

City of Philadelphia



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

(Resolution No. 230901)

RESOLUTION

Declaring each Friday in December 2023 as “Shop Black Business Friday” in the City of Philadelphia.

WHEREAS, Black culture runs deep among Philadelphia’s historic sites, artistic havens, cultural offerings and in Philadelphia’s many Black-owned shops, restaurants, and other businesses; and

WHEREAS, These businesses provide local jobs, goods, services and amenities in neighborhoods throughout Philadelphia, including historically disadvantaged communities; and

WHEREAS, Historical structural inequities and systemic racism have presented barriers for Black and Brown entrepreneurs and small business owners to open, operate, and grow; and

WHEREAS, the Pew Research Center reports that while the number of Black owned businesses is growing in the US, Black and Brown owned businesses accounted for only 3% of all businesses with race and ethnicity data in the Census Bureau’s latest Annual Business Survey; and

WHEREAS, not only are Black and Brown owned businesses vital to the communities they serve, but those businesses bring in an estimated \$141.1 billion in gross revenue nationally; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative to safeguard and grow Philadelphia’s existing Black-owned businesses through investing and supporting them individually as consumers and collectively as a city; and

WHEREAS, VISIT PHILADELPHIA, the tourism marketing organization, is kicking off the holiday season with dedicated marketing efforts to support the economic growth of local Black and Brown-owned businesses; and

WHEREAS, The 2023 holiday season is a critical period for the economic health of small businesses, and an opportunity for residents and visitors to strengthen Philadelphia communities by shopping with Black and Brown-owned businesses; and

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WHEREAS, The City of Philadelphia recognizes that the promotion of Philadelphia small businesses is necessary to increase consumer sales, and, critically, support the jobs, revenue, and economic impact generated by these important community anchors; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, That we hereby declare each Friday in December 2023 as “Shop Black Business Friday” in the City of Philadelphia.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That an Engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to VISIT PHILADELPHIA, further evidencing the sincere respect of this legislative body.

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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 thirtieth day of November, 2023.

Darrell L. Clarke
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Michael A. Decker
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmember Gilmore Richardson

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Gilmore-Richardson, Jones, Vaughn, Driscoll, Gauthier, Bass, Lozada, Harrity, Phillips, Brooks and Thomas