



# City of Philadelphia

City Council  
Chief Clerk's Office  
402 City Hall  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

**BILL NO. 260643**

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**Introduced June 11, 2026**

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**Councilmember Squilla**

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**Referred to the  
Committee on Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs**

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## **AN ORDINANCE**

Designating the twenty-seventh day of March as the holiday "Philadelphia Flag Day," all under certain terms and conditions.

WHEREAS, William Penn began by naming his city for Love, our Philadelphia Civic Flag asks us to continue. The Philadelphia Flag connects all of us to our city's founding mission – to let Love be the guiding force; and

WHEREAS, The Philadelphia Civic Flag was conceived and designed by the Rev. Dr. Henry C. McCook, esteemed Entomologist and Vice President of the Academy of Natural Sciences Drexel University (1882); and

WHEREAS, The Philadelphia Civic Flag was the first adopted city flag in the nation (March 27, 1895) and the only American city flag never to be altered. These facts are verified in a letter from the PA Historical and Museum Commission dated Feb. 21, 2014; and

WHEREAS, The meaningful message symbolized on our city flag:  
PHILADELPHIA MANETO! "Let Brotherly Love Continue" through Peace, Hope, Justice, and Prosperity for all citizens; now, therefore,

*THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA HEREBY ORDAINS:*

SECTION 1. From this day forward, the twenty-seventh day of March is hereby designated the holiday Philadelphia Flag Day.

SECTION 2. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately.