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COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA  
STATED MEETING

Room 400, City Hall  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Thursday, March 31, 2011  
10:30 a.m.

PRESENT:

- COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNA C. VERNA
- COUNCILWOMAN JANNIE BLACKWELL
- COUNCILMAN DARRELL CLARKE
- COUNCILMAN FRANK DiCICCO
- COUNCILMAN W. WILSON GOODE, JR.
- COUNCILMAN BILL GREEN
- COUNCILMAN WILLIAM K. GREENLEE
- COUNCILMAN CURTIS JONES, JR.
- COUNCILMAN JACK KELLY
- COUNCILMAN JAMES KENNEY
- COUNCILWOMAN JOAN L. KRAJEWSKI
- COUNCILWOMAN DONNA REED MILLER
- COUNCILMAN BRIAN J. O'NEILL
- COUNCILWOMAN MARIA D. QUINONES-SANCHEZ
- COUNCILWOMAN BLONDELL REYNOLDS BROWN
- COUNCILMAN FRANK RIZZO, JR.
- COUNCILWOMAN MARIAN B. TASCO
- MICHAEL A. DECKER, CHIEF CLERK

- - -

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2

COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Good

3

morning, everyone. I note that the hour

4

has come and that a quorum of this

5

Council is present.

6

Council will please come to

7

order. Members will take their seats,

8

and visitors will retire to the seats

9

outside the rails.

10

To give our invocation this

11

morning, the Chair recognizes Dr. LaVerne

12

Adams, Pastor of Cathedral of Praise

13

Community Church. She is here today as

14

the guest of Councilman Rizzo.

15

I would ask all members and

16

guests to please rise.

17

(Members and guests rise.)

18

PASTOR ADAMS: Let us pray.

19

Our Father and our God, we

20

thank you for the privilege of being able

21

to come to you today on this side of the

22

grave. By virtue of that fact, we have

23

yet another opportunity for service and

24

to make a positive difference in the

25

world.

1           3/31/11 - STATED - INVOCATION

2           Thank you for the opportunity  
3           to pray for this meeting today and thank  
4           you for all of the people assembled here,  
5           who diligently do their work every day to  
6           assure the well-being of Philadelphia's  
7           residents.

8           And so as you instructed us to  
9           do, we pray for those who are in  
10          authority so that we may live peaceful  
11          lives. We pray, God, that you would  
12          grant them the discernment necessary to  
13          make wise decisions and to seek the peace  
14          of our city, our people and our  
15          community. Help them to make choices  
16          necessary to develop neighborhoods into  
17          havens of peace and prosperity.

18          We pray for the homeless and  
19          the hurting. May we always remember with  
20          gratitude those that are less fortunate  
21          than ourselves and that we should service  
22          them as we would service ourselves.

23          And, finally, we pray that you  
24          would give every person under the sound  
25          of my voice the peace that passes all

1       3/31/11 - STATED - APPROVAL OF JOURNAL  
2       understanding, as the very God of Peace  
3       and the Prince of Peace guards our hearts  
4       and our minds, and we thank you for doing  
5       just this.

6                In Jesus' name.

7                Amen.

8                (Amen.)

9                COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
10       Chair thanks Pastor Adams for her very  
11       inspiring invocation.

12               Council will be at ease.

13               (Council at ease.)

14               COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
15       next order of business is the approval of  
16       the Journal of the meeting of Thursday,  
17       March 24th, 2011.

18               The Chair recognizes  
19       Councilwoman Tasco.

20               COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Madam  
21       President, I move that the Journal of the  
22       meeting of Thursday, March 24th, 2011  
23       stand approved.

24               (Duly seconded.)

25               COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It

1           3/31/11 - STATED - LEAVES

2       has been moved and properly seconded that  
3       the Journal of the meeting of Thursday,  
4       March 24th, 2011 stand approved.

5           All in favor will indicate by  
6       saying aye.

7           (Aye.)

8           COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those  
9       opposed?

10          (No response.)

11          COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
12       ayes have it, and the Journal is  
13       approved.

14          The next order of business is  
15       requests for leave of absence, and the  
16       Chair recognizes Councilwoman Tasco.

17          COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you,  
18       Madam President. On behalf of the  
19       majority, there are no requests for leave  
20       of absence today.

21          COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
22       Chair thanks the Councilwoman.

23          The Chair recognizes Councilman  
24       O'Neill.

25          COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Madam

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2       President, on behalf of the republicans,  
3       there are no requests for leave of  
4       absence.

5                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA:   The  
6       Chair thanks the gentleman.

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

17                  At this time, the Chair  
18      recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell, who  
19      will present a resolution honoring Vivian  
20      Miller.

21                  Would Ms. Miller and those  
22      accompanying her please join the  
23      Councilwoman at the podium.

24                  The Chair recognizes  
25      Councilwoman Blackwell.

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2           COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank  
3 you, Madam President. It is with great  
4 pride that we present this citation --  
5 excuse me; this resolution to Ms. Vivian  
6 Miller, and we are very happy to have her  
7 family members of her ward. As you know,  
8 she is Ward Leader in the 51st Ward.

9           Resolution recognizing Vivian  
10 T. Miller for a career of service to the  
11 citizens of Philadelphia in her roles as  
12 Community Organizer, Ward Leader and  
13 Philadelphia Clerk of Quarter Sessions.

14           Whereas, Ms. Vivian T. Miller  
15 is a life-long Philadelphia resident with  
16 deep roots in her West Philadelphia  
17 neighborhood, where she has resided in  
18 her current home for the past forty-three  
19 years; and

20           Whereas, she has been a  
21 community organizer and committed  
22 volunteer for numerous charitable causes,  
23 including The 954 Garden Club, the Girl  
24 Scouts, her local church, neighborhood  
25 schools and currently serves as the

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2           Trustee at the Wayland Memorial Baptist  
3           Church; and

4                       Whereas, she has been a  
5           prominent leader in the Democratic Party  
6           for some thirty-five years and Ward  
7           Leader of the City's 51st Ward for the  
8           past twenty-five years; and

9                       Whereas, Ms. Miller has served  
10          the citizens of Philadelphia in several  
11          roles during her long, successful career,  
12          including spending many years as a  
13          constituent service representative in the  
14          U.S. First Congressional District Office,  
15          the Philadelphia Board of Revision of  
16          Taxes and the Philadelphia Commissioner's  
17          Office; and

18                      Whereas, her committed service  
19          continued when she became the Democratic  
20          Party's endorsed candidate for the  
21          elected office of the Philadelphia Clerk  
22          of Quarter Sessions, the first  
23          African-American elected to that office,  
24          the first African-American woman elected  
25          to that office, which she held for more

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2       than twenty-three years before she  
3       retired in March 2010; and

4           Whereas, the City of  
5       Philadelphia is a better place because of  
6       her dedicated service, and the  
7       Philadelphia City Council is proud to  
8       acknowledge her exemplary career in  
9       public service; now therefore, be it

10           Resolved, that the Philadelphia  
11       City Council hereby recognizes Ms. Vivian  
12       T. Miller for a career of public service  
13       to the citizens of Philadelphia in her  
14       roles as Community Organizer, Ward Leader  
15       and Philadelphia Clerk of Quarter  
16       Sessions.

17           And further resolved, that an  
18       engrossed copy of this resolution be  
19       presented to her as a sincere expression  
20       of City Council's recognition and  
21       appreciation of her contributions to  
22       improving the quality of life for the  
23       citizens of Philadelphia.

24           Certification, this is a true  
25       and correct copy of the original

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2       resolution, adopted by the Council of the  
3       City of Philadelphia on the 27th day of  
4       January. It's signed by the President,  
5       introduced by yours truly and sponsored  
6       by each and every member of City Council.

7           Thank you, Vivian.

8           (Applause.)

9           COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
10       Chair recognizes Ms. Miller for remarks.  
11       Welcome home.

12           MS. MILLER: Thank you. Thank  
13       you.

14           Good morning to all.

15           (Good morning.)

16           MS. MILLER: I'd like to give  
17       honor to God, who is first in my life.

18           I would like to congratulate  
19       President Anna Verna on her retirement  
20       and job well done.

21           COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
22       you.

23           (Applause.)

24           MS. MILLER: A special thanks  
25       to my own Councilperson, Jannie

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2       Blackwell, for this recognition and this  
3       honor. I am truly, truly thankful.

4           I am pleased to say I have  
5       worked for the City for over 20 years and  
6       I have learned quite a bit. I have had a  
7       whole lot of experience in the different  
8       departments, and I'm well satisfied with  
9       my leaving and retiring.

10           I am truly grateful to the  
11       citizens for electing me five terms as  
12       the Clerk of Quarter Sessions. I am glad  
13       and happy for their support.

14           Last, but not least, thanks to  
15       this awesome Council body for the work  
16       that you have done throughout the City  
17       and for your support of me. I am  
18       thankful, thankful, thankful.

19           Thanks to my family, who is  
20       here with me, and my friends, and thanks  
21       to everyone. God bless.

22           (Applause.)

23           COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Good  
24       luck.

25           Council will be at ease.

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2                   (Council at ease.)

3           COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
4 Chair now recognizes Councilman Jones,  
5 who will present a resolution honoring Al  
6 Johnson.

7                   Would Mr. Johnson and those  
8 accompanying him please join the  
9 Councilman at the podium.

10                   (Appause.)

11           COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: I see  
12 that Councilman Jones is being  
13 accompanied by Councilman Greenlee,  
14 Councilwoman Blackwell and Councilwoman  
15 Sanchez.

16                   The Chair recognizes Councilman  
17 Jones.

18           COUNCILMAN JONES: For the  
19 record, this was co-sponsored by  
20 Councilwoman Blackwell, enthusiastically  
21 co-sponsored by Councilwoman Blackwell.  
22 In fact, she demanded when she heard it  
23 was for you, Al, that she co-sponsor it,  
24 because you went back.

25                   A wise man, when I was a young

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2           guy, asked me what I wanted to be when I  
3           grew up. And we began to discuss it, and  
4           then eventually said to me, It doesn't  
5           matter what you do, son, as long as you  
6           do your best at it and become the best at  
7           it. He said, In fact, if you were a  
8           trash man, a sanitation worker, if you  
9           worked hard to be the best sanitation  
10          worker, your work would speak for you.

11                  Well, as a teenager, I thought  
12          he was crazy. I said, Are you out of  
13          your mind? Until I met a man named Earl  
14          Stout, who became the head of the  
15          Municipal Workers Union, District Council  
16          33, who showed me that it is true that if  
17          you do your best at your job, you will be  
18          recognized, not only by your peers but  
19          the world. It is amazing how wise that  
20          man became as I got older. I'd like to  
21          introduce to some and reacquaint to  
22          others my father up here, Curtis Jones,  
23          Sr.

24                         (Applause.)

25                         COUNCILMAN JONES: As we

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2       recognize years of service, it is  
3       increasingly rare to see people leave a  
4       job after 20 years to receive the  
5       proverbial gold watch. In today's  
6       economy, it is important to recognize  
7       that, that some of these people that are  
8       civil servants are the heroes of  
9       neighborhoods I come from. It is the  
10      postman, the policeman, the sanitation  
11      worker that is the stable influence for  
12      many neighborhoods throughout the City of  
13      Philadelphia, and today we will recognize  
14      one of those heroes.

15                 Recognizing and celebrating Al  
16      Johnson, former Local head and President  
17      of 488 for his years of commitment and  
18      service to his membership of District  
19      Council 33 on the occasion of his 81st  
20      birthday.

21                     (Applause.)

22                 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Whereas,  
23      on March 5th, 1930, Al Johnson was born  
24      and raised in Columbia, South Carolina.  
25      Growing up in a working-class family,

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2           Mr. Johnson, at an early age, became a  
3           champion of the working classes, his  
4           community and organized labor; and

5                        COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL:

6           Whereas, in the 1950's Al Johnson moved  
7           to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he  
8           became a prominent union advocate for  
9           District Council 33 workers. During his  
10          tenure with the City of Philadelphia, he  
11          served as President of Local 488 of  
12          District Council 33 for over ten years,  
13          overseeing the Department of Health  
14          workers affiliated with the PGH,  
15          Philadelphia General Hospital, and all  
16          Health System workers in Philadelphia.  
17          After serving as Local 488 President, he  
18          went on to become secretary/treasurer for  
19          District Council 33 for nearly ten years  
20          until his retirement in 1988, and may I  
21          say worked closely with the late Lucien  
22          Blackwell, and that is how I met Al  
23          Johnson; and

24                        COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Whereas,  
25          today, Mr. Johnson continues to remain

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2       active in the Union after 54 years,  
3       maintaining his dedication to serving  
4       workers of Philadelphia. Working as a  
5       consultant for District Council 33,  
6       Mr. Johnson is often in City Council  
7       Chambers reviewing and advocating for  
8       legislation and public policies that have  
9       an impact on his union brothers and  
10      sisters. His commitment to improving  
11      their lives through his advocacy for  
12      their rights will forever be his legacy;  
13      and

14                COUNCILMAN JONES: Whereas,

15      Council is pleased to honor Al Johnson on  
16      his 81st birthday and will continue to  
17      honor him for the work he has done for  
18      the labor force; now therefore

19                Resolved, by the Council of the  
20      City of Philadelphia, that the Council of  
21      the City of Philadelphia enthusiastically  
22      joins family and friends in celebrating  
23      Al Johnson on the occasion of his 81st  
24      birthday. As a Council, we wish you an  
25      abundance of happiness and health and

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2       offer you thanks for your exemplary  
3       citizenship and best wishes for a joyful  
4       celebration.

5           Further resolved, that an  
6       engrossed copy of this resolution be  
7       presented to Al Johnson, as further  
8       evidence of our sincere admiration and  
9       gratitude of this legislative body.

10           (Applause.)

11           UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'm just  
12       as surprised as Al. I didn't know about  
13       this. But Al Johnson has been around  
14       forever, and I just want to thank him for  
15       his hard work and dedication. Al retired  
16       in 1988, but he was not away from the  
17       union or the community. Al has continued  
18       to work hard. He continues to work hard  
19       now as a consultant for District Council  
20       33, and I called him that because I need  
21       him. He's an institution in District  
22       Council 33, and I fully can appreciate  
23       what City Council has done for him today.

24           Al, congratulations. And I did  
25       not know, Al -- as long as I've known

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2       Al -- and I've known him since I've been  
3       in the union, been an officer in the  
4       union since 1983, a member since 1968. I  
5       did not know Al was 81 years old. He  
6       always told me he was 67. He always told  
7       me he was 67, and I believed him.

