

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
COMMITTEE ON LICENSES AND INSPECTIONS

Room 400, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Monday, May 19, 2025
10:20 a.m.

PRESENT:

COUNCILMAN MICHAEL DRISCOLL, CHAIR
COUNCILMAN MARK SQUILLA, VICE-CHAIR
COUNCILWOMAN JAMIE GAUTHIER
COUNCILMAN ANTHONY PHILLIPS

ALSO PRESENT:

COUNCILWOMAN NINA AHMAD
COUNCILMAN NICOLAS O'ROURKE

BILLS: 250292, 240666

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2 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL: I

3 now note that the hour has come.

4 Ms. McDonald, will you

5 please call the roll to take

6 attendance. Members that are in

7 attendance will please indicate

8 that you are present when your name

9 is called.

10 THE CLERK:

11 Councilmember Gilmore Richardson.

12 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

13 RICHARDSON: Present.

14 THE CLERK:

15 Councilmember Jones.

16 (No response.)

17 THE CLERK:

18 Councilmember Gauthier.

19 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

20 Present.

21 THE CLERK:

22 Councilmember Phillips.

23 (No response.)

24 THE CLERK:

1 Councilmember O'Rourke.

2 COUNCILMAN O'ROURKE:

3 Present.

4 THE CLERK: Vice-Chair

5 Squilla.

6 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

7 Present.

8 THE CLERK: Chair

9 Driscoll.

10 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

11 Present. Thank you. A quorum of

12 the Committee is present and the

13 hearing is now called to order.

14 This is the public hearing of the

15 Committee on Licenses and

16 Inspections regarding Bill No.

17 250292 and Bill No. 240666.

18 Ms. McDonald, will you

19 please read the title of the bills.

20 THE CLERK: Bill No.

21 250292, an ordinance amending

22 Chapter 9-600 of The Philadelphia

23 Code, entitled "Service and Other

24 Businesses" to add business hour

1 restrictions in the 1st, 7th and
2 8th Councilmanic Districts, all
3 under certain terms and conditions.

4 Bill No. 240666, an
5 ordinance amending Chapter 9-1000
6 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled
7 "Trades" by adding requirements and
8 establishing certain limits related
9 to electrical contractors, all
10 under certain terms and conditions.

11 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

12 All right. We're going to start
13 with Bill No. 240666.

14 Before we begin, I would
15 like to recognize Councilmember
16 Nina Ahmad.

17 COUNCILWOMAN AHMAD: I
18 don't have a microphone. Good
19 morning, Chair and members of the
20 Committee. I'm Councilmember
21 Dr. Nina Ahmad. Thank you so much
22 for the opportunity to speak today
23 in strong support of Bill 240666.
24 Introduced by my colleague,

1 Councilmember Driscoll, Chair of
2 this Committee.

3 This bill is a critical
4 companion to legislation I
5 introduced, Bill 240674, which
6 establishes new certification
7 requirements for electric vehicle
8 maintenance in the City of
9 Philadelphia.

10 We passed Bill 240674 to
11 ensure that as electric vehicles
12 become more common, our workforce
13 is properly trained, our residents
14 are protected and our transition to
15 clean transportation is both safe
16 and equitable. But in order for
17 that vision to become reality, we
18 need a mechanism for enforcement.
19 And that's exactly what Bill 240666
20 provides.

21 Without this bill, the
22 Department of Licenses and
23 Inspections cannot update the
24 eCLIPSE licensing system, notify

1 affected licenseholders or properly
2 enforce the new standards that took
3 effect on April 1, 2025. That
4 leaves our legislation vulnerable
5 and leaves Philadelphians without
6 the protections they deserve.

7 We know that EVs are the
8 future and this transition must be
9 accessible and safe for all
10 communities, not just who can
11 afford the latest technology or
12 navigate complex licensing rules.
13 Clear enforceable standards help
14 level the playing field and ensure
15 small contractors and workers,
16 especially in historically
17 underrepresented neighborhoods,
18 have the training, clarity and
19 opportunity they need to thrive in
20 this growing green economy.

