

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Room 400, City Hall  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Wednesday, June 8, 2016  
3:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT DARRELL L. CLARKE  
COUNCILWOMAN CINDY BASS  
COUNCILWOMAN JANNIE L. BLACKWELL  
COUNCILMAN ALLAN DOMB  
COUNCILMAN DEREK S. GREEN  
COUNCILMAN WILLIAM K. GREENLEE  
COUNCILWOMAN HELEN GYM  
COUNCILMAN BOBBY HENON  
COUNCILMAN KENYATTA JOHNSON  
COUNCILMAN CURTIS JONES, JR.  
COUNCILMAN DAVID OH  
COUNCILMAN BRIAN J. O'NEILL  
COUNCILWOMAN CHERELLE L. PARKER  
COUNCILWOMAN MARIA D. QUINONES-SANCHEZ  
COUNCILWOMAN BLONDELL REYNOLDS BROWN  
COUNCILMAN MARK SQUILLA  
COUNCILMAN AL TAUBENBERGER

BILLS 160172, 160176, 160508, 160509, and  
160552

RESOLUTIONS 160180, 160583, 160584, 160585,  
160586, 160587, and 160588

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COUNCILMAN HENON: Good  
afternoon. This is the public hearing of  
the Committee of the Whole regarding Bill  
Nos. 160172, 160176, 160508, 160509,  
160552, and Resolution Nos. 160180,  
160583, 160584, 160585, 160586, 160587,  
and 160588.

Mr. Stitt, would you please  
read the titles of the bills and  
resolutions, please.

THE CLERK: Bill No. 160172, an  
ordinance adopting the Operating Budget  
for Fiscal Year 2017.

Bill No. 160176, an ordinance  
amending Title 19 of The Philadelphia  
Code, entitled "Finance, Taxes and  
Collections," by adding a new Chapter  
19-4100, entitled "Sugar-Sweetened  
Beverage Tax," under certain terms and  
conditions.

Bill No. 160508, an ordinance  
amending Title 19 of The Philadelphia  
Code, entitled "Finance, Taxes and  
Collections," by adding a new Chapter

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           19-4100, entitled "Non-reusable Beverage  
3           Container Tax," under certain terms and  
4           conditions.

5                         Bill No. 160509, an ordinance  
6           authorizing transfers in appropriations  
7           for Fiscal Year 2017 from the General  
8           Fund, the Mayor - Office of Community  
9           Schools and Universal Pre-K to the  
10          General Fund, the Director of Finance -  
11          Contribution to School District, under  
12          certain terms and conditions.

13                        Bill No. 160552, amending  
14          Chapter 19-2600 of The Philadelphia Code,  
15          entitled "Business Income and Receipts  
16          Taxes," by creating a tax credit to  
17          encourage certain merchants to provide  
18          healthy beverage alternatives in their  
19          stores, all under certain terms and  
20          conditions.

21                        Resolution No. 160180,  
22          resolution providing for the approval by  
23          the Council of the City of Philadelphia  
24          of a Revised Five Year Financial Plan for  
25          the City of Philadelphia covering Fiscal

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           Years 2017 through 2021, and  
3           incorporating proposed changes with  
4           respect to Fiscal Year 2016, which is to  
5           be submitted by the Mayor to the  
6           Pennsylvania Intergovernmental  
7           Cooperation Authority (the "Authority")  
8           pursuant to the Intergovernmental  
9           Cooperation Agreement, authorized by an  
10          ordinance of this Council approved by the  
11          Mayor on January 3, 1992 (Bill No.  
12          1563-A), by and between the City and the  
13          Authority.

14                        Resolution No. 160583,  
15           resolution appointing Daniel Conner to  
16           the Board of Directors for the Germantown  
17           Special Services District.

18                        Resolution No. 160584,  
19           resolution appointing Trapeta Mayson to  
20           the Board of Directors for the Germantown  
21           Special Services District.

22                        Resolution No. 160585,  
23           resolution appointing Supreme Dow to the  
24           Board of Directors for the Germantown  
25           Special Services District.

