

Legislation Text

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Also naming the 1100 block of Filbert Street as “Harry Ochs Way,” in honor of longtime Reading Terminal Market merchant Harry G. Ochs Jr.

WHEREAS, The world-renowned Reading Terminal Market is a Philadelphia landmark that has been serving the City of Philadelphia’s residents and visitors for well over a century; and

WHEREAS, The Reading Terminal Market is considered by many as the best farmers market in the United States, housing eighty-six merchants that serve over 90,000 people each week; and

WHEREAS, The family owned and operated Harry G. Ochs & Sons Meats has been a corner stone of the Reading Terminal Market since 1906; and

WHEREAS, Harry G. Ochs Jr. has been working at his family owned business for an astounding fifty six years, beginning at the age of seventeen, and still continues to serve the customers of the Market at the age of seventy four years young; and

WHEREAS, As President and Chairman of the Reading Terminal Market Merchants Association for fifteen years from 1978 to 1993, Harry Ochs Jr. provided critical leadership to position the Market as a viable center where local merchants could thrive well into the twenty-first century; and

WHEREAS, As the chief advocate for the merchants of the Market during the negotiations and subsequent construction of the Convention Center, Harry became a symbol of the Market to its many customers in his efforts to preserve the Market during this turbulent time; and

WHEREAS, The Ochs family tradition continues into its third generation, as two of his four children, Harry III and Nick, operate the business today while Harry Jr. continues to work at the stand part-time; and

WHEREAS, The “Mayor of the Market,” as Harry Ochs Jr. is affectionately and respectfully known by both his fellow merchants and customers, is as much an institution as the Reading Terminal Market itself, and thus it is fitting and proper that Council honor his lifetime of contributions to the Market and its customers and merchants; now therefore

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, That the 1100 block of Filbert Street shall also be known as “Harry Ochs Way.”