8           Congratulatlons, Al.

9           (Applause.)

10           COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
11       Chair recognizes Mr. Johnson for remarks.

12           MR. JOHNSON: Madam President,  
13       members of City Council, I am totally  
14       surprised and shocked. I did not expect  
15       this. This is the first time I came in  
16       City Council without a suit on. And to  
17       be thankful, Jannie Blackwell, as she  
18       mentioned, I met Jannie way, way back. I  
19       won't say when, because I don't want to  
20       tell her age. They finally told mine.

21           I always was dedicated to the  
22       City of Philadelphia. I know Councilman  
23       DiCicco, we go back with District Council  
24       33 when he was a member of the Executive  
25       Board there, and quite a few of the

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2       other -- I know quite a few other people  
3       here.

4           But it is a pleasure and an  
5       honor to be recognized by this body.

6           And, Councilman Jones, I agree  
7       with what you said Earl Stout said. You  
8       know, it's proud when one person can say,  
9       And Al Johnson too once passed this way.

10           Thank you.

11           (Applause.)

12           COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA:

13       Council will be at ease.

14           (Council at ease.)

15           COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
16       Chair now recognizes Councilwomen  
17       Blackwell and Brown, who will present a  
18       resolution to the women of the  
19       Philadelphia delegation of the first  
20       historical International Black Women's  
21       Forum on Education, Diversity and  
22       Identity.

23           Would Nana Korantemaa accompany  
24       the Councilwomen at the podium. And I  
25       see that Councilman Kenney is also

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2           joining Councilwoman Blackwell and  
3           Councilwoman Brown.

4                   COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Madam  
5           President and members of Council, we are  
6           also joined by Stan Straughter, Chairman  
7           of the Mayor's Commission on African and  
8           Caribbean Immigrant Affairs, as well as  
9           other members who are here and other  
10          guests.

11                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
12          Chair recognizes Councilwoman Blackwell.

13                   COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank  
14          you. Thank you, Madam President.

15                   A resolution honoring and  
16          recognizing the work of the women of the  
17          Philadelphia delegation of the first  
18          historical International Black Women's  
19          Forum on Education, Diversity and  
20          Identity.

21                   Whereas, the first  
22          International Black Women's Forum on  
23          Education, Diversity and Identity took  
24          place from November 25th to the 27th,  
25          2010 in Salvador, Bahia, Brazil; and

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2           Whereas, the Forum was a  
3           collaboration between the Mayor's  
4           Commission on African and Caribbean  
5           Immigrant Affairs, our office, the Office  
6           of the Mayor of Salvador with the  
7           Municipal Secretary of Education,  
8           Culture, Sports and Leisure in Salvador,  
9           Bahia, Brazil, and Osun State University  
10          in Osun State, Nigeria; and

11          Whereas, the Forum focused on  
12          issues of race and gender that included  
13          themes such as diversity, age, sexuality,  
14          religion, territoriality, ancestry and  
15          health in the context of a national and  
16          international dialogue on education; and

17          Whereas, the Forum was a  
18          continuation of our City's relationship  
19          with Salvador, which was established over  
20          40 years ago; and

21          Whereas, March is nationally  
22          recognized as Women's History Month, the  
23          week of March 8th as Women's History Week  
24          and March 8th as International Women's  
25          Day; and

1 3/31/11 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Whereas,  
3 Suzana Silva from the Brazilian Cultural  
4 Center in Philadelphia and member of the  
5 Mayor's Commission on African and  
6 Caribbean Immigrant Affairs served as the  
7 primary organizer from Philadelphia for  
8 the Forum; and

9 Whereas Dr. Joi Spraggins,  
10 Co-Chair of the Women's Leadership  
11 Committee for the Mayor's Commission on  
12 African and Caribbean Immigrant Affairs  
13 and Founder of Legacy Pathways, led a  
14 workshop on "Sister Girls Legacy  
15 Leadership: Building International  
16 Economic and Business Growth Strategies";  
17 and

18 Whereas, Barbara Simmons, J.D.,  
19 Dean, Graduate Studies, Continuing  
20 Education and Community Relations for  
21 Cheyney University Center City Campus and  
22 member of the Mayor's Commission on  
23 African and Caribbean Immigrant Affairs,  
24 led a workshop on "Women's Rights as  
25 Human Rights and the Role of Law"; and

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2           Whereas, Dr. Judith Ray, Ph.D.,  
3           also from Cheyney University, discussed  
4           "Technology's Impact on Education: Past,  
5           Present, and Future" and "Do  
6           Institutional Restraints on Women in  
7           Academic Leadership Positions Exist?";  
8           and

9           Whereas, Dr. Barbara Wallace,  
10          Ph.D., from Columbia University,  
11          discussed "The Goals for Transforming  
12          Education and Supporting Identity  
13          Development: A Role for Cultural  
14          Practices and Traditions"; and

15          COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Whereas,  
16          Ms. Nana Korantemaa Ayebofo, Founder and  
17          Chief Creative Officer of The StarSpirit  
18          International, Incorporated of  
19          Philadelphia, PA and Larteh, Ghana,  
20          Africa, has made a lifetime commitment to  
21          encouraging international exchanges  
22          between African Americans and Africans in  
23          Africa to promote education about African  
24          culture, as well as with Africans across  
25          the Diaspora and other members of

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2           American and international communities;

3                       Whereas, all of the  
4           above-mentioned women understand and are  
5           committed to the liberation and upward  
6           mobility for women through education and  
7           international dialogue; and

8                       Whereas, as a result of the  
9           Forum, the City of Philadelphia and the  
10          City of Salvador, Bahia, Brazil signed a  
11          Memorandum of Understanding in agreement  
12          to promote, strengthen and expand  
13          educational, cultural, trade, and  
14          economic cooperation; and

15                      Whereas, as a result of the  
16          Forum, the Cities of Philadelphia and  
17          Salvador are currently in the planning  
18          stages for an educational and cultural  
19          student exchange program; and now  
20          therefore, be it

21                      Resolved, that the Philadelphia  
22          City Council hereby honors and recognizes  
23          the work of the women of the Philadelphia  
24          delegation of the first historical  
25          International Black Women's Forum on

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS  
2           Education, Diversity and Identity; and

3                   Further resolved, that an  
4           engrossed copy of this resolution be  
5           presented as a sincere expression of the  
6           City Council's appreciation and  
7           recognition.

8                   Thank you very much.  
9           Congratulations.

10                   (Applause.)

11                   COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: It is  
12           with great pleasure that I now present to  
13           you Chairman. You've met him before.  
14           He's head of the Mayor's Commission on  
15           African and Caribbean Immigrant Affairs.  
16           He's also Honorary Consul to Guinea. I  
17           met him through the late Lucien Blackwell  
18           during the days with South Africa and all  
19           that happened, and he will take the  
20           program from here and certainly introduce  
21           our guest, thank you, with whom we work  
22           and these women, who do so much, these  
23           women we love. Thank you.

24                   Stan Straughter.

25                   (Applause.)

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2           MR. STRAUGHTER: Thank you very  
3 much, Council Lady.

4           Let me, first of all, introduce  
5 you to Dr. Barbara Simmons, the Dean of  
6 Continuing Education at Cheyney  
7 University, one of the leaders of the  
8 organization; Dr. Judith Ray from Cheyney  
9 University, Chair of the Science  
10 Department at Cheyney University; Dr. Joi  
11 Spraggins, who is one of the presenters  
12 you heard in Sister Girl; and Nana. Who  
13 will forget Nana. Nana, by the way, is  
14 an unsung hero, because she was as a  
15 little girl, some of you might remember,  
16 as one of the top dancers in the Arthur  
17 Hall Dance African Arts Ensemble. She's  
18 building a monument off Girard Avenue.

19           So we want to thank all of you  
20 for your contribution and going to  
21 Philadelphia.

22           I'm going to Salvador, Bahia.  
23 As the Council Lady pointed out, these  
24 relations began many years ago under the  
25 mayoral leadership of W. Wilson Goode,

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2       Sr. and also when Oliver Franklin was a  
3       City representative, and we had since  
4       that time continued this relationship,  
5       and this is only one of many activities  
6       we're doing with Salvador.

7           The Commission operates to work  
8       to enhance the quality of life of African  
9       and Caribbean immigrants in the City of  
10      Philadelphia, but we also work to enhance  
11      our international relationships around  
12      education, arts and culture and even  
13      business. So this is a great opportunity  
14      for us all. We want to thank you. And  
15      we are now, just this week, collaborated  
16      with -- the Brazilians came to  
17      Philadelphia. We initiated an exchange  
18      program between Salvador, Bahia to  
19      Philadelphia, bringing ten students and  
20      three faculty to spend a month with us,  
21      and we're selecting ten students, African  
22      American students, to go to Salvador for  
23      a month later this year. Dr. Simmons  
24      arranged for us to meet with the  
25      President of Cheyney University and her

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2       staff. Cheyney has agreed to help be the  
3       coordinator and entity that will organize  
4       this coordinated activity for us, and  
5       then also we will have ten students to go  
6       back and forth between Philadelphia and  
7       Nigeria.

8           So we want to thank you, all of  
9       you, for your help. I constantly work  
10      with Councilwoman Blackwell, but you know  
11      many of you members of Council reach out  
12      to us and help us, attend our functions,  
13      and we want to thank you for your  
14      continued support of the work of the  
15      Commission, and we look forward to  
16      working with you.

17           I wanted to have Joi -- are you  
18      going to take a second and do that?

19           DR. SPRAGGINS: Good morning.  
20      To the Honorable President, Councilwoman  
21      Jannie Blackwell and to all of the  
22      members of City Council, good morning  
23      from the group as well. My name is  
24      Dr. Joi, and I've had the pleasure and  
25      the honor to dedicate my life to making a

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2           difference in the world, particularly in  
3           the lives of women.

4                   And, Councilwoman, I'd like to  
5           thank you for having me serve as the  
6           Chair of the Women's Leadership Council.  
7           This, I'd like to present to you, is from  
8           Sister Girls. This is a motivational  
9           quote from my product line, and Sister  
10          Girls is about learning from our  
11          legacies. Sister Girls is an  
12          international sisterhood of legacy  
13          leaders who are committed to the  
14          advancement and empowerment of women and  
15          their families. Our global mission is  
16          sharing, learning and leveraging our  
17          combined legacies. This creates multiple  
18          generations of empowerment, education,  
19          sustainable development, job creation and  
20          economic development, and together we can  
21          heal ourselves and the planet by creating  
22          a global legacy, pathways and footprints  
23          for others.

24                   It is my distinct pleasure on  
25          behalf of all of the Sister Girls and the

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS  
2           sisterhood around the world to present  
3           this to you this morning.

4                     Thank you.

5                     (Applause.)

6                     COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank  
7           you.

8                     COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA:  
9           Council will be at ease.

10                    (Council at ease.)

11                    COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
12           Chair recognizes Councilwoman Brown.

13                    COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you,  
14           Madam President. We wanted to seize the  
15           moment this morning and welcome  
16           legislators of tomorrow. From the 3rd  
17           Councilmanic District, we have two  
18           classes here from the University of  
19           Pennsylvania, the School of Social Work  
20           and Practice. We have Professor of  
21           Political Social Work, Dr. Dennis Braum,  
22           and Casey Borman, who teaches Social  
23           Policy there. So we'd like to ask all of  
24           them to stand so that we can give a warm  
25           welcome.

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PRESENTATIONS

2           Thank you, Madam President.

3           (Applause.)

4           COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA:

5           Welcome.

6           The next order of business is  
7           communications.

8           COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Madam  
9           President, point of order.

10          COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: I'm  
11          sorry. Your light is not on. Councilman  
12          DiCicco.

13          COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you,  
14          Madam President. I would like for us to  
15          recognize and welcome to the City Council  
16          today the journalism class from the  
17          Mathematics, Civics and Science Charter  
18          School of Philadelphia that is located in  
19          my district. Their instructor is someone  
20          who we all know, Mr. Tommie St. Hill.  
21          And I also want to recognize the school  
22          for winning the Men's PIAA State  
23          Basketball Championship last Friday at  
24          Penn State University. And I ask that  
25          they stand and be recognized.

1 3/31/11 - STATED - COMMUNICATIONS

2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: If  
3 they could stand, we'd like to recognize  
4 you. Welcome.

5 (Applause.)

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA:  
7 Welcome.

8 The next order of business is  
9 communications.

10 The Chair requests that the  
11 Sergeant-At-Arms deliver the messages  
12 from the Mayor to the Chief Clerk.

13 The Chief Clerk will please  
14 read the messages from the Mayor.

15 CHIEF CLERK: To the President  
16 and members of the Council of the City of  
17 Philadelphia, I am transmitting herewith  
18 for the introduction and consideration of  
19 your honorable body an ordinance amending  
20 Section 19-1705 of The Philadelphia Code  
21 to increase the amount of interest and  
22 penalty on any unpaid money or claim  
23 collectible by the Department of Revenue  
24 that may be waived by the Revenue  
25 Commissioner, under certain terms and

1           3/31/11 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2           conditions.

3                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
4           you. The messages will be printed in the  
5           Journal.

6                   The Chief Clerk will please  
7           read any other communications in his  
8           possession.

9                   CHIEF CLERK: I have none,  
10          Madam President.

11                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Very  
12          well. The next order of business is the  
13          introduction of bills and resolutions,  
14          and the Chair recognizes Councilman  
15          Kenney.

16                   COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Thank you,  
17          Madam President. I offer one resolution.

18                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
19          you.

20                   The Chief Clerk will please  
21          read the title of the resolution.

22                   CHIEF CLERK: A resolution  
23          declaring May 15th as Living Beyond  
24          Breast Cancer Day in Philadelphia.

25                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This

1           3/31/11 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS  
2           resolution will be placed on the Final  
3           Passage Calendar for consideration at our  
4           next session of Council.

5                     The Chair recognizes  
6           Councilwoman Blackwell.

7                     COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank  
8           you, Madam President. I introduce today  
9           two resolutions co-sponsored by all  
10          members of Council.

11                    COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
12          you.

13                    The Chief Clerk will please  
14          read the title of the first resolution.

15                    CHIEF CLERK: A resolution  
16          calling for hearings before the City  
17          Council Committee on Education to examine  
18          the climate of violence in our City  
19          schools and to discuss ways it can be  
20          reduced.