21 This bill may be
22 technical in nature, but the impact
23 is far-reaching. It strengthens
24 our climate policy, supports

1 economic opportunity and makes
2 government work the way it's
3 supposed to. I respectfully urge
4 the Committee to support Bill
5 240666 out with a favorable
6 recommendation so we can move it to
7 the Council floor and give L&I the
8 tools they need to uphold the law.
9 Thank you.

10 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

11 And thank you, Councilmember, for
12 your hard work on this important
13 bill.

14 Ms. McDonald, will you
15 please call the first panel we have
16 to testify this morning on Bill No.
17 240666.

18 THE CLERK: Alex Palmer.

19 (Witness approached
20 witness table.)

21 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

22 Good morning. Please state your
23 name for the record and proceed
24 with your testimony.

1 MR. PALMER: Good
2 morning, Chairperson Driscoll and
3 members of the Licenses and
4 Inspections Committee. My name is
5 Alex Palmer and I am the Director
6 of Enforcement for the Department
7 of Licenses and Inspections.

8 Today I'm here to
9 provide testimony on Bill No.
10 240666, introduced by Chairperson
11 Driscoll on behalf of Council
12 President Johnson, which would
13 amend Title 9 of The Philadelphia
14 Code, to create additional
15 licensing certifications for
16 electrical contractors who seek to
17 repair and install electric vehicle
18 chargers.

19 The department is
20 supportive of this bill as it
21 builds upon the work of both the
22 department and this Committee. On
23 September 4, 2024, Mayor Parker
24 signed Bill No. 240500 into law,

1 which created a process by which
2 the Department of Licenses and
3 Inspections could ensure that
4 electric vehicle charging stations
5 were safely and efficiently
6 installed.

7 This current bill, or
8 this bill introduced by
9 Councilmember Ahmad, was an
10 important first step in regulating
11 electric vehicle charging stations.
12 But unfortunately, the department
13 was not able to take additional
14 enforcement action against
15 improperly installed charging
16 stations and those who install them
17 without a licensing requirement.

18 This bill would allow the
19 department to ensure that only
20 those contractors who have an
21 additional EV certification are
22 able to do this technically
23 challenging work safely and
24 efficiently.

1 We respectfully request
2 that this legislation be reported
3 out of the Committee favorably so
4 that we may begin this important
5 work.

6 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:
7 Alex, thank you for your testimony.

8 Members, do we have any
9 questions for the panel?

10 (No response.)

11 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:
12 Hearing none, thank you for your
13 testimony.

14 MR. PALMER: Thank you.

15 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:
16 Ms. McDonald, would you please call
17 the next witness on Bill No.
18 240666.

19 THE CLERK: Larry McCray
20 and Ignatius Fletcher, Jr.

21 (Witnesses approached
22 witness table.)

23 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:
24 Good morning. Please state your

1 name for the record and proceed
2 with your testimony.

3 MR. FLETCHER: Good
4 morning. My name is Ignatius
5 Fletcher, Jr. I'm a 20-year member
6 of Local Union 98. I'm a fourth
7 generation electrician and I'm
8 currently an instructor at Local 98
9 Apprentice Training Atei in an
10 effort to reduce greenhouse gas
11 emissions and mitigate the negative
12 effects of climate change for
13 future generations of Philadelphia
14 residents.

15 The transition from
16 traditional automobiles to electric
17 vehicles is a necessity and in
18 order to accomplish these hefty,
19 attainable goals, the need for an
20 increased EV charging network and
21 maintenance workforce is
22 imperative. Both the EV charging
23 network and workforce is important
24 to Local 98 and the IBEW in our

1 city.

2 Apprentice training
3 through education and training in
4 modern technologies such as EV
5 charging systems will work towards
6 attaining the goal of a better and
7 cleaner environment. These goals
8 come with the caveat of having the
9 equipment installed safely, on time
10 and reliably.

