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Title: Recognizing and honoring Ron Wilch, who has risen to become one of the biggest forces in the Philadelphia fashion industry.

Sponsors: Councilmember Jones, Councilmember Bass

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Recognizing and honoring Ron Wilch, who has risen to become one of the biggest forces in the Philadelphia fashion industry.

WHEREAS, Philadelphia has long been a leader in the design and manufacture of textiles and wearing apparel, with many notable Philadelphia designers making significant contributions to this industry. For the past 20 years, Philadelphia has hosted many notable fashion events, including Paris In Philadelphia, Fashion Montage, Philly Fashion Expo, Fashion Is Art Show; and

WHEREAS, Ron Wilch has become one of the biggest forces in the Philadelphia fashion industry. He has been designing and involved in the fashion industry for over 35 years; and

WHEREAS, In addition to creating designs for his own clothing line, Ron Wilch Collection, he operates his business, The Wardrobe Clinic, located at 1500 Walnut St, in the heart of Center City. A few notable celebrities in his client list include, Eddie Murphy, Will Smith, and Katy Perry; and

WHEREAS, Not only is Ron Wilch a fashion icon, his wife Julie Wilch, is a well-known fashion show producer, and has served as the Backstage Manager for Philly Fashion Week for the past 10 years. Their daughter, Grammy Award winning music artist "EVE," is admired for her profound sense of style, and was the creator and driving force behind the "Fetish" brand. Mr. Wilch's son, Farrod Wilch, is also making a mark on the fashion industry through his private label fashion brand, *Motion*, making the Wilch Family leaders in the Philadelphia fashion industry; and

WHEREAS, In 2017, Philadelphia Magazine acknowledged Wilch's outstanding work in fashion at the Wardrobe Clinic, declaring him 'Best Tailor' in their annual Best of Philly issue; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wilch routinely gives back to his fashion roots by hosting a fashion networking event, *Fashion Night Out*, which gives an opportunity for both established and emerging designers to showcase and market their brands on a larger platform. As a result of this increased exposure, employment in the

manufacturing industry in Philadelphia is on the rise; now, therefore be it,

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, That it hereby recognizes and honors Ron Wilch and his family as the “First Fashion Family of Philadelphia,” for all they do to encourage the growth of the Philadelphia fashion industry.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That an Engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to Ron Wilch as evidence of the sincere admiration and respect of this legislative body.