Legislation Text

File #: 260612, **Version:** 0

Honoring the West Powelton Steppers and Drum Squad on the occasion of their 35th anniversary and designating them as the official steppers and drumline of the City of Philadelphia.

WHEREAS, The West Powelton Steppers and Drum Squad was founded in 1991 by the late Elsie Wise to provide a safe and positive outlet for youth in the West Powelton community; and

WHEREAS, The organization was created to combat neighborhood violence by offering structured programming that instills discipline, respect, and a strong sense of community among young people; and

WHEREAS, Under the direction of Antoine Mapp, the organization has expanded its impact, sending 100 kids to college and bringing Philadelphia's drumline culture to a national stage; and

WHEREAS, The West Powelton Steppers have achieved national recognition, including performing as the official drumline for the Philadelphia 76ers and the Philadelphia Phillies, and participating in the 2025 NBA All -Star Drumline; and

WHEREAS, Their achievements include two Emmy Awards and national features on platforms such as Nickelodeon, ESPN, and the Today Show; and

WHEREAS, The Steppers have earned the nickname of "The Hardest Working Drumline" because they perform over 700 times per year and are also the official drumline for the Philadelphia International Airport, and the Philadelphia Sheriff's Office; and

WHEREAS, The West Powelton Steppers continue to inspire young people across Philadelphia by demonstrating that success can be achieved through discipline, creativity, and dedication; and

WHEREAS, Designating the West Powelton Steppers and Drum Squad as the official steppers and drumline of the City of Philadelphia would recognize their cultural significance and lasting contributions to the City; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, Hereby honors the West Powelton Steppers and Drum Squad on the occasion of their 35th anniversary and designates them as the official steppers and drumline of the City of Philadelphia in recognition of their service, achievements, and enduring impact.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That an Engrossed copy of this Resolution be presented to the West Powelton Steppers as an expression of the sincere admiration and appreciation of the Council of the City of Philadelphia.