

Legislation Text

File #: 130140, **Version:** 1

Amending Title 21 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled “Miscellaneous,” to increase appointments on the Mayor’s Commission on Aging (MCOA).

WHEREAS, According to 2010 census data, 17.2 percent, approximately 276,000 of Philadelphia residents are at least 60 years old making Philadelphia the most populous city among the nation's 10 largest cities for the number of senior citizens; and

WHEREAS, In March of 2011, Mayor Michael A. Nutter re-launched the Mayor’s Commission on Aging and appointed new members to advise the Mayor on policies and projects that affect older Philadelphians; and

WHEREAS, The defined mission of the Mayor’s Commission on Aging (MCOA) is to promote seamless access to essential support and services through education, outreach and advocacy to Philadelphians 55 and older. The Commission further seeks to position Philadelphia as a national leader in creating an environment that supports and engages a vital aging population; and

WHEREAS, Since the Mayor’s re-launch of MCOA, crimes against Philadelphia older adults have spiraled in areas such as elder abuse, caretaker fraud and predatory lending, and house theft; and

WHEREAS, The Philadelphia Commission on Services to the Aging reported 2,800 intake cases of elder abuse last year, up from 2,050 reported cases in 2008; and

WHEREAS, The Philadelphia District Attorney’s Office has responded to the increase in crimes against older adults by revamping its elder-abuse efforts by establishing the Elder Justice Project to better prosecute perpetrators and to better serve victims of crimes against senior citizens; and

WHEREAS, MCOA will be better equipped to holistically serve the needs of Philadelphia’s vulnerable senior citizen population, improve quality of life and justice for victims of elder abuse and other crimes that are committed against older adults by increasing its Board of Commissioners with representation from Criminal Justice agencies and departments; now, therefore

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. Title 21 of The Philadelphia Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

TITLE 21. MISCELLANEOUS

* * *

CHAPTER 21-900. SERVICES TO THE AGING

§ 21-901. The Philadelphia Commission on Services to the Aging.

* * *

(2) Appointment to Members. The members of the Commission shall be appointed by the Mayor. [It is recommended to the] *The* Mayor [that he] should appoint the following persons:

* * *

(h) [Such other persons as the Mayor shall deem appropriate.] *The Police Commissioner of the City of Philadelphia Police Department or his or her designee;*

(i) *The City of Philadelphia District Attorney or his or her designee;*

(j) *Such other persons as the Mayor shall deem appropriate.*

SECTION 2. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately.

Explanation:

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted.

Italics indicate new matter added.