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Proposing an amendment to The Philadelphia Home Rule Charter to provide that Council approval is required for certain contracts for one year or less for the purpose of providing legal representation and related services for indigent persons, including but not limited to parents and children who are subjects of dependency proceedings; criminal defendants; persons in juvenile justice proceedings; persons involved in behavioral health proceedings; and indigent persons involved in other proceedings where legal representation is required as a matter of law or by court order; and to provide that Council approval is also required for renewals or extensions of such contracts; and providing for the submission of the amendment to the electors of Philadelphia.

WHEREAS, Under Section 6 of the First Class City Home Rule Act (53 P.S. §13106), an amendment to The Philadelphia Home Rule Charter may be proposed by a resolution of the Council of the City of Philadelphia adopted with the concurrence of two-thirds of its elected members; now, therefore

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, That the following amendment to The Philadelphia Home Rule Charter is hereby proposed and shall be submitted to the electors of the City on an election date designated by Ordinance:

Bold italics indicates matter added by this amendment.

ARTICLE II
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The Council - Its Election, Organization, Powers and Duties

CHAPTER 3
LEGISLATION

* * *

Section 2-309. Leases and Contracts.

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(6) Contracts for a period of one year or less, and renewals or extensions of such contracts.

(a) The following contracts, renewals and extensions may be made only when permitted by Ordinance:

(.1) Contracts for the rendering of services over a period of one year or less that involve an expenditure of more than one hundred thousand dollars ($100,000) for the purpose of providing legal representation and related services for indigent persons, including but not limited to parents and children who are subjects of dependency proceedings; criminal defendants; persons in juvenile justice

proceedings; persons involved in behavioral health proceedings; and indigent persons involved in other proceedings where legal representation is required as a matter of law or by court order.

(.2) Any renewal or extension of the term of a contract described in subsection (.1), including the renewal or extension of the term of a contract entered into prior to the effective date of this subsection (6).

(b) Exemptions.

(.1) Council may by Ordinance exempt from the requirements of subsection (6)(a) any contract, including any renewal or extension, that would otherwise be subject to those requirements.

(.2) Any contract, including any renewal or extension, with the following organizations that would otherwise be subject to the requirements of subsection (6)(a) shall be exempt from those requirements unless Council provides by Ordinance to the contrary: the Defender Association of Philadelphia, the Support Center for Child Advocates, and Community Legal Services.

(c) The requirements of this subsection (6) are in addition to any requirements imposed by other provisions of this Charter.

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