21                    COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This  
22          resolution will be placed on the Final  
23          Passage Calendar for consideration at our  
24          next session of Council.

25                    CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution

1           3/31/11 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS  
2       recognizing Charles "Charlie Mack" Alston  
3       for his generosity towards the West  
4       Philadelphia High School and the  
5       surrounding community.

6           COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This  
7       resolution will also be placed on the  
8       Final Passage Calendar for consideration  
9       at our next session of Council.

10           The Chair recognizes Councilman  
11       Greenlee.

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

15           COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
16       Chair thanks the gentleman.

17           The Chair recognizes  
18       Councilwoman Tasco.

19           COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you,  
20       Madam President. I offer one bill and  
21       one resolution on your behalf.

22           COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
23       you.

24           The Chief Clerk will please  
25       read the title of the bill.

1           3/31/11 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2                   CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance  
3 amending Section 19-1705 of The  
4 Philadelphia Code to increase the amount  
5 of interest and penalty on any unpaid  
6 money or claim collectible by the  
7 Department of Revenue that may be waived  
8 by the Revenue Commissioner.

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

12                   CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution  
13 authorizing the Commissioner of Public  
14 Property to execute and deliver to the  
15 Redevelopment Authority of the City of  
16 Philadelphia, without consideration,  
17 deeds conveying conditional fee simple  
18 title to certain City-owned lots or  
19 pieces of ground with the buildings and  
20 improvements thereon, situate in the  
21 Thirty-Sixth Ward of the City of  
22 Philadelphia.

23                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This  
24 resolution will be placed on the Final  
25 Passage Calendar for our next session of

1 3/31/11 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 Council.

3 The Chair recognizes

4 Councilwoman Miller.

5 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Thank

6 you, Madam President. Today I offer one

7 resolution.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank

9 you.

10 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution

11 recognizing, honoring, and celebrating

12 Matthew Chea for his many efforts in

13 victim advocacy and receiving the FBI

14 Director's Community Leadership Award.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The

16 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Miller --

17 I'm sorry. It's a resolution. It will

18 be placed on the Final Passage Calendar

19 for consideration at our next session of

20 Council.

21 The Chair recognizes

22 Councilwoman Sanchez.

23 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Thank

24 you, Madam President. Nothing today.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank

1           3/31/11 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2           you.

3                   The Chair recognizes Councilman

4           Green.

5                   COUNCILMAN GREEN: Thank you,

6           Madam President. No bills or resolutions

7           today.

8                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank

9           you.

10                   The Chair recognizes Councilman

11          Jones.

12                   COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,

13          Madam President. No bills or resolutions

14          today.

15                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The

16          Chair thanks the gentleman.

17                   The Chair recognizes Councilman

18          Goode.

19                   COUNCILMAN GOODE: Thank you,

20          Madam President. I offer one resolution.

21                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank

22          you.

23                   The Chief Clerk will please

24          read the title of the resolution.

25                   CHIEF CLERK: A resolution

1           3/31/11 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS  
2           authorizing City Council to retain a  
3           consultant to conduct a comprehensive  
4           labor market analysis.

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

9                   The Chair recognizes  
10          Councilwoman Brown.

11                   COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you,  
12          Madam President. I offer two resolutions  
13          this morning, one co-sponsored by my  
14          colleague Kenney and the other  
15          co-sponsored by members Tasco and  
16          Quinones-Sanchez.

17                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
18          Chief Clerk will please read the title of  
19          the first resolution.

20                   CHIEF CLERK: A resolution  
21          declaring April 11th through the 15th,  
22          2011 as Philadelphia Youth Commission's  
23          Youth Voter Registration Awareness Week  
24          in the City of Philadelphia.

25                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This

1           3/31/11 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS  
2           resolution will be placed on the Final  
3           Passage Calendar for consideration at our  
4           next session of Council.

5                   CHIEF CLERK: And a resolution  
6           recognizing and congratulating the City  
7           of Philadelphia on its recognition by the  
8           U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as  
9           one of the top 20 cities in the country  
10          with Energy Star certified buildings.

11                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: This  
12          resolution will be placed on the Final  
13          Passage Calendar for consideration at our  
14          next session of Council.

15                   The Chair recognizes Councilman  
16          DiCicco.

17                   COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you,  
18          Madam President. I offer one resolution,  
19          which is co-sponsored by my colleagues  
20          Councilmen Kenney and Clarke, and I would  
21          like to speak on it briefly.

22                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
23          Chief Clerk will please read the title.

24                   CHIEF CLERK: A resolution  
25          urging the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

1           3/31/11 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS  
2           to enact an amnesty program for the  
3           Traffic Court of Philadelphia whereby  
4           drivers who have lost their driving  
5           privileges for failure to pay outstanding  
6           traffic violations can have those  
7           privileges restored upon payment in full  
8           of all outstanding traffic fines, and  
9           applauding the leadership of Senator Mike  
10          Stack in authorizing legislation to  
11          authorize the establishment of such an  
12          amnesty program.

13                    COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
14          Chair recognizes Councilman DiCicco.

15                    COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Thank you,  
16          Madam President. As the Clerk read, this  
17          resolution will allow a person the  
18          opportunity to restore the driving  
19          privileges by removing the points and  
20          term suspension periods, which sometimes  
21          can cause a violator to wait several  
22          years before becoming eligible to be able  
23          to drive legally.

24                    Currently, unaddressed  
25          citations at last audit due to the City

1 3/31/11 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2 of Philadelphia are in excess of \$177  
3 million. This amnesty program will allow  
4 Traffic Court to operate in a more  
5 amicable manner on behalf of the general  
6 public, as well as itself financially, by  
7 allowing due process and allowing those  
8 violators who, in effect, would be  
9 motivated to address the debt with an  
10 option to maintain or obtain his or her  
11 driver's license.

12 And it's a win-win situation.

13 I draw this from my experience as having  
14 been the Court Administrator of  
15 Philadelphia Traffic Court in the early  
16 '90s when we did a similar one at the  
17 local level, and in less than six months,  
18 we generated an additional million  
19 dollars to the City treasury and also  
20 were able to provide people the  
21 opportunity to get back their licenses  
22 and, in effect, become legitimate  
23 drivers.

24 This impact on the citizens of  
25 Philadelphia would be helpful not only in

1           3/31/11 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS

2       restoring their driving privileges but  
3       would also eliminate that many more  
4       uninsured motorists in the City of  
5       Philadelphia, which ultimately impacts  
6       all people who have insurance by raising  
7       our rates, et cetera.

8           So I just would ask that my  
9       colleagues speak to their local  
10      representative, state representatives and  
11      state senators and encourage them to  
12      support Senator Stack in this effort. It  
13      is a win-win all the way around. We can  
14      get some people back whose jobs have been  
15      affected.

16           Over the years, people who  
17      become suspended, it's kind of a  
18      spiraling effect. You get stopped once  
19      after you're suspended, you rack up a  
20      \$200-something fine, you then get another  
21      \$200-something fine, and before you know  
22      it, you literally owe thousands of  
23      dollars. And in many, many cases, those  
24      people who ultimately became suspended  
25      could wind up or have wound up losing

1           3/31/11 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS  
2           their jobs, because they needed a  
3           driver's license in order to maintain  
4           employment.

5                        So I think it's a win-win, and  
6           I would urge my colleagues to discuss it  
7           with their local representatives and  
8           state senators.

9                        Thank you, Madam President.

10                      COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
11           you.

12                      This resolution will be placed  
13           on the Final Passage Calendar for  
14           consideration at our next session of  
15           Council.

16                      The Chair recognizes  
17           Councilwoman Krajewski.

18                      COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Thank  
19           you, Madam President. On behalf of  
20           Councilman Jones and myself and all  
21           members of Council, I introduce a  
22           resolution.

23                      COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
24           Chief Clerk will please read the title.

25                      CHIEF CLERK: A resolution

1           3/31/11 - STATED - INTRO. OF BILLS  
2        declaring April 2011 as Autism Awareness  
3        Month and recognizing April 12th, 2011 as  
4        World Autism Day in the City of  
5        Philadelphia.

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

10                   The Chair recognizes Councilman  
11        O'Neill.

12                   COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Madam  
13        President, I have no bills or  
14        resolutions.

15                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
16        Chair thanks the gentleman.

17                   The Chair recognizes Councilman  
18        Clarke.

19                   COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you,  
20        Madam President. I have one bill.

21                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
22        you.

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

25                   CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance

1           3/31/11 - STATED - REPORTS  
2       amending Chapter 17-1600 entitled  
3       Economic Opportunity Plans by  
4       establishing a time frame upon which such  
5       plans for covered projects shall be  
6       submitted.

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

10           The Chair recognizes Councilman  
11       Kelly.

12           COUNCILMAN KELLY: Madam  
13       President, I have no bills or resolutions  
14       today.

15           COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
16       you.

17           The Chair recognizes Councilman  
18       Rizzo.

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

21           COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
22       next order of business is reports from  
23       committees.

24           The Chair recognizes  
25       Councilwoman Tasco for a report from the

1           3/31/11 - STATED - REPORTS

2           Committee of the Whole.

3                   COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Madam  
4           President, the Committee of the Whole  
5           reports two resolutions with a favorable  
6           recommendation.

7                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
8           you.

9                   The Chief Clerk will please  
10          read the report.

11                   CHIEF CLERK: To the President  
12          and members of the Council of the City of  
13          Philadelphia, the Committee of the Whole,  
14          to which was referred Resolution No.  
15          110188, entitled "A resolution confirming  
16          the appointment of Michael Reed as a  
17          member of the Board of Ethics, to serve  
18          in the term ending November 16, 2015";  
19          and

20                   Resolution No. 110189, entitled  
21          "A resolution confirming the appointment  
22          of Judge Phyllis W. Beck as a member of  
23          the Board of Ethics, to serve in the term  
24          ending November 16, 2012," respectfully  
25          reports it has considered the same and

1           3/31/11 - STATED - REPORTS

2       returns the attached resolutions to  
3       Council with a favorable recommendation.

4           COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: These  
5       resolutions will be placed on the Final  
6       Passage Calendar for consideration at our  
7       next session of Council.

8           The Chair recognizes Councilman  
9       Greenlee for a report from the Committee  
10      of Law and Government.

11          COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Thank  
12      you, Madam President. The Committee on  
13      Law and Government reports one bill and  
14      one resolution with a favorable  
15      recommendation.

16          COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
17      you.

18          The Chief Clerk will please  
19      read the report.

20          CHIEF CLERK: The Committee on  
21      Law and Government, to which was referred  
22      Bill No. 100303, entitled "An ordinance  
23      providing for the submission to the  
24      qualified electors of the City of  
25      Philadelphia of the proposal set forth in

1           3/31/11 - STATED - REPORTS

2       a Resolution approved by Council  
3       proposing an amendment of The  
4       Philadelphia Home Rule Charter providing  
5       for a mandatory Budget Stabilization  
6       Reserve"; and

7           Resolution No. 100314, entitled  
8       "A resolution proposing an amendment to  
9       the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter  
10      providing for a mandatory Budget  
11      Stabilization Reserve, and providing for  
12      the submission of the amendment to the  
13      electors of Philadelphia," respectfully  
14      reports it has considered and amended the  
15      same and returns the attached bill and  
16      resolution to Council with a favorable  
17      recommendation.

18           COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
19      Chair recognizes Councilman Greenlee.

20           COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Thank  
21      you, Madam President. I move that the  
22      rules of Council be suspended so as to  
23      permit first reading this day of Bill No.  
24      100303.

25           (Duly seconded.)

1           3/31/11 - STATED - REPORTS

2           COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It  
3 has been moved and properly seconded that  
4 the rules of Council be suspended so as  
5 to permit first reading this day of the  
6 bill just reported from committee.

7           All in favor will indicate by  
8 saying aye.

9           (Aye.)

10          COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those  
11 opposed?

12          (No response.)

13          COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
14 ayes have it, and the bill just read will  
15 be placed on our First Reading Calendar  
16 for today. Resolution No. 100314 will be  
17 placed on the Final Passage Calendar for  
18 our next session of Council.

19          The next order of business is  
20 the consideration of the Calendar. I  
21 note that the bills just reported from  
22 committee with suspension of the rules  
23 have been deemed to have had a first  
24 reading. These bills will be placed on  
25 our Second Reading and Final Passage

1 3/31/11 - STATED - 2ND READING/CONSENT AGENDA

2 Calendar for our next session of Council.

3 As there are no additional  
4 bills on the First Reading Calendar, the  
5 Chair now recognizes Councilwoman Tasco  
6 for a motion concerning the bills on the  
7 Second Reading and Final Passage  
8 Calendar.

9 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you,  
10 Madam President. I move that the rules  
11 of Council be suspended to permit the use  
12 of a Consent Agenda to consider the  
13 following bills on the Second Reading and  
14 Final Passage Calendar. The following  
15 bills are up for the Consent Agenda:

16 Bill Nos. 110074, 110075, 110076, 110077,  
17 110078, 110079, 110080, 110112, 110113,  
18 110114, 110115, 110117, 110119, 110120,  
19 10146, 110 -- I'm sorry; 110146, 110147,  
20 110148, 110149, 110150, 110151, 110152,  
21 110153, 110154, 110155 and 110156.

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Is  
23 there a second?

24 (Duly seconded.)

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It

1 3/31/11 - STATED - 2ND READING/CONSENT AGENDA

2 has been moved and seconded that the  
3 rules of Council be suspended to permit  
4 the use of a Consent Agenda to consider  
5 the bills just read by Councilwoman  
6 Tasco.

7 All in favor please indicate by  
8 saying aye.

9 (Aye.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those  
11 opposed?

12 (No response.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
14 ayes have it, the motion carries, and we  
15 will consider the Consent Agenda shortly.

16 The Chair again recognizes  
17 Councilwoman Tasco for the purpose of  
18 calling up bills and resolutions on the  
19 regular Reading and Final Passage  
20 Calendar.

21 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Thank you,  
22 Madam President. In addition to the  
23 bills being considered on the Consent  
24 Agenda, the following resolutions and  
25 bills are being called up for Second

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2           Reading and Final Passage Calendar today:

3           Nos. 110233, 110234, 110235, 110236,

4           110238, 110111-A, 080015, 080016, 080034,

5           080036, 100215, 100715, 080474, 100610,

6           100611 and 100844. All other bills and

7           resolutions are being held.

