

# City of Philadelphia



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

(Resolution No. 020083)

## RESOLUTION

Urging Philadelphia County storeowners to support truancy prevention efforts by refusing to serve school-age children, weekdays, between the hours of 8:45 A.M. and 2:30 P.M.

WHEREAS, Truancy is at epidemic proportions in Philadelphia public schools, which report that in the 1998-1999 school year, over 44,000 Philadelphia school children were absent from school without an excuse 25 times or more; and

WHEREAS, An average of 13.6% of the total student population of the Philadelphia School District was absent on any given day in 2000-2001, with 50% of these students likely truant; and

WHEREAS, Department of Human Services programs are aimed at both truancy prevention and at working with families of children who are already seriously truant or who have dropped out; and

WHEREAS, Truancy prevention programs include the School Attendance Improvement Project which works with families of children in elementary and middle schools with 10 absences or more; the Truancy Public Awareness Campaign, a poster campaign and hotline; and the Faith-Based Initiative Pilot Project which involves prompt notification of parents and voluntary social service assistance, if needed; and

WHEREAS, Truancy court and other interventions include Truancy Court Social Services; Services to Children in their Own Homes (SCOH) and Intensive Services; and School –Linked Behavioral Health Services; and

WHEREAS, On November 1, 2001, the Police Department secured \$60,000 in funding via the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant to continue its truancy program, which allows police officers to work additional hours, usually 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., to patrol for truants; and

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*RESOLUTION NO. 020083 continued*

WHEREAS, Truancy has been identified as a "risk factor" in many studies of delinquent children and of children manifesting a propensity for school failure and related problems; and

WHEREAS, All Philadelphia storeowners are in a position to play a key role in promoting prompt and consistent school attendance, and to support the City of Philadelphia's Truancy Prevention Program; now therefore

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, That we urge Philadelphia County storeowners to support truancy prevention efforts by refusing to serve school-age children, weekdays, between the hours of 8:45 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

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*RESOLUTION NO. 020083 continued*

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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 fourteenth of February, 2002.

Anna C. Verna  
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Marie B. Hauser  
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmembers Miller, Blackwell, DiCicco and Reynolds Brown

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Miller, Blackwell, DiCicco, Reynolds Brown Nutter, Tasco, Council President Verna, Goode, Ortiz, O'Neill, Longstreth, Rizzo, Mariano, Krajewski and Clarke