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2                   Resolution No. 160586,  
3           resolution appointing Patrick W. Jones to  
4           the Board of Directors for the Germantown  
5           Special Services District.

6                   Resolution No. 160587,  
7           resolution appointing Byron Davis to the  
8           Board of Directors for the Germantown  
9           Special Services District.

10                  Resolution No. 160588,  
11           resolution appointing Julie Baranauskas  
12           to the Board of Directors for the  
13           Germantown Special Services District.

14                  COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you.

15                  So today we continue the public  
16           hearing with the Committee of the Whole  
17           to consider bills read by the Clerk that  
18           constitute a proposal of the Operating  
19           Budget spending measures and revenue  
20           measures for the Fiscal Year 2017. We  
21           also will hear several resolutions  
22           appointing members to the Germantown  
23           Special District.

24                  We will begin with the hearing  
25           today with testimony from six resolutions

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           appointing members to the Germantown  
3           Special Services District Board.

4                     Mr. Stitt, would you please  
5           call the first person, if there is  
6           anybody that wishes to testify on these  
7           resolutions.

8                     THE CLERK: Is there anybody  
9           here to testify on resolutions for  
10          Germantown Special Services District?

11                    (Witnesses approached witness  
12          table.)

13                    COUNCILMAN HENON: When you  
14          settle in, please state your name for the  
15          record and begin with your testimony.

16                    MS. SHEPARD: Good afternoon.  
17          My name is Ingrid Shepard and I am the  
18          Board President of the Germantown Special  
19          Services District, and I am here to  
20          testify that on Wednesday, May 19th, our  
21          Board met to discuss the applications and  
22          nominations of the following individuals  
23          to be appointed to the Germantown Special  
24          Services Board of Directors, and they  
25          are:

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2                   Patrick W. Jones, Jr., was  
3           nominated to serve a term ending January  
4           1st, 2021.

5                   Daniel Conner was nominated to  
6           serve as a member of the Board with a  
7           term ending January 1st, 2020.

8                   Julie Baranauskas was nominated  
9           to the Board and appointed and asked to  
10          serve a term sending January 1st, 2020.

11                   Byron Davis was nominated to  
12          the Board to serve a term ending January  
13          1st, 2020.

14                   Trapeta Mayson was nominated to  
15          the Board to serve a term ending January  
16          1st, 2021.

17                   And Supreme Dow was also  
18          nominated to the Board to serve a term  
19          ending January 1st, 2021.

20                   All of the names and the  
21          nominations were passed unanimously by  
22          the Board, and we ask that the members of  
23          City Council now move on their  
24          appointments.

25                   COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you.

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2                    If you could please state your  
3 name for the record and proceed with your  
4 testimony.

5                    MS. SWINSON: Good afternoon.  
6 My name is Cornelia Swinson and I am the  
7 Board Secretary for the Germantown  
8 Special Services District. I just wanted  
9 to add to the comments made by my  
10 colleague, Ingrid Shepard.

11                    I am the Executive Director of  
12 Johnson House Historic Site as well as  
13 the Secretary of the Board of the  
14 Germantown Special Services District, and  
15 this corridor is one of the busiest and  
16 most trafficked intersections in the City  
17 of Philadelphia, but it's also home to  
18 Historic Germantown, which is a  
19 partnership of 16 extraordinary historic  
20 houses and destinations and museums in  
21 Northwest Philadelphia. And so we feel  
22 that they have joined together to  
23 protect, preserve, and share some of  
24 Philadelphia's most prized historic  
25 assets. And both these entities



1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           represent the heart of Germantown and are  
3           critical elements that we need to build  
4           heritage tourism, engage our local  
5           businesses, and engage neighbors and  
6           public and private schools to help build  
7           a better neighborhood.

