



# City of Philadelphia

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

**BILL NO. 150610**

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**Introduced June 18, 2015**

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**Councilmember O'Brien**

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**Referred to the  
Committee on Licenses and Inspections**

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## **AN ORDINANCE**

Amending Title 4 "The Philadelphia Building Construction and Occupancy Code," of The Philadelphia Code, by amending Subcode "B," (The Philadelphia Building Code) by adding new requirements for food waste disposers in some new residential construction; all under certain terms and conditions.

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

SECTION 1. Subcode B of Title 4 is amended to read as follows:

### TITLE 4. THE PHILADELPHIA BUILDING CONSTRUCTION AND OCCUPANCY CODE

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### SUBCODE "B" (THE PHILADELPHIA BUILDING CODE)

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### CHAPTER 29 PLUMBING SYSTEMS [RESERVED]

(Delete the Chapter in its entirety [without substitution] *and substitute the following*)

#### *SECTION B-2901. FOOD WASTE DISPOSERS.*

##### *B-2901.1 Legislative Findings*

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- (1) *Cities around the world are increasingly focused on the challenges and opportunities associated with the generation, management and disposition of food waste.*
- (2) *Food waste comprises one of the largest components of household waste.*
- (3) *Approximately 10 pounds of food waste each week is generated by the average American family.*
- (4) *Food waste is one of the most difficult components in the waste stream to manage because it has a high moisture content, sticks to dry recyclables, thereby reducing their potential value, and attracts pests and becomes malodorous.*
- (5) *The Philadelphia Streets Department collects more than 500,000 tons of residential waste each year, which it delivers to disposal facilities at a cost of about \$29,500,000 per year.*
- (6) *Food waste makes up about 10% of Philadelphia's residential waste.*
- (7) *Analysis of the evidence demonstrates that Food Waste Disposers are valid tools for separating kitchen food waste at its source and diverting it to treatment, use and recycling via existing infrastructure.*
- (8) *Food Waste Disposers offer the best opportunity for cost savings in comparison to other alternatives.*

*B-2901.2 Garbage Disposal Requirement. All Residential Group R structures that contain a kitchen area intended for use by the occupant for food preparation and constructed on or after January 1, 2016, shall have at least one food waste disposer unit installed in each kitchen area.*

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**Explanation:**

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted.  
*Italics* indicate matter added.