

Legislation Text

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Calling on the City of Philadelphia to include the flag of the Republic of Azerbaijan in the display of international flags along the Benjamin Franklin Parkway.

WHEREAS, The iconic Benjamin Franklin Parkway - modeled from the Champs-Élysées in Paris - recently celebrated its 100th birthday in 2018; and

WHEREAS, The mile-long strip is home to Philadelphia's most renowned public parks, museums, and cultural centers; and

WHEREAS, Tourists from around the world visit the Parkway and the accompanying powerhouse of cultural attractions each year; and

WHEREAS, In 1976 - as part of the bicentennial celebration - the City of Philadelphia installed ninety international flags alongside the Parkway; and

WHEREAS, In 2010, nineteen additional nations - Angola, Bangladesh, Belarus, Botswana, Bulgaria, Cambodia, El Salvador, Fiji, Georgia, Indonesia, Kuwait, Nepal, Oman, Qatar, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, St. Kitts & Nevis, Senegal, Tanzania, and Trinidad and Tobago - were recognized and added to the "Flags of Nations" display; and

WHEREAS, The flag raisings were a point of pride for the various immigrant communities that call Philadelphia home; and

WHEREAS, Some nations, however, remained omitted from the display and continue to appeal for their inclusion. Among them includes the Republic of Azerbaijan; and

WHEREAS, Azerbaijan is a diplomatic and economic partner of the United States with a growing number of immigrants residing in the Philadelphia region; and

WHEREAS, The Office of City Representative - responsible for the display of flags - should update the Parkway display to include the flag of Azerbaijan in recognition of the proud and vibrant Azerbaijani American community in Philadelphia; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, That it hereby calls on the City of Philadelphia to include the flag of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the display of international flags along the Benjamin Franklin Parkway.