8                        I just wanted to mention a  
9           couple of things, and, that is, obviously  
10          special services districts are created to  
11          provide a cleaner and safer environment  
12          for businesses to thrive and for  
13          neighbors to shop. And the GSD has made  
14          great progress, but our hands are  
15          furthered by the efforts of our local  
16          Councilperson, Councilwoman Cindy Bass.  
17          Those investments that she's made include  
18          major improvements in Vernon Park,  
19          stabilization of the old YWCA, and future  
20          plans to revitalize the Maplewood Mall.  
21          These capital improvements will only make  
22          long-term economic development better in  
23          Germantown.

24                        So I just wanted to mention  
25          that it's important that we have these

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           new Board members, who we think represent  
3           what we need to move the Board forward,  
4           and I wanted to express my deep  
5           appreciation for the efforts of  
6           Councilwoman Bass and her staff in  
7           supporting our efforts.

8                        COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you so  
9           much for your testimony.

10                      Is there anyone else here aside  
11           from the Councilwoman, which I'll  
12           recognize shortly, from the Germantown  
13           Special Services District that wishes to  
14           testify?

15                      (No response.)

16                      COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you so  
17           much for coming in. Thank you for your  
18           testimony.

19                      The Chair recognizes  
20           Councilwoman Bass.

21                      COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Thank you,  
22           Mr. Chairman. I just really wanted to  
23           take a moment and to thank Ms. Shepard  
24           and Connie Swinson for coming down today  
25           and for all of the hard work that they're

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           doing on the Germantown Special Services  
3           District, which we've put a lot of time  
4           into and a lot of efforts into, and for  
5           those of us particularly who grew up  
6           shopping along that corridor along  
7           Chelton Avenue and Germantown Avenue, we  
8           know what it used to be like and the  
9           vibrancy of it, and I just really wanted  
10          to take a moment and to applaud you for  
11          the work that you're doing to make sure  
12          that its future is bright.

13                        So just really wanted to once  
14          again say thank you and to all the Board  
15          members of the Special Services District  
16          who have served in the past and who are  
17          now rotating off the Board and for the  
18          new members who will be joining us, look  
19          forward to working with them as well.

20                        So thank you very much.

21                        MS. SHEPARD: Thank you.

22                        MS. SWINSON: You're welcome.

23                        COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Thank you,  
24          Mr. Chairman.

25                        COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you,

1 6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2 Councilwoman.

3 There being no further  
4 testimony on the Germantown Special  
5 Services District, that completes the  
6 witness list. And I would ask if there's  
7 anyone else here in the Chambers that  
8 wishes to testify on these resolutions?

9 You may state your name.

10 Approach the bench, state your name for  
11 the record, and begin with your  
12 testimony, please.

13 (Witness approached witness  
14 table.)

15 COUNCILMAN HENON: Excuse me,  
16 sir. This resolution is regarding  
17 Germantown Special Services District  
18 Board; is that correct?

19 MR. LICHTMAN: Yes. I heard  
20 you the first time. No redundancy  
21 needed, sir.

22 COUNCILMAN HENON: State your  
23 name for the record and proceed with your  
24 testimony.

25 MR. LICHTMAN: My name is Larry

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           Lichtman from South Philadelphia. I'm a  
3           realtor in the City of Philadelphia, and  
4           I feel that any neighborhood in this city  
5           that wishes to have a special district  
6           and the businesses that will benefit by  
7           that district, it's kind of silly that  
8           it's even a debate. If the property  
9           owners on Germantown Avenue or anywhere  
10          in the special district that they will be  
11          assessed like BID East Passyunk Avenue in  
12          Philadelphia, right, Councilman Squilla?  
13          Twenty percent on top of the property tax  
14          is charged to the owner of the building,  
15          even if they don't have a business in the  
16          building, even if they're somewhere off  
17          Passyunk Avenue. But look at what became  
18          of Citizens Alliance for Better  
19          Neighborhoods, now Passyunk Avenue  
20          Revitalization Corporation, in  
21          combination or in complementary working  
22          environments with BID, the business  
23          improvement district.