11 The IBEW and Local 98
12 are prepared with a skilled and
13 educated workforce that only the
14 IBEW can produce. I have been a
15 full-time instructor for over nine
16 years and have been involved in
17 many aspects of the electrical
18 industry, including safety,
19 National Electric Code, life safety
20 systems and emerging technologies.

21 Emerging technology
22 courses I teach to apprentices and
23 journeymen alike, including
24 photovoltaics, which is solar,

1 lighting control systems, energy
2 storage, micro grid training as
3 well as EV charging systems. EV
4 charging systems is a technology
5 that the IBEW and NECA have been
6 focused on for many years now.

7 Electrical vehicle
8 training program, EVTP, is the
9 first certification course for
10 installing electric vehicle
11 equipment in the U.S. and was
12 developed in 2011. My father, a
13 retired member and instructor, was
14 involved with the development and
15 adoption of that course's used in
16 the IBEW and when it was first
17 started.

18 IBEW and NECA partnered
19 together to install the first
20 charging system in Montgomery
21 County in 2011 at King of Prussia
22 Plaza. While EVs and its charging
23 equipment may be a new technology
24 to many, it is something that we

1 have been involved with for quite
2 some time. The key to any
3 electrical installation or
4 maintenance is to have a
5 knowledgeable and experienced
6 electrician working on and
7 completing the project.

8 Our IBEW Local 98
9 electricians understand the
10 challenges and safety concerns that
11 come with this equipment.
12 Traditional troubleshooting and
13 testing techniques are not enough,
14 and in many cases will not work on
15 EV charging systems.

16 Testing of this
17 equipment will require it to be
18 energized in order to gain proper
19 readings and information. Only a
20 qualified person is able to
21 complete these projects in a safe
22 and timely manner with the
23 reliability that the equipment will
24 work as intended.

1 A qualified person, as
2 defined by NFPA 78, the National
3 Electrical Code, is one who has
4 skills and knowledge related to the
5 construction and operation of
6 electrical equipment and
7 installations and has received
8 safety training to recognize and
9 avoid these hazards involved. That
10 definition best describes all of
11 our IBEW 98 members.

12 Local 98 members and
13 apprentices can and have received
14 training in the EVIT program to
15 become certified installers. Our
16 current apprentice curriculum
17 includes the EVITP course in its
18 fifth year apprenticeship program.
19 The EVCS course involves lessons on
20 electric vehicles and the history
21 of them, the electrical vehicle
22 charging equipment involving Level
23 1, 2, quick charging and wireless
24 charging, the NEC advanced load

1 calculations, site assessment,
2 commissioning and troubleshooting.

3 At the completion of
4 this 20-hour course, the student
5 must take an online certification
6 exam, a third party-provided
7 assessment from EVITP. This course
8 and documentation provides our
9 members and knowledge and skills
10 related to charging products and
11 associated equipment on the market
12 today.

13 Electrical Workers
14 completing this training go to work
15 with the ability to implement best
16 practices in areas such as charging
17 station equipment, infrastructure
18 site assessment, load calculations,
19 installations, commissioning and
20 troubleshooting. While to some
21 the installation and maintenance of
22 EV charging systems may seem like
23 any other electrical installation,
24 there are unique electrical hazards

1 that can arise from improper
2 installation. Without a thorough
3 understanding of how the equipment
4 is designed to keep consumers and
5 the public safe, it would be
6 unlikely that a worker can test
7 these devices properly to assure
8 that safety.

9 An EV charger requires
10 unique EV charging simulator test
11 equipment to be able to identify
12 the proper safety protocols of the
13 equipment and the pin
14 configuration. Without the
15 verification of these tests, it can
16 pose a hazard and safety concern to
17 those using the equipment.