8                        COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
9           you.

10                       Before considering these bills  
11           and resolutions, we will consider public  
12           comment as follows: Your public comment  
13           must concern matters on the Second  
14           Reading and Final Passage Calendar for  
15           possible action at today's Council  
16           session. All speakers must sign up in  
17           order to testify. If you have not  
18           already signed up for today's session,  
19           please do so by now giving your name and  
20           the number that you will be testifying on  
21           to the Sergeant-At-Arms, who is located  
22           at the table to my left.

23                       You will be called in the order  
24           in which your name appears on the sign-up  
25           sheet. You will have up to three

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2           minutes, three minutes to speak.

3                     At this time, I would ask the  
4           Chief Clerk to please read the name of  
5           our first speaker.

6                     CHIEF CLERK: Lisa Johnson.

7                     COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: If  
8           Ms. Johnson is in the room, I would ask  
9           her to please come to the microphone. Is  
10          Ms. Johnson here?

11                    (No response.)

12                    COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: All  
13          right. May I suggest that you go on.

14                    CHIEF CLERK: Thomas Sauerman.

15                    COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: And  
16          would you please indicate the bill number  
17          that he will be testifying on.

18                    CHIEF CLERK: Commenting on  
19          Bill No. 110235.

20                    COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Good  
21          morning. Welcome. Please identify  
22          yourself for the record.

23                    MR. SAUERMAN: Thank you. Yes.  
24          My name is Tom Sauerman and I'm speaking  
25          to Bill 110235.

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2                   I have been on the Board of the  
3 Friends of the Falls of the Schuylkill  
4 Library for seven years, and I welcome  
5 this opportunity to speak in support of  
6 this resolution introduced by my  
7 Councilman, Curtis Jones, Jr., regarding  
8 the Free Public Library and its proposed  
9 policy for floating collections. With me  
10 today is Ms. Amy Dougherty, the Executive  
11 Director of the Friends of the Free  
12 Library.

13                   I represent one of 50 Friends  
14 groups across the City that gives  
15 thousands of dollars and hours annually  
16 to our 54-branch library system. The  
17 Friends group met two weeks ago to listen  
18 to the Library administration explain the  
19 need for a floating collection.  
20 Basically, the pilot works like this:  
21 When a book or DVD is purchased by  
22 neighbors specifically for a need at  
23 Branch A and it is loaned to Branch B,  
24 under the proposed policy it will remain  
25 at Branch B and not be returned to A

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2           where it originated as a specific  
3           donation to that branch.

4                       After listening and asking  
5           questions on March 12th, without  
6           exception, the Friends groups told the  
7           Library administration that the proposed  
8           floating collections policy will reduce  
9           donations and will diminish support from  
10          Friends groups across the City and will  
11          result in the loss of unique historical  
12          collections to neighborhood libraries.  
13          Two quick examples of what I'm talking  
14          about.

15                      Across the street from our  
16          library is the Thomas Mifflin Public  
17          School. In the past, the teachers have  
18          requested specific history and geography  
19          books to be added to our library, the  
20          public library, to supplement the  
21          school's depleted library. The purpose  
22          was to have additional materials  
23          available for students to use by simply  
24          walking across the street. We now stand  
25          to lose those books and materials under

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2           this policy.

3                       Second example: The East Falls  
4           Historical Society has gathered a  
5           collection of books related to the role  
6           that textile manufacturing has played in  
7           the history of our great city and  
8           neighborhood. There are other City  
9           neighborhoods that have made interesting  
10          and important contributions. They, like  
11          us, have gathered materials for years so  
12          as not to lose their history and  
13          tradition. We all risk losing those  
14          books when they are -- where they are  
15          most used and needed.

16                      There is never an unwillingness  
17          to share with anyone who wants to use  
18          those books. We borrow books from other  
19          branches all the time. But to experience  
20          the loss of these books that are there  
21          for a specific need will result in the  
22          reduction of donations of money and time  
23          to the many Philadelphians.

24                      On behalf of the Friends  
25          groups, I urge you to support the

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2           resolution and to speak directly to the  
3           Library administration to desist from  
4           implementing the floating collections  
5           policy. Urge them to pay attention to  
6           the significant stewardship offered by  
7           the 50 Friends groups. Other library  
8           systems use a modified floating  
9           collection by returning materials  
10          specifically purchased to meet a  
11          particular neighborhood need.  
12          Philadelphia can do the same.

13                   Thank you.

14                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
15          you very much.

16                   CHIEF CLERK: Joel Wilson.

17                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Is  
18          Mr. Wilson here? Please approach the  
19          microphone. Thank you.

20                   Good morning, sir.

21                   MR. WILSON: Good morning.

22                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA:  
23          Identify yourself and indicate what bill  
24          number you will be speaking on.

25                   MR. WILSON: Yes. My name is

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2           Joel Wilson. I'm speaking on Bill  
3           080474.

4                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
5           you.

6                   MR. WILSON: My name is Joel  
7           Wilson. I have been self-employed here  
8           in the City of Philadelphia since 1992  
9           after graduating from college. I  
10          obtained a degree in computer science  
11          after going to a local high school right  
12          here in Philadelphia. Currently, I serve  
13          as the President and CEO of JCW Computer  
14          Consulting, and I'm proud to say that  
15          actually one of my clients are here, the  
16          Math and Civics Science Charter School.

17                   I currently have four regular  
18          staff and two high school interns. We  
19          are a CompTIA plus authorized computer  
20          service center, Lenovo business partner,  
21          HP business partner, among other industry  
22          partnerships. All of our technicians are  
23          industry certified.

24                   There's a small joke I would  
25          like to share with you that we as small

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2           businessowners say. It goes like this:

3           Hey, when are your sick days?

4                         The answer: Saturday and  
5           Sunday.

6                         The response: You're lucky you  
7           don't work on Saturday and Sunday.

8                         There's a misconception about  
9           small businessowners. We don't have a  
10          golden parachute when we retire. We  
11          don't have a lot of vacation days. Some  
12          of us don't have any sick days. If you  
13          ask the typical businessowner that's been  
14          in business for ten-plus years, you may  
15          find that they took off five days. May.

16                        Small businesses are in a  
17          fragile state, and I don't just say that  
18          because I'm one small business that's  
19          here before you talking. Last year I had  
20          the honor to participate in a U.S. Small  
21          Business Association E-200 program. This  
22          is the key program that throughout the  
23          country, they picked 20 businesses from  
24          20 of the top cities. So I was one of  
25          the representatives here in Philadelphia.

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2           We did a poll. We were studying business  
3           growth statistics, and we used the  
4           Harvard Business Journal and we looked at  
5           how they classified business growth.  
6           Businesses go through existence, that  
7           means just being created; survival; third  
8           stage is success; fourth is take-off; and  
9           five is resource maturity. When we  
10          polled the businesses right here in  
11          Philadelphia, the vast majority were only  
12          in survival.

13                    Many folks may not realize at a  
14          small company the key staff actually make  
15          more money than the owners. There's a  
16          social compact that enables small  
17          businesses to exist. This social compact  
18          is, we need a School District that  
19          produces qualified and competent  
20          employees for us to pull from. Well, if  
21          we speak to the reality of Philadelphia,  
22          we all know there are challenges here.  
23          And from the proposed budget that the  
24          state is putting out, it's going to be  
25          even worse moving forward.

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2                   Local government, if we look  
3 right here in Philadelphia, we have an  
4 Office of Economic Opportunity. If there  
5 was not a problem with small businesses  
6 getting the contracts, there wouldn't be  
7 this office.

8                   Lack of financing, just watch  
9 the news. Almost every week a major news  
10 station is telling you they are not  
11 loaning money to small businesses.

12                   What do small businesses bring  
13 to Philadelphia? Most small  
14 businessowners are very active in their  
15 children's school. We volunteer above  
16 and beyond for social causes, little  
17 league, Big Brother/Big Sister, scouting  
18 programs. We buy from other small  
19 businesses. We hire Philadelphians local  
20 where our businesses are created. We  
21 provide outlets and resources,  
22 non-traditional mentoring set-ups that  
23 you do not get based on budgets of any  
24 institution that's currently here in  
25 Philadelphia.

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2                   I come before the City

3 Council --

4                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA:

5 Excuse me, sir. You're going to have to  
6 conclude your remarks. Your time has  
7 long been up.

8                   MR. WILSON: I am sorry. I  
9 just come to say that small  
10 businessowners do not support this bill.  
11 It will hurt us. It is an unnecessary  
12 mandate. The financial times are not the  
13 proper time to raise any additional  
14 financial costs for us.

15                   Thank you.

16                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: We  
17 appreciate your coming in to make your  
18 comments known. Thank you.

19                   Our next witness?

20                   CHIEF CLERK: Nicole Ross  
21 Giles.

22                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Is  
23 Ms. Giles here?

24                   CHIEF CLERK: Commenting on  
25 080474.

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2           COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Good  
3 morning. Welcome. Please identify  
4 yourself for the record.

5           MS. GILES: Good morning. My  
6 name is Nicole Giles. I'm here  
7 representing the African American Chamber  
8 of Commerce and I'm speaking to Bill  
9 080474.

10           I'd like to speak about this  
11 bill. I'm here to share a few results  
12 from a survey of our membership, which  
13 indicate the prevailing response to this  
14 bill is in opposition to it. Our survey  
15 revealed that about half of our  
16 membership of nearly 500 businesses in  
17 the region offer -- about half of these  
18 businesses offer paid sick leave to their  
19 employees. These packages are primarily  
20 three to five sick days and ten general  
21 paid off -- paid time off with sick and  
22 vacation days combined.

23           The businesses that currently  
24 do not offer paid sick leave, first of  
25 all, would like to, if possible,

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2           according to our survey, but have cited  
3           the following reasons for which they are  
4           opposed to the bill. One is, as a small  
5           businesses, we are financially unable to  
6           provide paid time off. Our business is a  
7           very small operation and to pay someone  
8           for sick leave and then still pay someone  
9           to do the work would be a serious  
10          hardship for our business. With only ten  
11          employees, most positions in the company  
12          are performed by only one person.

13          Therefore, the loss of any one person for  
14          an extended period of time would force us  
15          to hire a back-up person for the  
16          position. Not having reached break-even  
17          as a company yet, this is not financially  
18          feasible and would most likely lead to  
19          our demise as a business.

20                    If an employee can't come in,  
21          then work is delayed and backed up. I  
22          sometimes have to hire someone else to do  
23          the work when we are delayed because of  
24          sick employees. We can't afford to do  
25          both.

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2           I believe it is important to  
3 understand the potentially devastating  
4 impact this could have on our business  
5 community. We also must keep in mind the  
6 impact on the general public.

7           Most of our respondents stated  
8 that they would either increase the cost  
9 of services or relocate outside of the  
10 City of Philadelphia. If this bill is  
11 passed, it will be more difficult to  
12 obtain access to proper goods and  
13 services at a competitive rate.

14           Another finding from our survey  
15 is that many businesses will shift or  
16 reduce vacation pay to sick pay if this  
17 bill is passed. In this case, we could  
18 expect to see an increase in unplanned  
19 absences, causing businesses to operate  
20 on a less routine schedule with varying  
21 cost implications. This bill simply  
22 brings into play too many operational  
23 hazards that would cast yet another  
24 negative impression on doing business in  
25 the City of Philadelphia.

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2                    If there are no businesses here  
3           to generate work for our workforce, then  
4           we all lose.

5                    Finally, the African American  
6           Chamber of Commerce of Pennsylvania, New  
7           Jersey and Delaware certainly encourages  
8           businesses to offer competitive benefits  
9           packages to attract the best talent and  
10          retain our most loyal employees, but not  
11          to the detriment of the business itself.

12                   Thank you.

13                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
14          you very much.

15                   Our next witness?

16                   CHIEF CLERK: Dr. James Plumb,  
17          commenting on 080474.

18                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Good  
19          morning, sir. Welcome. Please identify  
20          yourself for the record.

21                   DR. PLUMB: Thank you, ma'am.  
22          My name is Dr. James Plumb. I'm a  
23          professor in the Department of Family and  
24          Community Medicine at Thomas Jefferson  
25          University and representing Physicians

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2           for Social Responsibility of  
3           Philadelphia, and I rise in support of  
4           Bill 080474.

5                       I currently see patients at the  
6           St. Elizabeth's Health and Healing Center  
7           in Lower North Philadelphia in  
8           partnership with Project H.O.M.E. where a  
9           majority of the folks that I see are  
10          poor, are working for low wages and are  
11          un or underinsured.

12                      As a practicing physician, I am  
13          deeply concerned about the health of the  
14          public and the impact that policy  
15          decisions have on my patients. I am  
16          perplexed by the lack of sensible  
17          policies that affect the health and  
18          well-being of so many citizens, citizens  
19          who struggle to make ends meet, to raise  
20          healthy families and be responsible  
21          employees.

22                      In a city with marked racial  
23          and ethnic disparities in health  
24          outcomes, the absence of paid sick leave  
25          may be an important factor perpetuating

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2           these disparities.

3                       So how does this play out in my  
4           practice in my experience? Right now I  
5           have patients who feel that they are in  
6           charge of their health. They have  
7           immunized their children. They've  
8           stopped smoking. They're using their  
9           inhalers correctly. They're following  
10          their diets and taking their medications,  
11          and yet they and their children remain at  
12          risk for symptom exacerbation, longer  
13          hospitalizations and an unfortunate  
14          choice between working sick and losing  
15          wages, wages that often keep them from  
16          falling off an economic cliff.

17                      I have asthmatic patients who  
18          have waited several days to be seen,  
19          requiring a trip to the emergency room  
20          for aggressive treatment. I have  
21          patients who experience chest pain and/or  
22          severe headaches, and they wait days to  
23          see me for fear of taking off work, only  
24          to find dangerously high blood pressure.  
25          And I have mothers whose child is sent to

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2           daycare with diarrhea, only to infect  
3           other children. And I have patients who  
4           are left alone during the day with  
5           illness because their caregivers have  
6           gone to work.

7                        When exploring the reasons for  
8           treatment delay, the stories of those  
9           working for minimum wage, decision about  
10          rent payments, food and medications are  
11          all influenced by even one day's lost  
12          wages.

13                       I urge passage of the Promoting  
14          Healthy Families and Workplace.

15                       COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
16          you, Doctor. We appreciate your coming  
17          in to testify.

18                       (Appause.)

