,
13 Councilman Ortiz. You worked hard and Puerto Rico
14 has and they've won and it's a great thing for
15 people everywhere, not only for Puerto Rico. So we
16 salute you.

17 But Madam President, I would like to
18 yield the balance of my time to Lynn Collins, a
19 tenant of Dignity Housing. It's a fine institution
20 that is being threatened with non-survival. If they
21 may have two minutes to address us, I would very
22 much appreciate it, Madam President.

23 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Point of order.

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The Chair
25 recognizes Councilman Kenney for a point of order.

1 05/01/03 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Thank you, Madam
3 President. I just want to remind Members of the
4 Rules Committee, we'll be starting at 1:00 in about
5 15 minutes and I wish you would hang around and be
6 available so we can get started on time. Thank you.

7 MS. COLLINS: Madam President and to all
8 the Members of Council, I'm a resident of Dignity
9 Housing who is in trouble of losing their funding,
10 \$250,000. We're going to be facing seeing women and
11 children out on the street if we don't get this
12 money. This is a program that has helped me to find
13 a way to self-sufficiency and it has given me a
14 reason to have dignity again, to want to become a
15 law abiding citizen and to want to vote and to want
16 to do the right thing. And what we're asking is
17 that City Council give some consideration. We all
18 have children and we can't see any of them out on
19 the street. We feel one child that is homeless is
20 one child too many. And we're just asking for
21 consideration that \$250,000 to just please help us
22 to save our program.

23 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Thank you very
24 much. We're all in favor of the Dignity Housing.
25 And I think that your group should come in at the

1 05/01/03 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 time of the public hearings for OHCD, and I urge you
3 to do that.

4 The Chair recognizes Councilwoman Tasco
5 for a motion.

6 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you, Madam
7 president. And just to say to those people who are
8 here from Dignity that Councilwoman Miller and my
9 office both have been -- both offices along with
10 Council offices have been working with the
11 Administration of Dignity to see how we work this
12 out. So all Councilmembers are aware of this, as
13 the President said. But a number our of
14 Councilmembers are working with Dignity on this. .

15 (Applause.)

16 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: I move that Council
17 stand adjourned until Thursday, May 8 at 10:00 a.m.

18 (Duly seconded.)

19 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: It has been moved
20 and properly seconded that Council stand adjourned
21 until Thursday, May 8th at 10:00 a.m.

22 All in favor will say aye.

23 (Aye.)

24 COUNCILWOMAN VERNA: Those opposed?

25 (No response.)

1 05/01/03 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The ayes have
3 it, and the motion carries.

4 (Council adjourned at 12:48 p.m.)

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

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing
proceedings of the Council of the City of
Philadelphia of May 1, 2003, were reported fully and
accurately by me, and that this is a correct
transcript of the same.

RE: STATED

Lisa C. Bradley, RPR
and Notary Public