18 The other concern is the
19 understanding of the load
20 requirements needed to be able to
21 add these devices to an existing
22 electrical panel or electrical
23 service without overloading it. If
24 overloaded, there's a risk of an

1 electrical fire. We at Local 98
2 support Bill 240666, as we see it
3 provides more comprehensive
4 procedures to assure the safe
5 installation and maintenance of EV
6 charging supply equipment
7 throughout the city of
8 Philadelphia.

9 Our members go through a
10 five-year state accredited
11 apprenticeship program, which
12 includes 1,080 classroom hours and
13 8,000 on the job training hours.
14 Throughout this program they
15 receive OSHA 30 training, 70E
16 electrical safety training and
17 EVITP. I can't imagine anyone more
18 qualified for EV charging systems
19 installation than our dedicated
20 members. And again, we at Local 98
21 support Bill 240666. Thank you.

22 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

23 Thank you for your testimony.

24 Before we begin with

1 your testimony, Madam Leader, we
2 have some special guests in the
3 house today. I'd like to recognize
4 the children/students from
5 St. Hilary's. I understand you
6 folks were up -- did you go up to
7 the tower? Did they go up to the
8 tower? How about that view? Stand
9 up.

10 (Applause.)

11 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

12 Yes. And we have to tell you that
13 you have one of the finest
14 principals in the region. Eileen
15 Fagan is wonderful. She does a
16 tremendous job. We're big fans of
17 hers and we want to welcome to City
18 Hall and her husband Hal Fagan, all
19 they do for the children of this
20 region. Thank you. Thank you.
21 Thank you.

22 Okay. Please proceed
23 with your testimony. State your
24 name for the record.

1 MR. McCRAY: My name is
2 Larry McCray. I've been a member
3 of Local 98 since 1968, as a
4 contractor since 1979, electrical
5 contractor Local 98. Thank you for
6 the opportunity to speak in support
7 of Bill No. 240666, introduced by
8 Councilmember Driscoll on behalf of
9 Council President Johnson and
10 referred to the Committee on
11 Licenses and Inspections.

12 This ordinance proposes
13 essential amendments to Chapter
14 9-1000 of The Philadelphia Code,
15 which governs trades and
16 professional license in our city.
17 Specifically, it changes the
18 definitions of electrical
19 contractors by requiring that any
20 contractors seeking to install,
21 maintain, upgrade electrical
22 vehicles chargers must submit proof
23 of completion of electrical
24 infrastructure training program or

1 an incredible program approved by
2 the Department of Licenses and
3 Inspections.

4 This measure is both
5 timely and necessary to implement
6 Councilmember Ahmad's legislation
7 requiring electrical vehicles,
8 chargers, City of Philadelphia
9 parking spaces to be structurally
10 safe and fully operational.

11 As Philadelphia embraces
12 the clean energy and electric
13 transportation, it is critical that
14 our EV charger infrastructure is
15 not only accessible, but also safe,
16 code compliant, installed by
17 professionals with the proper
18 training and certifications.

19 By mandating verified
20 training for electric contractors
21 working on EV chargers, this bill
22 ensures that our transition to
23 electric mobility would not
24 compromise public safety or

1 technical standards. Moreover, by
2 explicitly prohibiting unqualified
3 contractors from installing EV
4 chargers, Bill 240666 establishes
5 clear enforcement boundaries that
6 will help uphold accountability and
7 prevent substandard work that could
8 pose a risk to users or undermine
9 trust in our growing EV network.

10 I commend Councilmember
11 Ahmad for leading this effort and
12 urge this Committee to move the
13 bill forward for full Council
14 consideration. It reflects a smart
15 future-facing policy grounded on
16 safety, professionalism and the
17 city's broader, sustainable goals.
18 Thank you for your leadership and
19 commitment to Philadelphia's
20 infrastructure and public welfare.

21 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

22 Thank you for your testimony.

23 Do we have any questions
24 or comments from the members?

1 (No response.)

2 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

3 Hearing none and no further
4 questions for this panel,
5 Ms. McDonald, would you please call
6 the next panel to testify this
7 morning on Bill No. 240666.