19                       CHIEF CLERK: Dina Yarmus,  
20          commenting on 080474.

21                       COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Good  
22          morning.

23                       MS. YARMUS: Good morning. I'm  
24          here with over 40 people in support of  
25          this bill today.

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2           My name is Dina Yarmus. I was  
3 born and raised in Northeast  
4 Philadelphia. I went to Ursinus College  
5 right outside of Philadelphia, and this  
6 past year I've settled in South  
7 Philadelphia, in your district, Chairman.  
8 My father is a school teacher for the  
9 Philadelphia public schools. My mother  
10 works as a school nurse. My older  
11 sister, my boyfriend and I, like over  
12 20,000 workers in this city, are servers,  
13 restaurant workers. I, though, unlike my  
14 sister, am one of the lucky ones. I have  
15 sick days. I am one of the handful of  
16 unionized restaurant workers in this  
17 city. I work at Tavern 17 at the  
18 Radisson-Warwick Hotel and I'm a member  
19 of a proud and strong union, Unite Here,  
20 Local 274.

21           But what does that mean? It  
22 means a group of brave workers who worked  
23 there before me did something very  
24 similar to what we're doing here right  
25 now. They fought for what was right.

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2           They fought for people to be treated like  
3           human beings. They fought for the right  
4           to have sick days.

5                     Restaurant work is often long  
6           hours with inconsistent days off. It's  
7           long days on your feet, oftentimes doing  
8           the work of two people and dealing with  
9           the emotional labor of keeping people  
10          happy. Sometimes we need a day off.  
11          We're interacting with many different  
12          people and their germs. Sometimes we get  
13          sick.

14                    What I want to submit is three  
15          things. First, everyone, including  
16          restaurant workers, deserve sick days.

17                    The second is that the public  
18          is better served by a social policy that  
19          doesn't pressure working-class people to  
20          work even when they're sick and talk to  
21          you at your tables and serve you your  
22          food.

23                    And, lastly, businesses can  
24          afford to pay sick days, as evidenced by  
25          my employer, who continues to be

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2           profitable and even grow in a recession.

3                       I am proud to be here in  
4           support of paid sick days.

5                       Thank you.

6                       (Appause.)

7                       COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
8           next witness?

9                       CHIEF CLERK: Mark O'Connor,  
10          commenting on 080474.

11                      MR. O'CONNOR: Thank you,  
12          President and members of Council. My  
13          name is Mark O'Connor. I'm one of the  
14          owners of the Irish Pubs, one at 12th and  
15          Walnut, one at 20th and Walnut, and I'm  
16          here representing a group of  
17          restauranteurs from the Pennsylvania  
18          Restaurant Association, including Garth  
19          Weldon from The Prime Rib, who is the  
20          Chairman of the Pennsylvania Restaurant  
21          Association; Ellen Yin from Fork; Terry  
22          and Michael McNally from London's Grill;  
23          Pete Ciarrocchi from Chickie and Pete's;  
24          James Conboy from George Well Meats; and  
25          my partners, Richard and Catherine Burke.

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2           The hospitality industry is one  
3 of the largest employers in the City and  
4 draws employees because of, I believe,  
5 the flexible nature of the employment.  
6 There are some long shifts. There are  
7 some short shifts. You don't have to  
8 work every day. You can work some  
9 nights. We have a lot of students  
10 working for us. We have some single  
11 mothers who only want to spend a day or  
12 two at work. And the flexible nature has  
13 also given us a mechanism for when people  
14 are sick or need time off, and, that is,  
15 generally they take care of each other.  
16 They cover each other's shifts.  
17 Sometimes they need our help to do that,  
18 the restaurant managers, but we're happy  
19 to do it, because that's why they're  
20 there. So that if they have a test  
21 coming up as a student, they're able to  
22 take the time off to study for that test.  
23 If a mother wants to go to her child's  
24 kindergarten play, she can switch her  
25 day. Same goes when someone is sick. We

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2           just switch the days and allow them to  
3           continue to work and make a living.

4                        Secondarily, there's a cost  
5           involved, of course, to this bill. Here  
6           are some of the things that we're facing  
7           at the Irish Pub this year. Of course,  
8           we have the ten percent real estate tax  
9           increase, but that's only for two years,  
10          right? That's what I heard anyway.

11          Deregulation of electric supply, which is  
12          going to be cost increases. Two days ago  
13          there was a New York Times article  
14          talking about food inflation being hidden  
15          from the public by smaller packaging.

16                        So all of these things are  
17          costs that are weighing on us now. And  
18          the Irish Pub has a Poor Richard's  
19          Luncheon, soup and sandwich, homemade,  
20          \$4, every single day. There's no way we  
21          can afford to pay an employee not to come  
22          to work, pay another employee to take  
23          their shift and perhaps pay them overtime  
24          and keep our concept intact, which has  
25          been there for 30 years.

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2                   So I implore you not to  
3       legislate something that is being taken  
4       care of in-house.

5                   Thank you.

6                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
7       you.

8                   CHIEF CLERK: Robert Taylor,  
9       commenting on 110238, 110077 and 110120.

10                  COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Good  
11       morning, Mr. Taylor. Please identify  
12       yourself for the record.

13                  MR. TAYLOR: Good morning,  
14       Madam President. My name is Robert  
15       Taylor. I'm a citizen and resident of  
16       South Philadelphia. I am thankful for  
17       this opportunity to make public comment,  
18       and I thank all of those, including  
19       Councilman and fellow Overbrook alumni,  
20       Councilman Jones, for the opportunity to  
21       make this public comment.

22                  Free speech is good.

23                  Regarding amending Resolution  
24       No. 080001, please don't create a  
25       suspension calendar. If bills are

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2           unlikely to pass final passage, they  
3           should be abolished. However, if a  
4           suspension calendar is created, public  
5           comment should be permitted long before  
6           action is sought on the bill.

7                     I do not want to see another  
8           photo enforcement traffic signal light.  
9           These devices automatically harass the  
10          public. Please vote against this  
11          proposed ordinance amending Chapter  
12          12-3000 of The Philadelphia Code, Vine  
13          Street at Broad Street.

14                    Quote, "The town of Swindon  
15          abandoned the use of fixed cameras in  
16          2009, questioning their cost  
17          effectiveness with the cameras being  
18          replaced by vehicle activated warning  
19          signs and enforcement by police using  
20          mobile speed cameras. In the nine months  
21          following the switch-off, there was a  
22          small reduction in accident rates."  
23          Wikipedia.

24                    Also, I stand against all of  
25          the parking ordinances. The

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2           ever-changing and endless rules and  
3           regulations are starting to already  
4           squeeze Center City, as documented to  
5           some extent in the cable show that used  
6           to be called "Parking Wars." Now this  
7           massive regulation is spilling into every  
8           neighborhood. Recently, 32 citizens were  
9           arrested for failure to pay parking  
10          tickets. Why should we permit more  
11          reasons for citizens to be arrested? Why  
12          should the City Council make the  
13          situation worse by constantly increasing  
14          parking regulations, in this case by up  
15          to 23 new regulations at one time? The  
16          situation is becoming overwhelming.

17                   Thank you, and God bless.

18                   I would also like to submit  
19          this information or copies of this  
20          information to City Council.

21                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
22          you very much, sir.

23                   CHIEF CLERK: Juanita Love,  
24          commenting on 080474.

25                   MS. LOVE: Thank you. I'm

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2 Juanita Love and I'm an organizer at the  
3 Philadelphia Security Officers Union,  
4 PSOU. We support Bill 080474 --

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA:

6 Excuse me, Ms. Love. Could you pull the  
7 microphone down a little, because I'm  
8 having difficulty hearing you.

9 MS. LOVE: Is that better?

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
11 you. Much better.

12 MS. LOVE: Sorry. Should I  
13 start over? Is it okay?

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA:

15 Please.

16 MS. LOVE: Good morning. I am  
17 Juanita Love, organizer for the  
18 Philadelphia Security Officers Union at  
19 Philadelphia Museum of Art. Our union is  
20 PSOU. We support Bill 080474 for Healthy  
21 Families. PSOU is the first union  
22 exclusively for security officers in this  
23 country. Our election was won on October  
24 10th, 2009, and it was against the  
25 largest private security company in the

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2           country, Allied Barton. They would not  
3           even recognize our union until last year,  
4           May of 2010, and that was because of the  
5           pressure and support we received from the  
6           public and from City Council.

7                     The makeup of our union is 75  
8           percent female and about 98 percent  
9           African American or people of color.

10          Most are single head of household.

11          Nineteen, about 20 years ago there was a  
12          union at the Philadelphia Museum of Art,  
13          but the makeup was different. The  
14          officers were mostly white, mostly male.

15          The starting salaries at that time was  
16          about \$30,000 a year, over \$14 an hour.

17          The average now is 9.50 to 10.03, and our  
18          take-home for the year is between 13 and  
19          17 thousand dollars.

20                     We can all tell you stories  
21          about what it feels like to go to work  
22          sick. We cannot afford to take off. And  
23          so we do support Bill 080474.

24                     We're also asking for public  
25          support to put pressure on the Museum to

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2           get rid of Allied Barton and to protest  
3           against the Museum getting City money.  
4           The Museum never cuts corners on any  
5           other area in terms of the big renovating  
6           project that's at the Museum, in terms of  
7           other -- the other unions that work at  
8           the Museum. We are the largest makeup in  
9           terms of all of the unions at the Museum  
10          and yet they're nickel and diming and  
11          scrimping on our salary, so we really  
12          need the public support.

13                   Thank you.

14                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
15          you.

16                   (Appause.)

17                   CHIEF CLERK: Henri Marcial,  
18          commenting on 080474.

19                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Good  
20          morning, sir. Welcome. Please identify  
21          yourself for the record.

22                   MR. MARCIAL: Good morning. My  
23          name is Henri Marcial and I'm testifying  
24          on behalf of the Small Business Union in  
25          opposition to Bill No. 080474, the paid

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2           sick leave bill.

3                     Don't worry, I've left my stick  
4           at home today, and I apologize if being  
5           blunt in the past may have offended  
6           anyone. However, my constituents are  
7           feeling severe pain as a result of this.

8                     Today, as promised, I will be  
9           providing an update regarding the Small  
10          Business Union's investigation into the  
11          availability of short-term sick leave  
12          insurance products and their  
13          affordability for the 85 percent of  
14          businesses in Philadelphia with fewer  
15          than 20 employees and the approximately  
16          45,000 registered businesses in  
17          Philadelphia that have annual earnings of  
18          \$100,000 or less.

19                    To summarize prior testimony on  
20          this point, the consideration of an  
21          insurance product came from conversations  
22          between Councilwoman Quinones-Sanchez and  
23          the Small Business Union. At this  
24          meeting, one of the original founders of  
25          the Union suggested checking the

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2           available business insurance products as  
3           a reasonable, cost-effective way of  
4           addressing the overall intent of the  
5           bill. This founder immediately set to  
6           task, and these are the findings to date.

7                         There's a product that  
8           businesses can purchase that will provide  
9           up to one week's pay per year for medical  
10          absences. By aggregating or grouping a  
11          large number of businesses together under  
12          such a plan, businesses can save  
13          approximately 25 percent of the cost, the  
14          initial cost, what would be considered  
15          the one week's worth of pay they would  
16          otherwise incur. In addition, added  
17          benefits of purchasing such a policy  
18          include reduced administrative costs and  
19          burdens and minimizing the potential for  
20          animosity between employers and employees  
21          over the administration of the sick day  
22          policy, since that would be done by the  
23          insurance company.

24                         Under the current insurance  
25          proposal, we have been able to reduce the

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2           estimated monthly cost to a small  
3           business to approximately \$18 a month per  
4           minimum wage employee. This is a  
5           reasonable method of moving toward the  
6           intended purpose of providing some form  
7           of sick time coverage without  
8           overburdening already stressed  
9           businesses.

10                         There is such a thing as  
11           socially responsible capitalism. The  
12           Small Business Union, without the need  
13           for legislation, has already negotiated  
14           and is providing affordable health  
15           insurance plans to its members, their  
16           employees and their families. In  
17           addition, the Small Business Union is  
18           negotiating to bring new jobs to  
19           Philadelphia and has projects on the  
20           board ready to go that would create in  
21           excess of 100 new jobs in the City within  
22           a year of implementation.

23                         Also, in an effort to reduce  
24           the community's costs of living, the  
25           Small Business Union has partnered with

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2           North American Power Company to provide  
3           competitive electric generation rates for  
4           both businesses and residential  
5           customers.

6                       The Small Business Union is  
7           starting a "Buy Local" program with its  
8           members. The Small Business Union has  
9           also supported Councilwoman Miller's  
10          initiatives in the past. The Small  
11          Business Union is engaging in these  
12          actions and activities without government  
13          help or prodding and has developed a  
14          sustainable, socially responsible  
15          platform for its members. The leadership  
16          of the Union is comprised of  
17          well-educated, experienced businessmen  
18          with diverse backgrounds. They recognize  
19          the value of responsible business  
20          ownership and how local businesses  
21          function, interact and support their  
22          communities. We do not ask for your  
23          help, although that would be appreciated.  
24          All we ask for is that government  
25          recognize these efforts and not hinder

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2           them.

3                       The Union is proof that you can  
4           be a capitalist --

5                       COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA:

6           Excuse me, sir.

7                       MR. MARCIAL: -- without being  
8           a monster.

9                       COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA:

10          Excuse me, sir. Would you mind  
11          concluding your remarks. Your time has  
12          been up.

13                      MR. MARCIAL: Certainly.

14                      We will be providing our  
15          findings to the bill sponsors and will  
16          seek a dialogue with you on this matter.  
17          Remember, small businessowners are not  
18          your enemies. They're your daily workers  
19          just like you. They are your partners,  
20          and the only way to reach a viable and  
21          sustainable step in the right direction  
22          is to work with us, not against us.

23                      Thank you very much.

24                      COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
25          you, sir.

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2           Our next witness?

3           CHIEF CLERK: Tiffany Lomax,  
4           commenting on 080474.

5           MS. LOMAX: Good morning.

6           COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Good  
7           morning.

8           MS. LOMAX: My name is Tiffany  
9           Lomax and I've been a Philadelphia  
10          resident for 38 years. I am a supporter  
11          of earned paid sick days. I work for  
12          Women's Funding Federation here in  
13          Philadelphia, and I've been gainfully  
14          employed for 12 years.

15          I have a son who is 14 years  
16          old. He has severe asthma, allergies and  
17          a history of seizures, and earned sick  
18          paid days have been a blessing to me and  
19          my family and a lifeline for us.

