

Legislation Text

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November 13, 2023

TO THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA:

I am hereby returning unsigned Bill No. 230578 passed by Council at its session on November 2, 2023. Bill Number 230578 amends Chapter 14-1000 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled "Historic Preservation," to establish a temporary demolition moratorium with respect to properties in the area bounded by Ridge Avenue, Rochelle Avenue, Vicaris Street, and Hermit Street; all under certain terms and conditions.

The Planning Commission supports the work of the Historical Commission and the preservation of neighborhoods. Demolition moratoriums can disrupt the Commission's ability to address other historic preservation efforts that should take priority. By creating a moratorium, it pulls resources away from current projects and moves this area to the top of the priority list for designation. This process can have a negative impact on neighborhoods that have fewer resources and may negatively impact black and brown areas of the city.

For these reasons, I am returning Bill Number 230578 unsigned.

Respectfully,
JAMES F. KENNEY
Mayor