



City of Philadelphia

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

BILL NO. 260533

Introduced May 14, 2026

Councilmember Squilla

**Referred to the
Committee on Streets and Services**

AN ORDINANCE

Amending Section 9-208 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled "Sidewalk Cafés," to revise remedies and provide for enforcement of sidewalk cafés provisions, all under certain terms and conditions.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. Section 9-208 of The Philadelphia Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 9-208. Sidewalk Cafés.

(8) Remedies.

* * *
* * *

(e) Penalties. The penalty for violation of this Section *not covered by subsection (8)(g)* or any condition of a license or of a regulation issued pursuant to this Section shall be a fine of three hundred dollars (\$300) per day.

(f) Repeat Offenders. Any person who commits, on more than one occasion, a violation of *the preceding provisions* of this Section or any condition of a license or of a regulation issued pursuant to this Section, shall be guilty of a separate offense of Repeat Violation, and for each such Repeat Violation, shall be subject to a fine of not more than three hundred dollars (\$300). A person shall be guilty of a Repeat Violation regardless whether the second or subsequent violation occurs before or after a judicial finding of a first or previous violation. Each violation, after the first, shall constitute a separate Repeat Violation offense.

City of Philadelphia

BILL NO. 260533 continued

(g) Active Application Enforcement. In the First Council District, the penalty for a violation of this Section shall be a fine of seventy-five dollars (\$75) per quarter if:

(.1) Any person has submitted an application for a sidewalk café for a restaurant by June 1, 2026;

(.2) The application remains under review by the Department;

(.3) The City is in possession of a duly signed indemnification statement by the applicant;

(.4) The restaurant is located where permitted by subsection (2) or where permitted pursuant to special ordinance; and

(.5) The applicant maintains table and chairs placed in accordance with subsection (6) but has neither erected nor constructed any structure.

SECTION 2: This Ordinance shall take effect immediately.