20          I pride myself on working very  
21          hard and making my own way. I don't ask  
22          for any handouts. I'm a full-time  
23          employee and an adult learner at Temple  
24          University. So this bill will impact  
25          single moms like myself that are just

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2 trying to make it and make a better life  
3 for their children. I just ask everybody  
4 to think about if you have a sick child  
5 like I do -- I was slated to be here two  
6 weeks ago. He had a severe asthma  
7 attack. We landed in Children's  
8 Hospital. And then I had to come to work  
9 the next day, but I was fortunate to have  
10 ten paid sick days, which I use annually  
11 to care for my child.

12 As I stated, this is a very  
13 necessary bill. I ask you to just look  
14 at my situation and see that you can be  
15 gainfully employed, you can respectfully  
16 use your paid sick days and still be a  
17 productive citizen in Philadelphia.

18 Thank you so much.

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
20 you very much.

21 Our next witness?

22 (Applause.)

23 CHIEF CLERK: Wayne Jacobs,  
24 commenting on 110111-A.

25 MR. JACOBS: Yes. Good

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2           morning. First I'd like to say that this  
3           legislation would assist the 300,000  
4           formerly convicted people who live in  
5           this city who are prevented from working  
6           and caring for they family. This  
7           legislation would also address the issue  
8           of our continuous issue of poverty that  
9           we have in this city, the 25 percent.

10                    If you look at the 25 percent  
11           poverty and compare that to the folks  
12           that are convicted and who are prevented  
13           from working in this city, that is the  
14           group that we are talking about, those  
15           that is locked into poverty, and the  
16           reason for that is because they cannot  
17           get past the application, that question,  
18           have you ever been convicted.

19                    When talking about formerly  
20           convicted people, we like to sometimes  
21           always look at folks who need job  
22           readiness, job training, but there's  
23           another set of formerly convicted people  
24           who have been home for five, ten, 15, 20,  
25           25 years who are now facing a new

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2           reality, and, that is, that when they go  
3           back and try to regain their employment,  
4           they are now faced with that box as well.  
5           And this box is preventing these folks  
6           from even caring for the families that  
7           they've been caring for for the past ten,  
8           15, 20 years.

9                        So this box -- by passing this  
10           legislation, you would address the issue  
11           of employment for formerly convicted  
12           people. You would also address the issue  
13           of recidivism, because a lot of times  
14           people recidivists only because they  
15           cannot find decent employment.

16                       This box would also make it  
17           possible for formerly convicted people  
18           who have the skills and the right  
19           attitude to perform these jobs would now  
20           be able to work at their skill level  
21           instead of having a person who has a  
22           Master Degree washing dishes.

23                       We have people that comes with  
24           all different types of skill level that  
25           need this box off the applications.

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2           So I applaud -- I am asking  
3 Council today that when they vote, to  
4 vote yes overwhelmingly for this bill.

5           Thank you for this opportunity.

6           COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
7 you very much.

8           (Applause.)

9           CHIEF CLERK: Fred Fisher,  
10 commenting on 080016 and 080024.

11          MR. FISHER: Good morning.

12          COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Good  
13 morning, Mr. Fisher. Nice seeing you  
14 again.

15          MR. FISHER: Thank you for the  
16 opportunity to speak. Today I'm going to  
17 speak about those two. I think they're  
18 entitled "Safety."

19          As a background, I'd like to  
20 say if you go to a Philadelphia Tea Party  
21 Patriot meeting -- and I've gone to a lot  
22 in South Philly and Center City -- they  
23 hand you this document. Some people  
24 might consider it radical. It's the  
25 Constitution of the United States.

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2                   If you look at it, amended to  
3           the Constitution, it says, A  
4           well-regulated malitia being necessary to  
5           the security of a free state, the right  
6           of the people to keep and bear arms shall  
7           not be infringed. And I have to say that  
8           sitting around looking here, we enjoy the  
9           freedoms we have. If it wasn't for an  
10          armed citizenry back at that time, we  
11          would not be enjoying those freedoms  
12          today, because they beat their  
13          oppressors, the English.

14                   Now, these two bills, which  
15          regulate arms and ammunition, are just  
16          another burden on the law-abiding  
17          citizens. I don't believe a criminal is  
18          going to follow these laws. How they get  
19          their guns, how they get their ammunition  
20          is not going to be through the normal  
21          process of obtaining them. It will be  
22          some sort of illegal process. And to  
23          tell you the truth, I know when something  
24          bad happens with a gun, it makes the  
25          headlines, but if you look at the history

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2           of the world, most of the criminal  
3           activity of the world has been done by  
4           governments. Every day you may pick up a  
5           newspaper where it says 40 protestors  
6           killed here, 25 protestors killed here.  
7           They're being shot by their government.  
8           Now, of course, once in a while you get a  
9           crazy person who has a gun, but to impose  
10          these laws on law-abiding citizens seems  
11          unnecessary. And, of course, those  
12          citizens may cross City Line Avenue and  
13          not have to deal with these laws.

14                 So I'm just putting forth as  
15          based on the Second Amendment of the  
16          Constitution that these laws not be  
17          passed.

18                 Thank you.

19                 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
20          you very much.

21                 CHIEF CLERK: Jennifer Clarke,  
22          commenting on 110111-A.

23                 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Good  
24          morning. Welcome.

25                 MS. CLARKE: Good afternoon.

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2           It's a little bit after noon.

3                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Is it  
4           afternoon? Time goes by.

5                   MS. CLARKE: My name is  
6           Jennifer Clarke. I'm the Executive  
7           Director of the Public Interest Law  
8           Center of Philadelphia and a resident of  
9           the 5th Councilmanic District. I'm here  
10          today to support Council as it prepares  
11          to take a powerful step toward  
12          prohibiting a new kind of discrimination;  
13          that is, a discrimination based on a  
14          person's conviction.

15                   We know that the number of  
16          people who are being convicted is  
17          skyrocketing, and we also know that those  
18          people are disproportionately men and  
19          disproportionately people of color. It's  
20          this discrimination -- if it prevents  
21          large numbers of people from getting  
22          jobs, how are we ever going to escape the  
23          poverty that is pervading some of our  
24          neighborhoods?

25                   The idea that you can't

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2           discriminate against people with  
3           convictions isn't new. In fact, we  
4           already have a law in Pennsylvania that  
5           requires employers to take a -- only to  
6           take a count of convictions to the extent  
7           that the conviction relates to the job.  
8           But we know that from what we hear,  
9           people don't know about the law and  
10          people are ignoring that law. So this  
11          ordinance will change all that. That's  
12          our hope and our expectation. Now  
13          employers will know, and the employers  
14          that believe in giving people a second  
15          chance will change their policies and  
16          they won't consider those convictions in  
17          the first instance. And if they don't  
18          change their policies, then we've got  
19          plaintiff's lawyers who, yes, will come  
20          and make sure that people do get a second  
21          chance.

22                        The people at the Public  
23           Interest Law Center -- we at the Public  
24           Interest Law Center use the law to help  
25           people get the most fundamental needs of

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2           life - education, healthcare - and what  
3           could be more fundamental than a job.

4                        So we support this legislation,  
5           and I say as a Philadelphian, I'm proud  
6           that the City Council is poised to take  
7           the first step toward eliminating this  
8           terrible new form of discrimination.

9                        Thank you very much.

10                      COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
11           you.

12                      (Applause.)

13                      COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Do we  
14           have any other speakers, Mr. Chief Clerk?

15                      CHIEF CLERK: I have no other  
16           names on the list, Madam President.

17                      COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Oh, I  
18           believe someone...

19                      Please identify yourself for  
20           the record.

21                      MR. TA'BON: How you doing? My  
22           name is Michael Ta'Bon. This is my son  
23           SirRahn Jackson-Ta'Bon, and my wife, Gwen  
24           Jackson-Ta'Bon.

25                      I just came here today, first

1           3/31/11 - STATED - PUBLIC COMMENT

2           of all, to applaud Ms. Donna Reed Miller,  
3           myself, along with the 300,000 invisible  
4           men who are with me today. It takes a  
5           strong person to stand up for people who  
6           can't stand up for they selves, and I  
7           just wanted to applaud you and thank you  
8           for standing up for us.

9                       Basically, for those who don't  
10           understand how imperative it is for an  
11           ex-convict to have a job, my name is  
12           Michael Ta'Bon, DQ-1233. I'm on parole  
13           until 2012. I've been in the City of  
14           Philadelphia back now on parole for  
15           approximately nine months. I still don't  
16           have a job. I work for the most high.  
17           He chose to hire me when man won't. And  
18           I have a family, and when y'all knock  
19           that box off, you give me an opportunity  
20           to be a man, to give my child some food,  
21           to give him a better education than I  
22           had, to keep him out of prison, to  
23           provide for my wife.

24                       I mean, I have nothing else to  
25           say today. I think a picture is worth a

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2 thousand words. This is the family of an  
3 ex-convict, for those who need to see.

4 It probably look kind of like y'all's.

5 God bless y'all.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
7 you.

8 (Applause.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA:  
10 Mr. Decker, do we have any other  
11 witnesses?

12 CHIEF CLERK: There are no  
13 other names on the public comment list,  
14 Madam President.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
16 you.

17 We will now proceed with our  
18 Consent Agenda. I will ask the Clerk to  
19 read the titles of all of the bills on  
20 the Consent Agenda. After each title is  
21 read, any member may object to the  
22 inclusion of the bill on the Consent  
23 Agenda. Upon such an objection and  
24 without debate, the bill will be  
25 immediately removed from the Consent

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2 Agenda and placed on our regular Final  
3 Passage Calendar.

4 The Clerk will now read the  
5 titles of the bills on the Consent  
6 Agenda.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Bill No. 110074,  
8 entitled "An ordinance amending Section 2  
9 of an Ordinance (Bill No. 080637)  
10 approved November 19, 2008, entitled 'An  
11 ordinance authorizing and directing the  
12 revision of lines and grades on a portion  
13 of City Plan Nos. 34-S and 41-S by  
14 striking from the City Plan and vacating  
15 the legally open portions of Packer  
16 Avenue from Christopher Columbus  
17 Boulevard to the Pierhead Line of the  
18 Delaware River,' by extending the period  
19 for compliance with the terms and  
20 conditions stated therein"; and

21 Bill No. 110075, entitled "An  
22 ordinance authorizing the construction of  
23 a sewer and appurtenant work, required to  
24 alleviate unsanitary conditions in a  
25 portion of Asbury Terrace"; and

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2 Bill No. 110076, entitled "An  
3 ordinance establishing a parking  
4 regulation on 21st Street, east side,  
5 Chew Avenue to Conlyn Street"; and

6 Bill No. 110077, entitled "An  
7 ordinance establishing a parking  
8 regulation on Smedley Street, both sides,  
9 Tioga Street to Ontario Street"; and

10 Bill No. 110078, entitled "An  
11 ordinance establishing a parking  
12 regulation on Olney Avenue, north side,  
13 Broad Street to 15th Street"; and

14 Bill No. 110079, entitled "An  
15 ordinance establishing a parking  
16 regulation on Sydenham Street, both  
17 sides, Venango Street to Erie Avenue";  
18 and

19 Bill No. 110080, entitled "An  
20 ordinance establishing a parking  
21 regulation on 17th Street, east side,  
22 Clearfield Street to Allegheny Avenue";  
23 and

24 Bill No. 110112, entitled "An  
25 ordinance establishing a parking

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2 regulation on Girard Avenue, both sides,  
3 Broad Street to 15th Street"; and

4 Bill No. 110113, entitled "An  
5 ordinance establishing a parking  
6 regulation on Taylor Street, west side,  
7 Parrish Street to Brown Street"; and

8 Bill No. 110114, entitled "An  
9 ordinance establishing a parking  
10 regulation on 21st Street, both sides,  
11 Wallace Street to Mt. Vernon Street"; and

12 Bill No. 110115, entitled "An  
13 ordinance establishing a parking  
14 regulation on Shirley Street, west side,  
15 19th Street to Olive Street"; and

16 Bill No. 110117, entitled "An  
17 ordinance establishing a parking  
18 regulation on Old York Road, both sides,  
19 Tioga Street to Rising Sun Avenue"; and

20 Bill No. 110119, entitled "An  
21 ordinance establishing a parking  
22 regulation on Brown Street, both sides,  
23 19th Street to 20th Street"; and

24 Bill No. 110120, entitled "An  
25 ordinance amending Chapter 12-3000 of The

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2 Philadelphia Code, entitled 'Use of An  
3 Automated Red Light Enforcement System to  
4 Prevent Red Light Violations,' by  
5 authorizing the installation of red light  
6 enforcement systems at the intersection  
7 of Vine Street at Broad Street"; and

8 Bill No. 110146, entitled "An  
9 ordinance establishing a parking  
10 regulation on Carpenter Street, both  
11 sides, 10th Street to 11th Street"; and

12 Bill No. 110147, entitled "An  
13 ordinance establishing a parking  
14 regulation on Franklin Street, east side,  
15 Wolf Street to Ritner Street"; and

16 Bill No. 110148, entitled "An  
17 ordinance establishing a parking  
18 regulation on Morris Street, both sides,  
19 12th Street to 13th Street"; and

20 Bill No. 110149, entitled "An  
21 ordinance establishing a parking  
22 regulation on Clarion Street, west side,  
23 Ritner Street to Porter Street"; and

24 Bill No. 110150, entitled "An  
25 ordinance establishing a parking

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2 regulation on 12th Street, both sides,  
3 Mifflin Street to Moore Street"; and

4 Bill No. 110151, entitled "An  
5 ordinance establishing a parking  
6 regulation on McKean Street, both sides,  
7 11th Street to 12th Street"; and

8 Bill No. 110152, entitled "An  
9 ordinance establishing a parking  
10 regulation on McClellan Street, south  
11 side, Juniper Street to 13th Street"; and

12 Bill No. 110153, entitled "An  
13 ordinance establishing a parking  
14 regulation on Iseminger Street, west  
15 side, Mifflin Street to McKean Street";  
16 and

17 Bill No. 110154, entitled "An  
18 ordinance establishing a parking  
19 regulation on Juniper Street, west side,  
20 Porter Street to Shunk Street"; and

21 Bill No. 110155, entitled "An  
22 ordinance establishing a parking  
23 regulation on Porter Street, north side,  
24 13th Street to 12th Street"; and

25 Bill No. 110156, entitled "An

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2 ordinance establishing a parking  
3 regulation on Christian Street, both  
4 sides, 12th Street to 13th Street."

