

City of Philadelphia



(Bill No. 250888-A)

AN ORDINANCE

Amending Title 9 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled “Regulation of Businesses, Trades and Professions” by adding a new chapter to prohibit third-party restaurant reservation services from arranging unauthorized restaurant reservations with food service establishments and to provide for definitions, prohibited acts, penalties, and enforcement, all under certain terms and conditions.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

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

TITLE 9. REGULATION OF BUSINESSES, TRADES AND PROFESSIONS.

* * *

CHAPTER 9-6700. THIRD-PARTY RESTAURANT RESERVATION SERVICES.

§ 9-6701. Definitions.

In this Chapter the following definitions apply:

- (1) *Food Service Establishment. A business categorized under the North American Industry Classification System (“NAICS”) as Full-Service Restaurants (NAICS 722511).*
- (2) *Third-party Reservation Service. An entity or person engaged in offering, listing, or arranging dining arrangements or restaurant reservation services for Food Service Establishments it does not own or operate.*

§ 9-6702. Prohibitions.

- (1) *No Third-party Reservation Service shall charge, collect, or receive a fee, directly or indirectly, for one or more reservations for a Food Service Establishment without a prior written authorization from the Food Service Establishment. A Third-party Reservation Service shall bear the burden of proof in establishing that a Food Service Establishment provided prior written authorization that is applicable to a particular reservation or period of operation.*

§ 9-6703. Enforcement and Penalties.

- (1) *The City of Philadelphia may impose a civil penalty on a Third-party Reservation*

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Service in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for each violation of this Chapter.

(2) Violations by a Third-party Reservation Service shall accrue for each day and for each Food Service Establishment in which there has been a violation.

(3) The Department of Licenses and Inspections:

- (a) May issue regulations governing the implementation of this chapter;*
- (b) Shall have the authority to enforce this chapter, investigate complaints, and issue fines or citations for violations.*

§ 9-6704. Record Keeping.

(1) A Third-party Reservation Service shall retain proof of written authorization from a Food Service Establishment, as required under Section 9-6702, for the stated duration of the authorization plus a minimum of one year.

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SECTION 2. This Ordinance shall take effect 90 days after enactment.

Explanation:

Italics indicate new matter added.

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CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Bill, Passed by the City Council on December 11, 2025. The Bill was Signed by the Mayor on January 7, 2026.



Elizabeth McCollum

Chief Clerk of the City Council