24                        So I would think that any  
25          business owner, any property owner, any

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           resident in Germantown would appreciate  
3           the benefits that a special district  
4           would accommodate them.

5                     And that's a wrap. Thank you  
6           for your time.

7                     COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you  
8           for your testimony.

9                     Is there anyone else here in  
10          the Chambers that wishes to speak on  
11          these resolutions?

12                    (No response.)

13                    COUNCILMAN HENON: Seeing none,  
14          that concludes the testimony for these  
15          resolutions.

16                    Now we will continue with a  
17          public hearing of the budget measures  
18          read by the Clerk at the start of this  
19          hearing. Having heard substantial  
20          testimony over the last several weeks on  
21          all bills that are here before the  
22          Committee today, we will now hear  
23          testimony on Bill Nos. 160508, 160509,  
24          160552. Upon completion of that  
25          testimony, we will have a public meeting

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           to decide if there's any action to be  
3           taken on all budget measures before this  
4           Committee.

5                     And I want to note for those  
6           who don't know what the -- or know what  
7           the numbers correspond with the  
8           ordinances, that we will not be hearing  
9           any testimony on sugar-sweetened beverage  
10          drinks this afternoon. We have heard  
11          that substantially as noted in our record  
12          three, four times in public hearings.

13                    The Clerk, would you now read  
14          the folks who have signed up to testify  
15          on Bill No. 160508 or just call the  
16          witness list.

17                    THE CLERK: First up will be  
18          Gene Bishop, Mollie Michel, and Yael  
19          Lehman.

20                    (Witnesses approached witness  
21          table.)

22                    COUNCILMAN HENON: Again, I  
23          want to remind people the public comment  
24          should be on Bills No. 160508, 160509,  
25          160552 and welcome all public comment on

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           those bills specifically.

3                     You may state your name for the  
4           record, please, and begin with your  
5           testimony.

6                     DR. BISHOP: My name is Gene  
7           Bishop. I'm a 37-year resident of the  
8           City of Philadelphia and a retired  
9           primary care physician who practiced at  
10          multiple sites in the City over 30-plus  
11          years. I am here on my own, not  
12          representing any of the numerous groups  
13          who are here.

14                    I want to talk about the  
15          container tax, because I see the  
16          container tax as an acknowledgment of the  
17          health benefits of the soda tax, but I  
18          don't believe it will achieve these  
19          benefits in the same way.

20                    Councilwoman Reynolds Brown has  
21          been one of Council's strongest  
22          supporters of health and women's health,  
23          and I deeply thank her for that, but I  
24          simply do not think the container tax  
25          will have the same health benefits, which



1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           is my area of expertise, not on the  
3           social determinants of health or on  
4           actual health.

5                        On the social determinants, it  
6           will not raise the money we need for  
7           education and recreation. In the health  
8           area, it will not give people the nudge  
9           they need to change habits. I learned as  
10          a physician that people need a support to  
11          change. None of us are supermen or  
12          superwomen. We don't leap over tall  
13          buildings in a single bound, and we're  
14          rarely able to dramatically change our  
15          habits, any of them, without help. A  
16          container tax will not remind folks in  
17          the same way about how to make healthy  
18          choices.

19                       I believe many folks who have  
20          been trying to eat better will feel  
21          supported by the tax that shall not be  
22          named rather than attacked by it and  
23          welcome community support to make  
24          healthier food choices.

25                       There are few miracle drugs and

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           there are few miracle policies and laws.  
3           No prescription I ever wrote only had  
4           upsides. Do I think a soda tax is  
5           perfect? Of course not. What's wrong  
6           with a container tax? From a health  
7           standpoint, it will do less. It is an  
8           admission that taxing sugary drinks is a  
9           good idea, but it waters it down.

10                    Dr. Pepper may want you to  
11           drink soda, but Dr. Bishop wants to give  
12           you a nudge away from the container tax.

13                    Thank you.

14                    COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you  
15           for your testimony.

16                    (Applause.)