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
6 you.

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

10 The Chief Clerk will please  
11 call the roll. Each Councilmember shall  
12 vote aye on each of the bills, nay on  
13 each of the bills or indicate those bills  
14 for which the member is voting aye and  
15 those for which the member is voting nay.

16 I hope that's as clear as blue  
17 mud. We all understand it? Okay.

18 The Chief Clerk will please  
19 call the roll.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman  
21 Blackwell.

22 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye on  
23 all bills.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman  
25 Clarke.

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2 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye on all

3 bills.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

5 DiCicco.

6 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Aye on all

7 bills.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

9 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye on all

10 bills.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

12 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye on all

13 bills.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

15 Greenlee.

16 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Aye on

17 all bills.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

19 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye on all

20 bills.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kelly.

22 COUNCILMAN KELLY: Aye on all

23 bills.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

25 Kenney.

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2 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye on all

3 bills.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

5 Krajewski.

6 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye on

7 all bills.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

9 Miller.

10 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye on

11 all bills.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

13 O'Neill.

14 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye on all

15 bills.

16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

17 Reynolds Brown.

18 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye on all

19 bills.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.

21 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye on all

22 bills.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

24 Sanchez.

25 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye on

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2 all bills.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

4 Tasco.

5 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye on all

6 bills.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

8 Verna.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye

10 on all bills.

11 A majority of all members

12 having voted in the affirmative for each

13 of the bills, the bills on the Consent

14 Agenda are passed.

15 We will now consider the bills

16 and resolutions on the regular Second

17 Reading and Final Passage Calendar.

18 The Clerk will please read the

19 title of Resolution No. 110233.

20 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution

21 proclaiming the week of April 10, 2011 as

22 "National Crime Victims' Rights Week."

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The

24 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Miller.

25 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: I move

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2 for the adoption of the resolution.

3 (Duly seconded.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It  
5 has been moved and seconded that the  
6 resolution be adopted.

7 All in favor will indicate by  
8 saying aye.

9 (Aye.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those  
11 opposed?

12 (No response.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
14 ayes have it and the resolution is  
15 adopted.

16 The Chief Clerk will please  
17 read the title of Resolution No. 110234.

18 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution  
19 authorizing the Commissioner of Public  
20 Property to execute and deliver to the  
21 Redevelopment Authority of the City of  
22 Philadelphia, without consideration,  
23 deeds conveying conditional fee simple  
24 title to certain City-owned lots or  
25 pieces of ground with the buildings and

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2 improvements thereon, situate in the  
3 Thirteenth Ward of the City of  
4 Philadelphia.

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
6 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Miller.

7 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: I move  
8 for the adoption.

9 (Duly seconded.)

10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It  
11 has been moved and seconded that the  
12 resolution be adopted.

13 All in favor will indicate by  
14 saying aye.

15 (Aye.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those  
17 opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
20 ayes have it and the resolution is  
21 adopted.

22 We will now consider Resolution  
23 No. 110235.

24 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution  
25 urging the Free Library of Philadelphia

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2 to reconsider its proposed policy on  
3 "floating collections" in order to ensure  
4 the preservation and continuing  
5 enhancement of the unique and historical  
6 collections of local neighborhood  
7 libraries.

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
9 Chair recognizes Councilman Jones.

10 COUNCILMAN JONES: I move for  
11 the adoption.

12 (Duly seconded.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It  
14 has been moved and seconded that the  
15 resolution be adopted.

16 All in favor will say aye.

17 (Aye.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those  
19 opposed?

20 (No response.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
22 ayes have it and the motion passes.

23 We will now consider Resolution  
24 110236.

25 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution

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2 authorizing the Commissioner of Public  
3 Property to execute and deliver to the  
4 Redevelopment Authority of the City of  
5 Philadelphia, without consideration,  
6 deeds conveying conditional fee simple  
7 title to certain City-owned lots or  
8 pieces of ground with the buildings and  
9 improvements thereon, situate in the  
10 Thirty-First Ward of the City of  
11 Philadelphia.

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
13 Chair recognizes Councilman DiCicco.

14 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: I move for  
15 the adoption.

16 (Duly seconded.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It  
18 has been moved and seconded that the  
19 resolution be adopted.

20 All in favor will signify by  
21 saying aye.

22 (Aye.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those  
24 opposed?

25 (No response.)

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

4 The Chief Clerk will please  
5 read the title of Resolution 110238.

6 CHIEF CLERK: A resolution  
7 further amending Resolution No. 080001,  
8 as amended, which provides Rules for the  
9 Government of the Council of the City of  
10 Philadelphia, by creating a suspension  
11 calendar for bills and resolutions for  
12 which no immediate action is sought.

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

17 The Chair recognizes Councilman  
18 Clarke. Councilman Clarke, did you make  
19 a motion? I'm getting way ahead of  
20 myself today.

21 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Madam  
22 President, I was going to make a motion  
23 on the suspension, or are you talking  
24 about the resolution?

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: No.

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2 We're still on Resolution 110238.

3 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Okay. I  
4 make a motion on the resolution.

5 (Duly seconded.)

6 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Be adopted.  
7 I'm sorry.

8 (Duly seconded.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It  
10 has been moved and seconded that the  
11 resolution be adopted. Is that what  
12 you're interested in?

13 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Yes.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: All  
15 in favor will say aye.

16 (Aye.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those  
18 opposed?

19 (No response.)

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
21 ayes have it and the motion carries.

22 The Clerk will please read the  
23 title of Bill No. 110111-A.

24 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance  
25 amending Title 9 of The Philadelphia

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2 Code, entitled "Regulation of Businesses,  
3 Trades and Professions," by enacting a  
4 new Chapter 9-3000, entitled "Fair  
5 Criminal Record Screening Standards," to  
6 establish provisions and requirements for  
7 the screening of criminal records by  
8 certain employers within the City of  
9 Philadelphia.

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

14 All in favor --

15 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: It's a  
16 bill. Roll call.

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
18 you, Councilman Kenney. I appreciate it.

19 The Chief Clerk will please  
20 call the roll.

21 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Council  
22 President, point of order.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Yes.

24 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: I'd like  
25 to speak on this bill prior to the vote.

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2 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Be my  
3 guest.

4 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Thank  
5 you.

6 I'd like to begin by thanking  
7 those who have taken an interest and  
8 helped with this long effort in getting  
9 fair legislation that will help people  
10 with criminal records and doesn't hurt  
11 the employers at the same time. I am  
12 confident that what we have before us is  
13 both fair and will be successful.

14 People with criminal records  
15 are discriminated against in many ways,  
16 ranging from employment, housing,  
17 healthcare, public assistance and the  
18 list is long. The statistics are  
19 frightening. There are 65 million U.S.  
20 adults with criminal records in the  
21 United States, and here in Philadelphia  
22 about 300,000, or one-fifth of our  
23 population, has some kind of criminal  
24 record.

25 In 2010, the Philadelphia

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2 Prisons processed more than 36,000 people  
3 and a little more than 36,000 were also  
4 released. Statistics show us that 61  
5 percent of those released return to  
6 prison within three years.

7 The ban-the-box legislation we  
8 hope will be one of -- a good step to  
9 help with reentry. And I'm not going to  
10 go over what the legislation does. It's  
11 in the bill, but it is a legislation that  
12 applies to all employers, public or  
13 private, with the exception of the  
14 employers that are required to do  
15 background checks by law and the criminal  
16 justice agencies.

17 This legislation will promote  
18 the capacity of ex-offenders and allow  
19 them to take care of themselves and their  
20 family and work towards reducing  
21 recidivism. This bill further -- the  
22 importance of this bill is that we  
23 further begin to break down reentry  
24 barriers and not to continue to create a  
25 permanent underclass of Philadelphia

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2 residents. Everyone deserves a second  
3 chance.

4 Thank you. I just wanted to  
5 say --

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
7 you.

8 (Applause.)

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
10 Chair recognizes Councilman Kenney.

11 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Thank you,  
12 Madam President.

13 I would like to commend  
14 Councilwoman Miller and her staff for  
15 their diligence in the development of  
16 this legislation and all the hearings and  
17 testimony that was taken. Sitting in on  
18 all this testimony, the story kept  
19 recurring to me in my mind, and I wanted  
20 to read it today. It's not very long,  
21 but I think it's in the spirit of what  
22 this bill is trying to do, and it can be  
23 found in the Gospel of Luke 15:11 through  
24 32.

25 There was a man who had two

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2 sons. The younger one said to his  
3 father, Father, give me my share of the  
4 estate. So he divided his property  
5 between them.

6 Not long after that, the  
7 younger son got together all he had, set  
8 off for a distant country, and there  
9 squandered his wealth in wild living.

10 After he had spent everything,  
11 there was a severe famine in that whole  
12 country, and he began to be in need.

13 So he went and hired himself  
14 out to a citizen of that country, who  
15 sent him to his fields to feed pigs.

16 He longed to fill his stomach  
17 with the pods that the pigs were eating,  
18 but no one gave him anything.

19 When he came to his senses, he  
20 said, How many of my father's hired  
21 servants have food to spare and here I am  
22 starving to death.

23 I will set out to go back to my  
24 father and say to him, Father, I have  
25 sinned against heaven and against you.

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2 I am no longer worthy to be  
3 called your son. Make me like one of  
4 your hired servants.

5 So he got up and went to his  
6 father. But while he was still a long  
7 way off, his father saw him and was  
8 filled with compassion for him. He ran  
9 to his son, threw his arms around him and  
10 kissed him.

11 The son said to him, Father, I  
12 have sinned against heaven and against  
13 you. I am no longer worthy to be called  
14 your son.

15 But the Father said to his  
16 servants, Quick, bring the best robe and  
17 put it on him. Put a ring on his finger  
18 and sandals on his feet.

19 Bring the fattened calf and  
20 kill it, let's have a feast and  
21 celebrate. For this son of my mine was  
22 dead and is alive again. He was lost and  
23 is found.

24 Meanwhile, the older son, who  
25 was in the field when he came near the

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2 house, he heard the music and dancing.

3 So he called one of the servants and

4 asked him what was going on.

5 Your brother has come, he  
6 replied, and your father has killed the  
7 fattened calf, because he has him back  
8 safe and sound.

9 The older brother became angry  
10 and refused to go in. So his father went  
11 out and pleaded with him.

12 But he answered his father,  
13 Look, all these years I've been slaving  
14 for you and never disobeyed your orders,  
15 yet you never gave me even a young goat  
16 so I can celebrate with my friends.

17 But when this son of yours who  
18 has squandered your property with  
19 prostitutes comes home, you kill the  
20 fattened calf for him.

21 My son, the father said, you  
22 are always with me, and everything I have  
23 is yours, but we had to celebrate and be  
24 glad, because this brother of yours was  
25 dead and is alive again. He was lost and

1 3/31/11 - STATED - 2ND READING/CONSENT AGENDA

2 now he's been found.

3 And I think this bill and what  
4 it's trying to do will change lives in a  
5 very positive way, because you cannot be  
6 found again and you cannot come alive  
7 again unless you have an opportunity to  
8 work in honest and dignified work to take  
9 care of your family and yourself. So I  
10 applaud Councilwoman Miller for  
11 everything she's done to get this bill  
12 passed and I'm looking forward having the  
13 honor of voting for it.

14 Thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
17 you.

18 This bill having been read on  
19 two different days, the question now is  
20 shall the bill pass finally.

21 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Madam  
22 President, may I say one thing?

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: I'm  
24 sorry. Your light isn't on. Something  
25 is going on. Please.

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2 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank  
3 you. I was considering whether or not to  
4 make remarks, but after Councilwoman  
5 Miller and then Councilman Kenney, I  
6 think the proper word to say is "Amen."

7 (Applause.)

8 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: All  
9 right. Apparently the monitor is not  
10 working. Anybody else want to be  
11 recognized?

12 (No response.)

13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA:  
14 Seeing no one, this bill having been read  
15 on two different days, the question now  
16 is shall the bill pass finally.

17 The Chief Clerk will please  
18 call the roll.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman  
20 Blackwell.

21 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman  
23 Clarke.

24 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

1 3/31/11 - STATED - 2ND READING/CONSENT AGENDA

2 DiCicco.

3 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

5 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

7 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

9 Greenlee.

10 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

12 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kelly.

14 COUNCILMAN KELLY: No.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

16 Kenney.

17 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

19 Krajewski.

20 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: No.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

22 Miller.

23 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.

24 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

25 O'Neill.

1 3/31/11 - STATED - 2ND READING/CONSENT AGENDA

2 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: No.

3 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

4 Reynolds Brown.

5 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.

7 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: No.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

9 Sanchez.

10 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

12 Tasco.

13 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

15 Verna.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

17 The votes are?

18 CHIEF CLERK: The ayes are 13;

19 the nays are four.

20 (Applause.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: We

22 will now consider Bill No. 080015.

23 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance

24 amending Chapter 10-800 of The

25 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Safety," by

1 3/31/11 - STATED - 2ND READING/CONSENT AGENDA

2 adding a new Section to prohibit the  
3 possession or acquisition of firearms by  
4 persons charged with certain criminal  
5 offenses.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
7 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Miller.

8 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Council  
9 President, I move that this bill be  
10 placed on the Suspension Calendar.

11 (Duly seconded.)

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It  
13 has been moved and seconded that Bill No.  
14 080015 be placed on the Suspension  
15 Calendar.

16 All in favor will indicate by  
17 saying aye.

18 (Aye.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those  
20 opposed?

21 (No response.)

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
23 ayes have it and the motion carries.

24 The Chief Clerk will please  
25 read Bill No. 080016.

1 3/31/11 - STATED - 2ND READING/CONSENT AGENDA

2 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance  
3 amending Chapter 10-800 of The  
4 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Safety," by  
5 adding a new Section entitled  
6 "Acquisition or Transfer of Firearms," to  
7 regulate the acquiring or transferring of  
8 any firearm within the City.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
10 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Miller.

11 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: I move  
12 that this bill be placed on the  
13 Suspension Calendar.

14 (Duly seconded.)

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It  
16 has been moved and seconded that Bill No.  
17 080016 be placed on the Suspension  
18 Calendar.

19 All in favor will say aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those  
22 opposed?

23 (No response.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
25 ayes have it. The motion carries.

1 3/31/11 - STATED - 2ND READING/CONSENT AGENDA

2 We will now consider Bill No.

3 080034.