8 THE CLERK: Marissa Diaz
9 and Matthew Domenick.

10 (Witnesses approached
11 witness table.)

12 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:
13 Good morning. Please state your
14 name for the record and proceed
15 with your testimony.

16 MS. DIAZ: Yes. Good
17 morning. Marisa Diaz. Good
18 morning, Committee Chair and
19 honorable members of City Council.
20 Thank you for the opportunity to
21 speak today. My name is Marisa
22 Diaz and I serve as the CEO of EV
23 Fast LLC, a Philadelphia-based
24 company specializing in full

1 service electrical vehicle charging
2 infrastructure solutions.

3 We work with commercial,
4 municipal, multi-family residential
5 and institutional clients. We
6 manage projects from the site
7 evaluation, unit procurement,
8 permitting and all the stages of
9 installation and maintenance. Our
10 team of electrical contractors,
11 engineers and architects have
12 extensive experience in their
13 respective fields and are backed by
14 multiple certifications and
15 professional licenses.

16 I'm here today to offer
17 my strong support for Bill 240666,
18 which will establish licensing and
19 oversight requirements for
20 electrical contractors who install
21 EV chargers in the city of
22 Philadelphia. Earlier this year
23 Council took an important step with
24 the passage of Bill 240674,

1 establishing essential permitting
2 protocols for EV charger
3 deployment.

4 That was an excellent
5 start, but permitting without
6 workforce regulation is incomplete.
7 To truly safeguard the public and
8 our infrastructure, we must ensure
9 that all individuals physically
10 installing these systems are
11 properly trained, licensed and
12 qualified. That's precisely what
13 Bill 240666 addresses.

14 There are four main
15 reasons why this bill is important:
16 One is critical safety risks. EV
17 chargers, especially Level 2 and DC
18 fast chargers, draw high electrical
19 loads. These systems require
20 precise integration with existing
21 panels, adherence to local code
22 compliance as well as NEC Article
23 625, which outlines the
24 requirements for EV charging

1 equipment, installation, safety and
2 overcurrent protection.

3 When unlicensed
4 individuals install these systems,
5 they create serious risks. There
6 are fire hazard risks from
7 undersizing wiring or overloading
8 circuits, electrocution from
9 improper grounding or wiring and
10 equipment failure that threatens
11 vehicles, properties and lives.

12 The second important
13 reason is unlicensed work often
14 bypasses permits. Without clear
15 license requirements, installations
16 that skip permitting and avoid L&I
17 inspections undermine
18 accountability and public safety.
19 Licensed electricians are required
20 to follow official permitting
21 processes, comply with code and
22 ensure inspections that can catch
23 errors before they become
24 dangerous.

1 The third reason is that
2 Philadelphia's infrastructure
3 requires extra caution. As one of
4 the oldest urban grids in the
5 country, Philadelphia has densely-
6 packed neighborhoods, aging
7 electrical systems and many
8 properties that need load analysis
9 before EV charger installation.
10 Poorly executed installations can
11 stress local circuits or even
12 destabilize portions of the grid,
13 especially in residential zones.

14 The fourth reason that
15 this bill is important is that
16 consumer protection is at stake.
17 Without proper standards,
18 businesses may unknowingly hire
19 unqualified installers. Insurance
20 claims can be denied of damage
21 results from unlicensed work, and
22 there's little recourse when
23 systems fail or worse, cause harm.

24 There are also broader

1 benefits to this bill. This bill
2 is also an opportunity. By setting
3 clear requirements, Bill 240666
4 will help grow a local workforce of
5 trained, licensed electricians
6 equipped for the EV economy. EV
7 installation jobs are high quality,
8 good-paying and union-supported
9 jobs with a strong future. Cities
10 like New York, Chicago and
11 Los Angeles have already required
12 licensing for their EV charger
13 installations.