17                    COUNCILMAN HENON: You may  
18           state your name for the record and  
19           proceed with your testimony.

20                    State your name for the record  
21           and proceed with your testimony. Thank  
22           you.

23                    MS. LEHMAN: Yael Lehman,  
24           Executive Director of The Food Trust.

25                    Good afternoon, Council

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           President Clarke and members of Council.  
3           As I stated before, my name is Yael  
4           Lehman and I'm the Executive Director of  
5           The Food Trust. The City of Philadelphia  
6           is at a critical moment. We can  
7           dramatically change the lives of our  
8           children by providing them with better  
9           parks, rec centers, libraries, and  
10          universal pre-K, and we can also greatly  
11          improve the health of our city.

12                     The Food Trust does not support  
13          a container tax because this tax would  
14          impact healthy beverages like water and  
15          100 percent fruit juice and will not have  
16          the same public health benefit that a  
17          soda tax would. Soda offers no  
18          nutritional benefit and it is a choice.  
19          Water, however, is essential for our  
20          well-being and we all need it to live.  
21          Taxing water would be a big mistake.

22                     Thank you.

23                     COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you.

24                     (Applause.)

25                     COUNCILMAN HENON: Please state

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           your name for the record and proceed with  
3           your testimony.

4                       MS. MICHEL: Hi. My name is  
5           Mollie Michel. I am a parent of a  
6           kindergartner -- or a first grader in a  
7           public school in South Philadelphia, and  
8           I'm here today to testify against the  
9           proposed container tax that has been put  
10          forward as a replacement for the sugary  
11          beverage tax. I don't believe this tax  
12          will provide anyone near the necessary  
13          dollars needed to fund the vital programs  
14          that the children of Philadelphia so  
15          badly need.

16                      Prior to coming here today, I  
17          attended my youngest daughter's pre-K  
18          graduation. We were able to send her and  
19          her older sister to pre-K because my  
20          husband and I are lucky enough to be able  
21          to pay the more than \$1,000 a month per  
22          tuition that that program costs. And  
23          next year she'll attend kindergarten at  
24          our neighborhood public school, with the  
25          full benefits of a robust early childhood

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           education that a large number of her  
3           peers will not have received. For most  
4           of those families, the pre-K tuition bill  
5           we have been paying is more than they  
6           make in an entire month, an  
7           incomprehensible amount even as they  
8           recognize the importance of their child's  
9           education and how it impacts their  
10          future.

11                   I recognize that there are  
12          loud, angry voices opposing this beverage  
13          tax, but as elected representatives of  
14          the City of Philadelphia, I believe you  
15          have a responsibility to speak for those  
16          who cannot speak for themselves. Speak  
17          for the poor families who can't afford  
18          pre-K. Speak for the immigrant families  
19          who can't access quality behavioral  
20          health services that might be provided  
21          through the Community Schools program.  
22          Speak for the kids who have nothing to do  
23          after school who would benefit from  
24          expanded opportunities in rec centers.  
25          Speak for those who cannot speak for

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           themselves, and work together with the  
3           Mayor to provide a healthier, more stable  
4           city.

5                         And let's talk about what  
6           really matters when it comes to healthier  
7           cities and this tax, and it has nothing  
8           to do with the beverage lobby or the  
9           loud, angry voices. Do you know what  
10          makes a healthy, thriving city? Healthy  
11          schools, healthy kids, resourced and  
12          positive learning environments, early  
13          childhood education. And you know what  
14          helps our property values rise and our  
15          poverty rates go down? Good public  
16          schools and community infrastructure.

17                        We constantly hear from travel  
18          magazines and national newspapers that  
19          Philadelphia is an amazing place to  
20          visit, and I'm really tired of hearing  
21          that. I want to hear about how  
22          Philadelphia is an amazing place to live,  
23          and I think the benefits of this tax will  
24          do that.

25                        Thank you.

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2                   (Applause.)

