

City of Philadelphia



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

(Resolution No. 250815)

RESOLUTION

Recognizing October 2025 as Cybersecurity Awareness Month in the City of Philadelphia and acknowledging the importance of empowering individuals and organizations to prevent and recognize online threats, providing resources to protect sensitive data, and fostering a culture of digital safety by educating the public on best practices.

WHEREAS, Cybersecurity Awareness Month (CAM) is an annual international campaign that is observed in October to raise awareness about cybersecurity best practices and the importance of online safety. It is a collaborative effort by the public and private sector such as the National Cybersecurity Alliance (NCSA) and Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) to educate the public on protecting themselves from cyber threats, encouraging discussions about digital security, and promoting secure online actions; and

WHEREAS, In October 2004, Cybersecurity Awareness Month was established by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and NCSA. The initiative aimed to promote best practices for online safety, security and increase public awareness of cybersecurity threats. Since its inception, the President and Congress have annually declared October as Cybersecurity Awareness Month in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Cybersecurity is the art of protecting devices, networks, and data from unauthorized access or criminal use. And the practice of ensuring integrity, confidentiality, and availability of information; and

WHEREAS, Cybersecurity is a public safety and economic security priority. The government and private entities have designed and implemented tailored cybersecurity plans and processes to better safeguard operations that will protect our critical infrastructures; and

WHEREAS, The 2025 theme for Cybersecurity Awareness Month used by NCSA is “Stay Safe Online”, focusing on the Core 4 Actions of enabling multi-factor authentication, using strong passwords and a password manager, updating software to build a secure digital environment, and recognizing and reporting scams. Organizations can access free resources and toolkits from the

City of Philadelphia

RESOLUTION NO. 250815 continued

National Cybersecurity Alliance and Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency to run their own awareness campaigns to better engage with the broader security community; and

WHEREAS, Cyberattacks are extremely detrimental to cybersecurity leading to widespread business disruptions, massive financial losses, and significant erosion of trust and reputation for organizations. These attacks exploit vulnerabilities within our critical infrastructures and undermine public trust in institutions and the government. In 2019, a ransomware attack incapacitated the digital systems of the city of Baltimore leaving the municipal government systems comprised until the ransom was paid; and

WHEREAS, Cybersecurity is vital to protect our organizational and personal data from damage, theft, and unauthorized access by cyber threats like ransomware and phishing attacks. Cybersecurity awareness helps to ensure the continuity of business operations, protects critical infrastructure, maintains trust in digital systems, and helps comply with data privacy regulations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, Hereby recognizes October 2025 as Cybersecurity Awareness Month in the City of Philadelphia, and acknowledges the importance of empowering individuals and organizations to prevent and recognize online threats, provide resources to protect sensitive data, and foster a culture of digital safety by educating the public on best practices.

City of Philadelphia

RESOLUTION NO. 250815 continued

CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Resolution, Adopted by the Council of the City of Philadelphia on the twenty-fifth day of September, 2025.

Kenyatta Johnson
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Elizabeth McCollum
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmember Landau

Sponsored by: Councilmembers, Landau, Phillips, Harrity, Driscoll, O'Neill and Squilla