14 So in conclusion, Bill
15 240666 is not restrictive. It is
16 protective. It safeguards the
17 public safety, Philadelphia's aging
18 electrical infrastructure,
19 consumers and property owners and
20 the credibility of the EV
21 transition itself. I respectfully
22 urge you to adopt Bill 240666 and
23 ensure that the EV charging
24 infrastructure in Philadelphia is

1 built safely, built properly and
2 built to last. Thank you for your
3 time and leadership.

4 MR. DOMENICK: Good
5 morning, Chair and members of the
6 Committee. My name is Matt
7 Domenick. I am partner of MPC
8 Charging, a distributor for
9 Envirospark Energy Solutions.
10 Thank you for the opportunity to
11 speak in support of Bill No.
12 240666.

13 This bill updates the
14 criteria for electrical contractors
15 by requiring individuals working on
16 electric vehicle charging stations
17 to complete the Electric Vehicle
18 Infrastructure Training Program,
19 also known as EVITP or a similar
20 program approved by the Department
21 of Licenses and Inspections. This
22 requirement is a vital step towards
23 supporting Councilmember Ahmad's
24 efforts to ensure that EV chargers

1 installed across Philadelphia are
2 not only operational, but also
3 structurally sound and reliable.

4 As our city moves to
5 adopt cleaner energy solutions and
6 expand electric transportation,
7 it's imperative that the
8 installation and maintenance of EV
9 charging infrastructure be handled
10 by professionals with the proper
11 training and credentials by
12 requiring specific training. This
13 bill raises the bar for quality and
14 safety in EV charger installation.
15 It also introduces clear standards
16 to prevent unqualified individuals
17 from performing this specialized
18 work, helping to avoid hazards,
19 reduce costly errors and build
20 confidence in the city's growing EV
21 network.

22 I commend Councilmember
23 Ahmad for championing this
24 legislation and urge the Committee

1 to move it forward for a full
2 Council vote. This bill is a
3 smart, forward-thinking measure
4 that supports public safety and
5 Philadelphia's long-term
6 environmental goals. Thank you for
7 your continued leadership and your
8 commitment to strengthening the
9 city's infrastructure. Thank you.

10 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

11 Thank you both for your testimony.
12 Hearing no further questions from
13 the members, I'd like to transition
14 back to Bill No. 250292.

15 Ms. McDonald, please
16 call the first panel we have to
17 testify this morning on Bill No.
18 250292.

19 THE CLERK: Commerce
20 Director Karen Fegely.

21 (Witness approached
22 witness table.)

23 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

24 Good morning. Please state your

1 name for the record. Proceed with
2 your testimony.

3 MS. FEGELY: Good
4 morning, Councilmember Driscoll and
5 the Committee on Licenses and
6 Inspections. My name is Karen
7 Fegely, Acting Commerce Director.
8 I am actually going to read the
9 testimony today of Deputy
10 Commissioner Francis Healy on
11 behalf of Police Commissioner
12 Bethel.

13 So thanks for the
14 opportunity to provide testimony
15 today on Bill 250292. The
16 Philadelphia Police Department
17 appreciates and shares City
18 Council's commitment to addressing
19 quality-of-life and public safety
20 issues associated with certain
21 late-night commercial operations.
22 We recognize the intent behind this
23 legislation and value the ongoing
24 collaboration that continues to

1 shape safer neighborhoods

2 throughout our city.

3 The department's primary
4 concern is the proposed expansion
5 of the curfew provisions to
6 encompass the entirety of the 7th
7 and 8th Councilmanic Districts. As
8 you know when the initial series of
9 business curfew bills were passed
10 last year, the police department
11 agreed to take sole responsibility
12 for their enforcement. This
13 decision was based on those bills'
14 limited scope and their focus on
15 areas with a documented history of
16 late-night crime and disorder.

17 Since then, the PPD has
18 led enforcement efforts,
19 concentrating its work on specific
20 commercial corridors. This
21 targeted approach has allowed us --
22 allowed the police to deploy
23 limited resources more effectively,
24 focusing on locations where late-

1 night business activity has had the
2 greatest impact on public safety.

