

City of Philadelphia



Council of the City of Philadelphia Office of the Chief Clerk Room 402, City Hall Philadelphia

(Resolution No. 240706)

RESOLUTION

Authorizing the Committee on Education to hold hearings investigating the rate of food waste and determining distribution options for excess food in the School District of Philadelphia.

WHEREAS, In a study conducted as a part of the Green Futures plan, food waste was identified as 30% of the Philadelphia School District's waste stream; and

WHEREAS, 60% of principals and 57% of lead kitchen staff in the District describe food waste as a challenge in a survey conducted at schools that serve breakfast in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, A survey of cafeteria workers in the District showed that 64% of respondents said that at least half the food served is being thrown away; and

WHEREAS, Despite the district's best efforts, it is observed that a significant portion of food served during school lunches is wasted daily. This not only represents a loss of valuable resources but also has negative implications for the environment and the district's budget; and

WHEREAS, Philadelphia public schools can manage their resources more efficiently by identifying the extent of food waste, helping to reduce costs by ensuring that food is not purchased unnecessarily; and

WHEREAS, Food waste contributes to environmental issues, and reducing waste helps lessen the environmental footprint of schools; and

WHEREAS, Excess food can be redirected to those in need which helps to combat food insecurity in the community, ensuring that nutritious food reaches students and families who might otherwise go without; and

WHEREAS, A more environmentally conscious and socially responsible generation can be fostered as addressing food waste can provide students insights on sustainability and resource management; now, therefore, be it

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RESOLUTION NO. 240706 continued

RESOLVED, THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, Authorizes the Committee on Education to hold hearings investigating the rate of food waste and determining distribution options for excess food in the School District of Philadelphia to allow schools to reduce costs, lower their environmental footprint, help those combating food insecurity, and enlighten students.

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CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Resolution, Adopted by the Council of the City of Philadelphia on the fifth day of September, 2024.

Kenyatta Johnson
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Elizabeth McCollum
INTERIM CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmember Jones

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Jones, Phillips, Gauthier, Landau, Lozada,
Brooks, O'Rourke, Driscoll, O'Neill, Squilla, Bass and Ahmad