4 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance

5 amending Chapter 10-800 of The

6 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Safety," by

7 adding a new Section 10-834, entitled

8 "Sale or Transfer of Ammunition," to

9 require all sales of ammunition for

10 firearms --

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The

12 Chair recognizes Councilman Clarke.

13 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you,

14 Madam President. I move that this bill

15 be placed on the Suspension Calendar.

16 (Duly seconded.)

17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It

18 has been moved and seconded that Bill No.

19 080034 be placed on the Suspension

20 Calendar.

21 All in favor will say aye.

22 (Aye.)

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those

24 opposed?

25 (No response.)

1 3/31/11 - STATED - 2ND READING/CONSENT AGENDA

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

4 We will now consider Bill No.  
5 080036.

6 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance  
7 amending Chapter 10-800 of The  
8 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Safety," by  
9 adding a new Section, entitled "Reporting  
10 Requirements Upon the Application for or  
11 Renewal of a License to Carry a Firearm."

12 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
13 Chair recognizes Councilman Clarke.

14 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you,  
15 Madam President. I move that this bill  
16 be placed on the Suspension Calendar.

17 (Duly seconded.)

18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It  
19 has been moved and seconded that Bill No.  
20 080036 be placed on the Suspension  
21 Calendar.

22 All in favor will say aye.

23 (Aye.)

24 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those  
25 opposed?

1 3/31/11 - STATED - 2ND READING/CONSENT AGENDA

2 (No response.)

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

5 We will now consider Bill No.  
6 100215.

7 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance  
8 authorizing the revision of lines and  
9 grades on a portion of City Plan No. 312  
10 by striking from the City Plan Hegerman  
11 Street from Aubrey Avenue to a point  
12 approximately one-hundred eighty-seven  
13 feet southwestwardly therefrom.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
15 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Krajewski.

16 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Thank  
17 you, Madam President. I make a motion to  
18 move this bill to the Suspension  
19 Calendar.

20 (Duly seconded.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It  
22 has been moved and seconded that Bill No.  
23 100215 be placed on the Suspension  
24 Calendar.

25 All in favor will say aye.

1 3/31/11 - STATED - 2ND READING/CONSENT AGENDA

2 (Aye.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those  
4 opposed?

5 (No response.)

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

8 The Chief Clerk will please  
9 read the title of Bill No. 100715.

10 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance  
11 authorizing Mike Scotese, owner of Grey  
12 Lodge Pub, to construct, own and maintain  
13 an open-air sidewalk cafe at 6235  
14 Frankford Avenue.

15 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
16 Chair recognizes Councilwoman Krajewski.

17 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: I make  
18 a motion to move this bill to the  
19 Suspension Calendar.

20 (Duly seconded.)

21 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It  
22 has been moved and seconded that Bill No.  
23 100715 be placed on the Suspension  
24 Calendar.

25 All in favor will say aye.

1 3/31/11 - STATED - 2ND READING/CONSENT AGENDA

2 (Aye.)

3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those  
4 opposed?

5 (No response.)

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

8 I would ask the Chief Clerk to  
9 please read the title of Bill No. 080474.

10 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance  
11 enacting a new Chapter 9-3300, entitled  
12 "Promoting Healthy Families and  
13 Workplaces," to provide that certain  
14 employees are entitled to paid sick  
15 leave.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
17 Chair recognizes Councilman Clarke.

18 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you,  
19 Madam President. I move that this bill  
20 be placed on the Suspension Calendar, but  
21 I believe that Councilman Greenlee wants  
22 to say a word or two.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: I  
24 believe he does, too. So I would be  
25 more -- you would like to be recognized

1 3/31/11 - STATED - 2ND READING/CONSENT AGENDA

2 for a few remarks and then you can second  
3 the motion.

4 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Okay.

5 Thank you, Madam President.

6 Just quickly, I certainly  
7 support the motion to move to the  
8 Suspension Calendar. I know there's more  
9 work to do on this bill, and we'll keep  
10 working on amendments and we'll keep  
11 talking to whoever wishes to talk to us  
12 to try to make this bill the best it can  
13 be, but I just want to make one thing  
14 clear to everybody that's listening and  
15 everybody here. This bill is not going  
16 to go away. And I really hope and I  
17 believe in the not-too-distant future  
18 we'll have a fair and equitable sick  
19 leave policy that protects the health of  
20 Philadelphians, which is what this bill  
21 is all about. And with that, I second  
22 that motion. Thank you.

23 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It  
24 has been moved and seconded that Bill No.  
25 080474 be placed on our Calendar.

1 3/31/11 - STATED - 2ND READING/CONSENT AGENDA

2 All in favor will say aye.

3 (Aye.)

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those  
5 opposed?

6 (No response.)

7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
8 ayes have it and that bill number will be  
9 placed on our Suspension Calendar.

10 We will now consider Bill No.  
11 100610.

12 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance  
13 amending Section 12-917 of The  
14 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Valet  
15 Parking Zones," by revising the Valet  
16 Parking Zone permit fees.

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

21 The Chief Clerk will please  
22 call the roll.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman  
24 Blackwell.

25 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

1 3/31/11 - STATED - 2ND READING/CONSENT AGENDA

2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

3 Clarke.

4 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.

5 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

6 DiCicco.

7 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Aye.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

9 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

11 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

13 Greenlee.

14 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Aye.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

16 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kelly.

18 COUNCILMAN KELLY: Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

20 Kenney.

21 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

23 Krajewski.

24 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

1 3/31/11 - STATED - 2ND READING/CONSENT AGENDA

2 Miller.

3 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

5 O'Neill.

6 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

8 Reynolds Brown.

9 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.

10 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.

11 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

13 Sanchez.

14 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

16 Tasco.

17 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

19 Verna.

20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

21 The ayes are 17; the nays are

22 zero. A majority of all members having

23 voted in the affirmative, the bill

24 passes.

25 We will now consider Bill No.

1 3/31/11 - STATED - 2ND READING/CONSENT AGENDA

2 100611.

3 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance  
4 amending Section 9-601 of The  
5 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Garages,  
6 Parking Lots, Sales Lots and Sales  
7 Showrooms," by requiring Public Parking  
8 Lots and Public Garages to accept credit  
9 cards and debit cards in payment of  
10 parking rates.

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

15 The Chief Clerk will please  
16 call the roll.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman  
18 Blackwell.

19 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman  
21 Clarke.

22 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman  
24 DiCicco.

25 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Aye.

1 3/31/11 - STATED - 2ND READING/CONSENT AGENDA

2 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

3 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

5 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

7 Greenlee.

8 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

10 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kelly.

12 COUNCILMAN KELLY: Aye.

13 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

14 Kenney.

15 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.

16 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

17 Krajewski.

18 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.

19 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

20 Miller.

21 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.

22 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

23 O'Neill.

24 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

1 3/31/11 - STATED - 2ND READING/CONSENT AGENDA

2 Reynolds Brown.

3 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.

5 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

7 Sanchez.

8 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

9 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

10 Tasco.

11 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

13 Verna.

14 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

15 The ayes are 17; the nays are  
16 zero. A majority of all members having  
17 voted in the affirmative, the bill  
18 passes.

19 We will now consider Bill No.

20 100844.

21 CHIEF CLERK: An ordinance  
22 amending Section 11-505 of The  
23 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Sidewalk  
24 Paving and Other Improvements by Property  
25 Owners," by providing further

1 3/31/11 - STATED - 2ND READING/CONSENT AGENDA

2 specifications for sidewalk paving, in  
3 particular, permitting the use of  
4 sustainable products and materials for  
5 the construction of sidewalks.

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

10 The Chief Clerk will please  
11 call the roll.

12 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman  
13 Blackwell.

14 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Aye.

15 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman  
16 Clarke.

17 COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Aye.

18 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman  
19 DiCicco.

20 COUNCILMAN DiCICCO: Aye.

21 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Goode.

22 COUNCILMAN GOODE: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Green.

24 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

1 3/31/11 - STATED - 2ND READING/CONSENT AGENDA

2 Greenlee.

3 COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Jones.

5 COUNCILMAN JONES: Aye.

6 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Kelly.

7 COUNCILMAN KELLY: Aye.

8 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

9 Kenney.

10 COUNCILMAN KENNEY: Aye.

11 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

12 Krajewski.

13 COUNCILWOMAN KRAJEWSKI: Aye.

14 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

15 Miller.

16 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Aye.

17 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman

18 O'Neill.

19 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Aye.

20 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

21 Reynolds Brown.

22 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Aye.

23 CHIEF CLERK: Councilman Rizzo.

24 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Aye.

25 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

1 3/31/11 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 Sanchez.

3 COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Aye.

4 CHIEF CLERK: Councilwoman

5 Tasco.

6 COUNCILWOMAN TASCO: Aye.

7 CHIEF CLERK: Council President

8 Verna.

9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Aye.

10 The ayes are 17; the nays are  
11 zero. A majority of all members having  
12 voted in the affirmative, the bill  
13 passes.

14 I believe that completes our  
15 Calendar; does it not?

16 Are there any speeches on the  
17 part of the minority?

18 (No response.)

19 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Are  
20 there speeches on the part of the  
21 majority?

22 The Chair recognizes  
23 Councilwoman Brown.

24 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you,  
25 Madam President. On this the last

1           3/31/11 - STATED - SPEECHES

2           official day of the celebration of  
3           Women's History Month, I rise to speak in  
4           my capacity as a proud member of the  
5           Philadelphia Visitors and Convention  
6           Bureau -- I might add that Councilman Jim  
7           Kenney and Brian O'Neill are members of  
8           that Board -- and as a member of the  
9           Multi-Cultural Affairs Congress. Let the  
10          record reflect that contrary to the  
11          naysayers, the blockers and the  
12          impossibility thinkers, our new \$780  
13          million Convention Center expansion  
14          project, the largest public works project  
15          in the history of the Commonwealth,  
16          finally opened its doors to the public.  
17          On March 4th, the leader, the engine, the  
18          CEO, the woman, Ahmeenah Young, delivered  
19          this largest public works project on time  
20          and on budget.

21                 As Mayor Nutter stated, this is  
22          a regional asset that will fulfill the  
23          dreams and hopes of many people in this  
24          city. It's not just a building. It  
25          represents an investment.

1                   3/31/11 - STATED - SPEECHES

2                   The expansion is expected to  
3                   contribute \$150 million to the region,  
4                   create about 2,000 hospitality jobs and  
5                   generate 10 million in income tax revenue  
6                   for the state.

7                   Why do I raise this issue,  
8                   Madam President? I join the Philadelphia  
9                   Visitors and Convention Bureau Board of  
10                  Directors, its 1,000 members and staff  
11                  who are always mindful that we must seize  
12                  every opportunity when we can to sell  
13                  this spectacular new space, its services  
14                  and our thriving city to new customers.

15                  The sad part is that when we  
16                  choose not to do this, we impact the  
17                  most -- those employees who are the  
18                  front-line hotel, restaurant, attraction  
19                  and retail workers that rely on the  
20                  convention industry to put food on their  
21                  tables.

22                  In closing, as Nick  
23                  DeBenedictis acknowledged in a recent  
24                  letter, are things perfect? No. Are  
25                  there changes needed to make us even more

1           3/31/11 - STATED - SPEECHES

2           competitive and cost effective? Yes.

3           But major progress has been made.

4           National savvy customers demanded the

5           tough decisions that Executive Director

6           Ahmeenah Young and her team embarked on.

7                     The rebooking rate has doubled

8           in the last three years, which means

9           something is being done right.

10                    Madam President, we all should

11           be routing for the home team and

12           encouraging customers to choose

13           Philadelphia.

14                    I thank you, Madam President.

15                    COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA:

16           You're welcome.

17                    The Chair recognizes Councilman

18           Jones.

19                    COUNCILMAN JONES: Thank you,

20           Madam President.

21                    Change will not come if we wait

22           for some other person, some other time.

23           We are the ones we've been waiting for,

24           and we are the change we seek. That's

25           President Barack Obama.

1           3/31/11 - STATED - SPEECHES

2           Yesterday, a thousand -- close  
3           to a thousand students marched from the  
4           Criminal Justice Center to the School  
5           District headquarters, and what they  
6           wanted was hope in solidarity for a  
7           decent education. And I might say they  
8           looked beautiful marching, understanding  
9           their First Amendment rights.

10           As we will discuss in these  
11           Chambers, the School District is facing a  
12           \$629 million potential shortfall. And  
13           let me state what that number really  
14           means. It means for those students the  
15           potential increase in class size, the  
16           reduction of programs in art, music and  
17           athletics. It means the elimination of  
18           daycare assistance. It means the  
19           potential elimination of full-day  
20           kindergarten, and it means the reduction  
21           of extended-day programs and the end of  
22           summer school and summer programs.

23           We and the School District of  
24           Philadelphia owe the 167,000 students  
25           that we serve a decent education. We

1 3/31/11 - STATED - SPEECHES

2 cannot allow them to be the pawns of the  
3 education game. They deserve better. We  
4 must do more.

5 Thank you, Madam President.

6 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
7 you.

8 The Chair recognizes  
9 Councilwoman Blackwell.

10 COUNCILWOMAN BLACKWELL: Thank  
11 you, Madam President.

12 I only want to remind people  
13 that we have a 1 o'clock Housing hearing,  
14 and it will take place on time.

15 Thank you.

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
17 you.

18 The Chair recognizes  
19 Councilwoman Miller.

20 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: Thank  
21 you, Madam President.

22 I just want to thank my Council  
23 colleagues for their vote today on our  
24 ban-the-box bill.

25 Thank you.

1                   3/31/11 - STATED - ADJOURNMENT

2                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Thank  
3 you.

4                   The Chair recognizes Councilman  
5 Clarke for a motion to adjourn.

6                   COUNCILMAN CLARKE: Thank you,  
7 Madam President. I move that Council  
8 stand adjourned until Thursday, April  
9 7th, 10:00 a.m., 2011.

10                   (Duly seconded.)

11                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: It  
12 has been moved and seconded that Council  
13 stand adjourned until April 7th.

14                   All in favor will say aye.

15                   (Aye.)

16                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: Those  
17 opposed?

18                   (No response.)

19                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT VERNA: The  
20 ayes have it and the motion carries.

21                   Thank you.

22                   (Stated Meeting adjourned at  
23 12:45 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the proceedings, evidence and objections are contained fully and accurately in the stenographic notes taken by me upon the foregoing matter on March 31, 2011, and that this is a true and correct transcript of same.

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MICHELE L. MURPHY  
RPR-Notary Public

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