3 This bill represents a
4 substantial shift in scope.

5 Expanding the curfew zone to
6 include every neighborhood within
7 the 7th and 8th Districts would
8 dramatically increase both the
9 number of businesses affected and
10 the geographic area requiring
11 enforcement. This change
12 introduces significant operational
13 challenges.

14 The Police Department
15 continues to operate under
16 constrained staffing and resource
17 conditions. Broadening our
18 enforcement responsibilities to
19 cover the entirety of two
20 Councilmanic Districts would
21 require officers to conduct late-
22 night compliance checks across a
23 much larger footprint. This would
24 likely result in inconsistent or

1 uneven enforcement.

2 In short, we are
3 concerned that the legislation with
4 the proposed amendments would
5 create expansive new enforcement
6 obligations without the necessary
7 resources to fulfill them
8 effectively. We remain fully
9 committed to improving quality of
10 life and public safety and stand
11 ready to work with Council toward
12 that shared goal. Thank you again
13 for the opportunity to testify.

14 And I'll say from the
15 Commerce Department I sort of echo
16 Deputy Commissioner Healy's words
17 on this. We certainly understand
18 the issues and stand committed to
19 working with you. But this bill
20 does present challenges from a
21 Commerce Department view.

22 The need to educate
23 businesses, we worked really hard
24 to try to educate the businesses

1 that were affected by the original
2 bill. It took a lot of time to
3 really go door-to-door and do that.
4 We wouldn't have the ability to do
5 this within the 60 days before this
6 is enforced. It also makes our
7 rules confusing. I mean, for a
8 business depending on what side of
9 the street they're on, the rules
10 are different.

11 And even the curfews are
12 different, times in different
13 districts. Different types of
14 businesses are impacted. It's just
15 very confusing and it's against
16 trying to make Philadelphia a
17 business-friendly city, a place
18 that it's easy to own and operate.
19 But mostly because Philadelphia has
20 a nighttime economy, and an active
21 nighttime economy is a healthy part
22 of a city.

23 So there are businesses,
24 there are hospital workers, there

1 are manufacturing companies, there
2 are transportation logistics
3 companies who are employing folks
4 who are working overnight, and
5 those folks deserve to be able to
6 get gas or groceries or even
7 childcare.

8 We checked it out.

9 Pre-COVID there were 164 licensed
10 24-hour child cares in our city.
11 There are far fewer right now. It
12 looks like there's about 60 that
13 are operating, but that just shows
14 the demand for folks that have to
15 work overnight and as the Commerce
16 Department, we're concerned about
17 the message that this sends. Thank
18 you.

19 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

20 Well, thank you, Acting Director.
21 Congratulations on your new
22 position and we appreciate your
23 testimony. And thank you for
24 reading into the record

1 Commissioner Healy's, you know.

2 Duly noted.

3 Do we have any questions
4 from the panel?

5 (No response.)

6 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

7 Okay. We're good. Hearing no
8 questions, I'd like to move into
9 public comment on both bills.

10 Ms. McDonald, will you
11 please call the first person making
12 public comment we have to testify
13 this morning on the bills before
14 this Committee today.

15 THE CLERK: There are no
16 names for public comment.

17 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL: On
18 either bill?

19 THE CLERK: None.

20 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

21 Okay. I'd like to thank all the
22 witnesses for joining us today.
23 That would conclude the business of
24 the Committee.

1 Now, I'd like to move
2 into -- so no other witnesses
3 testifying on Bill No. 250292 and
4 Bill No. 240666 and no other public
5 comment, I'd like to thank everyone
6 for their participation. This
7 concludes the public hearing of the
8 Committee.

9 We will now go into a
10 public meeting to consider the
11 action to be taken on the bills
12 before this Committee today.

13 Ms. McDonald, will you
14 please call the roll to take
15 attendance. Members that are in
16 attendance will please indicate
17 that you are present when your name
18 is called.

