

Legislation Text

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Recognizing the Philadelphia Water Department and the “Imagine a Day Without Water” campaign being held October 6-8 2015 which is geared toward recognizing the importance of clean water in our lives and the investment in infrastructure that is necessary to protect this valuable resource.

WHEREAS, The infrastructure that brings water to and from homes and businesses is essential to the quality of life and economic vitality of the city of Philadelphia; and

WHEREAS, Philadelphia residents on average utilize 87 gallons of water per person, per day; and

WHEREAS, Philadelphia has almost 3,200 miles of water mains with an average age of 70 years; and treats over 250 million gallons of drinking water per day and over 471 million gallons of wastewater and stormwater per day, providing reliable and clean water to over 2 million people; and

WHEREAS, While utilities nationwide are grappling with aging infrastructure, Philadelphia Water is making prudent and sustainable investments guided by a 10-year capital plan; and

WHEREAS, Philadelphia Water has been a model for innovation, delivering notable projects such as the Contaminant Warning System and the Biogas Cogeneration facility; and

WHEREAS, Philadelphia will invest \$2 billion over 25 years in its *Green Cities, Clean Water* program to ensure clean water and an ever-greener Philadelphia for present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, Green stormwater infrastructure will not only ease the burden on our sewers but will provide a maximum return in benefits to the public, the economy and the environment; and

WHEREAS, One-fifth of the U.S. economy would grind to a halt without a reliable and clean source of water; and

WHEREAS, For every one job created in the water sector, another 3.68 jobs are added in the national economy. And for every \$1 spent on infrastructure improvements, the U.S. generates \$6 in returns; now; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, That the City of Philadelphia recognizes that water is essential to the quality of life and economic competitiveness and acknowledges the importance of educating the public about the value of water through the “Imagine A Day Without Water” campaign.

FURTHER RESOLVED , That the City of Philadelphia is dedicated to investing in the City’s water and wastewater infrastructure and calls on our federal partners to bring much-needed funding to Philadelphia to protect and restore our critical water infrastructure.

