

City of Philadelphia



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

(Resolution No. 140842)

RESOLUTION

Recognizing and reaffirming the City of Philadelphia's commitment toward the benefits of a diet high in fruits and vegetables, and urging residents to participate in "Meatless Mondays" in order to improve their health.

WHEREAS, In 2008, Mayor Michael Nutter pledged to make Philadelphia the Greenest City in America; and

WHEREAS, According to the United Nations, "Livestock are one of the most significant contributors to today's most serious environmental problems," and the livestock sector is responsible for about 18 percent of all greenhouse gas emissions worldwide; and

WHEREAS, More than 1.7 billion animals are used in livestock production worldwide; and the production of livestock occupies one-third of the world's arable land; and

WHEREAS, A plant-based diet has been demonstrated to use fewer resources and cause less pollution than a meat-based diet; and

WHEREAS, According to the United States Department of Agriculture, Americans consume 195 pounds of meat a year, which is 60 pounds of meat more than they consumed in the 1950s; and

WHEREAS, More than two-thirds of American adults and nearly one-third of American children and teens are overweight and obese; and

WHEREAS, Of the ten largest cities in the United States, Philadelphia has the highest rates of obesity and diabetes; and

WHEREAS, According to the Philadelphia Department of Health, in 2008, 64% of Philadelphia's adults and 57% of Philadelphia's children between ages 6 and 11 were

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overweight or obese; and nearly 70% of children in North Philadelphia were overweight or obese; and

WHEREAS, Health disparities exist, and African-Americans and Hispanics are at a higher risk of diseases linked to poor diet; and

WHEREAS, Choosing to replace meat one day a week is a great way to gain energy, look and feel better, and prevent disease; and

WHEREAS, The American Dietetic Association recognizes that a vegetarian diet decreases the risk for a variety of health issues including heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, obesity, and various cancers; and

WHEREAS, “Meatless Monday,” which was founded in 2003 and is a non-profit initiative associated with the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, encourages people to try food alternatives other than meat at least one day a week; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, That the City of Philadelphia hereby recognizes and reaffirms the benefit of a diet high in fruits and vegetables, and urges residents to participate in “Meatless Mondays” to improve their health.

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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 twenty-third day of October, 2014.

Darrell L. Clarke
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Michael A. Decker
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmembers Reynolds Brown and Johnson

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Reynolds Brown and Johnson