19 THE CLERK:
20 Councilmember Gilmore Richardson.

21 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

22 RICHARDSON: Present.

23 THE CLERK:
24 Councilmember Jones.

1 (No response.)

2 THE CLERK:

3 Councilmember Gauthier.

4 COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

5 Present.

6 THE CLERK:

7 Councilmember Phillips.

8 (No response.)

9 THE CLERK:

10 Councilmember O'Rourke.

11 (No response.)

12 THE CLERK: Vice-Chair

13 Squilla.

14 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

15 Present.

16 THE CLERK: Chair

17 Driscoll.

18 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

19 Present.

20 The Chair recognizes

21 Councilmember Squilla for a motion

22 on the amendment to Bill No.

23 250292.

24 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

1 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2 I offer an amendment to
3 Bill No. 250292. A copy the
4 amendment was circulated to all
5 members of the Committee. I move
6 that the amendment to Bill No.
7 250292 be approved.

8 (Duly seconded.)

9 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

10 The Chair notes for the record that
11 Councilmember Gilmore Richardson
12 seconds the motion. It has been
13 moved and properly seconded that
14 the amendment to Bill No. 250292 be
15 approved.

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

19 (Aye.)

20 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

21 Those opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL: The

24 ayes have it, the motion carries

1 and the amendment to Bill No.

2 250292 has been approved.

3 The Chair recognizes
4 Councilmember Squilla for a motion
5 on Bill No. 250292 as amended.

6 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

7 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

8 I move that Bill No.
9 250202(sic) be amended and be
10 reported with this committee with a
11 favorable recommendation and
12 further move that the rules of
13 Council be suspended as to permit
14 the first reading of this bill at
15 the next session of Council.

16 (Duly seconded.)

17 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

18 Chair notes that for the record
19 Councilmember Gilmore Richardson
20 seconds the motion and has been
21 moved and properly seconded that
22 Bill No. 250292 as amended be
23 reported from this committee with a
24 favorable recommendation and

1 further move that the rules of
2 Council be suspended to permit
3 first reading of this bill at the
4 next session of Council.

5 All those in favor of
6 the motion will signify by saying
7 aye.

8 (Aye.)

9 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

10 The ayes have it. The motion
11 carries.

12 Chair recognizes
13 Councilmember Squilla for a motion
14 on Bill No. 240666.

15 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

16 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

17 I move that Bill No.
18 240666 be reported from this
19 committee with a favorable
20 recommendation and further move
21 that the rules of Council be
22 suspended as to permit the first
23 reading of this bill at the next
24 session of Council.

1 (Duly seconded.)

2 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

3 Chair notes for the record that
4 Councilmember Gilmore Richardson
5 seconds the motion.

6 It has been moved and
7 properly seconded that Bill No.
8 240666 be reported from this
9 committee with a favorable
10 recommendation and further move
11 that the rules of Council be
12 suspended to permit first reading
13 of this bill at the next session of
14 Council.

15 All those in favor of
16 the motion will signify by saying
17 aye.

18 (Aye.)

19 COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

20 The ayes have it. The motion
21 carries.

22 This concludes the
23 business before the Committee on
24 Licenses and Inspections today.

1 Thank you all very much for your
2 attendance.

3 (Committee on Licenses
4 and Inspections concluded at
5 10:55 a.m.)

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

2 I, hereby certify that the proceedings
3 and evidence noted are contained fully and
4 accurately in the stenographic notes taken by
5 me in the foregoing matter, and that this is a
6 correct transcript of the same.
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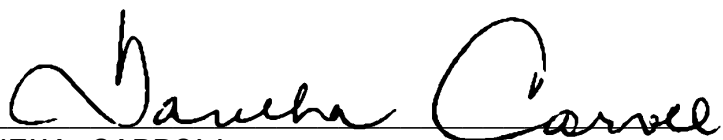
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TANEHA CARROLL
Court Reporter - Notary Public

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