# City of Philadelphia

City Council
Chief Clerk's Office
402 City Hall
Philadelphia, PA 19107

## Legislation Details (With Text)

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| **File #:** | 160923 | **Version:** 0 | **Name:** | | |
| **Type:** | Resolution | | **Status:** | ADOPTED | |
| **File created:** | 10/20/2016 | | **In control:** | CITY COUNCIL | |
| **On agenda:** | | | **Final action:** | 10/27/2016 | |
| **Title:** | Calling upon Governor Wolf and the Pennsylvania State Legislature to ensure that individuals incarcerated and working in state prisons have access to clean water and proper health services. | | | | |
| **Sponsors:** | Councilmember Blackwell, Councilmember Bass, Councilmember Taubenberger, Councilmember Reynolds Brown, Councilmember Domb, Councilmember Greenlee, Councilmember Johnson, Council President Clarke, Councilmember Henon, Councilmember Green, Councilmember Squilla, Councilmember O'Neill, Councilmember Parker, Councilmember Jones, Councilmember Quiñones Sánchez, Councilmember Gym | | | | |
| **Indexes:** | | | | | |
| **Code sections:** | | | | | |
| **Attachments:** | 1. Resolution No. 16092300.pdf, 2. Signature16092300.pdf | | | | |

| Date | Ver. | Action By | Action | Result | Tally |
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| 10/27/2016 | 0 | CITY COUNCIL | ADOPTED | | |
| 10/20/2016 | 0 | CITY COUNCIL | Introduced and Ordered Placed On Next Week's Final Passage Calendar | Pass | |

Calling upon Governor Wolf and the Pennsylvania State Legislature to ensure that individuals incarcerated and working in state prisons have access to clean water and proper health services.

WHEREAS, Recently there have been claims of black, foul smelling water at SCI Mahanoy, SCI Frackville and other State Prisons in Pennsylvania, as well as reports of prisoners not receiving specialized medications needed to treat their health conditions; and

WHEREAS, In some cases, the water is so toxic that prisoners are unable to use the water, leaving them with little to no drinking water and virtually no water to bathe in or in less severe cases prisoners are left to drink and bathe in dirty brown water; and

WHEREAS, Using the dirty water can exacerbate existing health conditions for some prisoners, and many prisoners do not have proper access to healthcare services to met their medical needs, and those needing medication become increasingly ill without it; and

WHEREAS, While the water problems at SCI Mahanoy and Frackville are fairly recent, other state prisons have been experiencing similar problems for years causing both prisoners and guards to experience serious health problems including but not limited to shortness of breath, dizziness, body sores and tumors; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Corrections has received complaints about the ongoing issues regarding water and medication but has reportedly not alleviated the problems; and

WHEREAS, The cause of the contaminated water has not been confirmed by the Pennsylvania State Government, and more resources and energy need to be devoted to solving this water and health crisis; and



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WHEREAS, The Government bears the responsibility of protecting its prisoners and should remember that those who are incarcerated are people too, deserving of the basic human necessities that are required for their survival. Therefore, we ask that there be a sense of urgency in resolving these issues that affects the health of individuals under the Pennsylvania State Government's care; and

WHEREAS, A copy of this resolution will be forwarded to the Governor and to all members of the Pennsylvania State Legislature; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF PHILADELPHIA, Calls upon Governor Wolf and the Pennsylvania State Legislature to ensure that individuals incarcerated and working in state prisons have access to clean water and proper health services.



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