

Legislation Text

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Providing for the submission to the qualified electors of the City of Philadelphia the proposal in a Resolution approved by City Council amending The Philadelphia Home Rule Charter by establishing the Office of the Chief Public Safety Director to be responsible for ensuring public safety by coordinating the resources (personnel and employment, property, plant and equipment) within the departments of Police, Prisons, Recreation, and all other relevant City agencies; and authorizing the appropriate officers to publish notice and to make arrangements for the special election.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. There shall be submitted for the approval or disapproval of the qualified electors of the City of Philadelphia at the election to be held on May 16, 2023, an amendment to The Philadelphia Home Rule Charter contained in Resolution No. 230115, approved by City Council on March 9, 2023, and filed in the Office of the City Council.

SECTION 2. There shall be placed on the ballot the following question to be answered “Yes” or “No” by the qualified electors participating in the election:

Should The Philadelphia Home Rule Charter be amended to create the Office of the Chief Public Safety Director and to define its powers, duties and responsibilities?

SECTION 3. The Clerk of City Council is hereby directed to: (i) certify to the Board of Elections, within five (5) days of this Ordinance becoming law, a copy of this Ordinance and Resolution No. 230115; and (ii) to have printed in pamphlet form, in sufficient number for general distribution, the proposed amendment to The Philadelphia Home Rule Charter as set forth in Resolution No. 230115, together with the ballot question set forth in Section 2 of this Ordinance.

SECTION 4. The Clerk of City Council is hereby directed to cause to be published one time each, during the three (3) weeks preceding the election on May 16, 2023, in three (3) newspapers of general circulation in the City of Philadelphia and in The Legal Intelligencer, the proposed amendment to The Philadelphia Home Rule Charter, together with the ballot question set forth in Section 2 of this Ordinance; and further, at such other times and in such other manner as the Clerk may consider desirable.

SECTION 5. The Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to issue a proclamation giving at least thirty (30) days’ notice of such election. The Clerk of City Council shall cause a copy of the proclamation to be published in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the City of Philadelphia, and in The Legal Intelligencer, once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks during the period of thirty (30) days prior to the election. One such publication may be combined with the publication of the notice required by Section 4 of this Ordinance.

SECTION 6. The appropriate officers are authorized and directed to take such action as may be required for the holding of an election on the ballot question set forth in Section 2 of this Ordinance as provided for by the laws

of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.