File #: 250687, **Version:** 0

September 10, 2025

TO THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA:

I am hereby returning unsigned Bill Number 250043, introduced by Councilmember Jamie Gauthier, and passed by City Council on June 05, 2025. This bill will define “affordable housing project” and enable the City to more effectively track zoning approvals and timelines, regardless of whether a variance or special exemption is required.

Bill Number 250043 also alters the fee schedule for appeals to the Zoning Board of Adjustment by waiving the "accelerated hearing" fee for certain defined affordable housing projects. This will increase the number of cases heard on the accelerated schedule, potentially lengthening the time it takes to hear an accelerated appeal and, thus, reducing the difference between an accelerated appeal and a regular appeal.

For these reasons, I am returning Bill Number 250043 unsigned.

Respectfully,
Cherelle L. Parker
Mayor