3           THE CLERK: Next up is Will

4 Gonzalez, Reuben Jones, and Tyrone Scott.

5                   One more time, that's Will

6 Gonzalez, Reuben Jones, and Tyrone Scott.

7                   (Witnesses approached witness  
8 table.)

9           COUNCILMAN HENON: You may  
10 state your name for the record and begin  
11 with your testimony, please.

12           MR. GONZALEZ: Buenas tardes.  
13 Good afternoon. My name is Will  
14 Gonzalez. I'm the Executive Director of  
15 Ceiba. Ceiba is a coalition of  
16 community-based organizations in the  
17 Latino community. I am here to testify  
18 about the beverage container tax.

19                   With all due respect, we  
20 believe that the beverage container tax  
21 removes choice in neighborhood stores.  
22 There is no escaping the beverage  
23 container tax if you drink water, natural  
24 juices or diet soda. The sugar-sweetened  
25 beverage tax in turn only places an

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           excise tax on some drinks, many of which  
3           have no nutritional value and are the  
4           leading cause of diabetes and obesity  
5           among low-income people.

6                         Consumers and retailers in  
7           minority neighborhoods need the beverage  
8           industry to increase the availability and  
9           diversity of non-sugary products at  
10          corner stores, and the beverage container  
11          tax inhibits that. The sugar-sweetened  
12          beverage tax is not an attack on an  
13          industry. Soft drinks producers are one  
14          of the best sources of filtered water on  
15          the planet. Consumers and retailers in  
16          minority neighborhoods need the beverage  
17          industry to increase the availability and  
18          diversity of non-sugary products at  
19          corner stores.

20                        The sugar-sweetened beverage  
21          tax, along with Bill 160552, a tax credit  
22          to encourage certain merchants to provide  
23          healthy beverage alternatives in their  
24          stores also under consideration currently  
25          by City Council, assists the industry and



1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           retailers with this much-needed  
3           transition.

4                         It is estimated also that the  
5           sugar beverage tax falls \$30 million  
6           short of what the City needs to  
7           dramatically improve the quality of life  
8           in neighborhoods. Why go through the  
9           trouble of instituting a tax if it does  
10          not directly secure the revenue to  
11          improve recreation centers, libraries,  
12          and schools nor indirectly lead to great  
13          savings in health costs for the City and  
14          its residents by reducing diabetes and  
15          obesity as well as saving many lives.

16                         The sugar-sweetened beverage  
17          tax remains the healthiest and most  
18          viable mechanism to advance positive  
19          outcomes in the health and economic  
20          development of poor communities in  
21          Philadelphia.

22                         Mucha gracias.

23                         COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you.

24                         (Applause.)

25                         COUNCILMAN HENON: Please state

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           your name for the record and proceed with  
3           your testimony.

4                       MR. SCOTT: Good afternoon.  
5           I'm Tyrone Scott, and I actually bring  
6           testimony from my brother who couldn't  
7           make it today, Brendan Scott. I testify  
8           on his behalf concerning the container  
9           tax, as he's a resident that left  
10          Philadelphia simply because he could not  
11          afford child care. His and my fear is  
12          that this container tax will not provide  
13          enough revenue to support the Mayor's  
14          plan for universal pre-K.

15                      My brother is a war veteran who  
16          was captured for three days and almost  
17          beheaded in Iraq. He came back to the  
18          states to raise his family and refused to  
19          reenlist in the service because he didn't  
20          want to leave his son and young daughter.  
21          When he found out that it would cost him  
22          \$24,000 a year to put his two children in  
23          child care, he called me crying because  
24          he was afraid that it would be more  
25          financially reasonable for his family to

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           actually go on welfare. A veteran who  
3           literally did more before 5:00 a.m. than  
4           I've done in my entire life was scared  
5           that his minimum wage job would not allow  
6           him to educate his children.

7                        As you consider any tax to help  
8           pay for universal pre-K, it must be able  
9           to be something that will actually  
10          provide for the Mayor's 10,000 slots over  
11          the next five years. It must be  
12          something that can actually fund the rec  
13          programs that we need. It must be  
14          something that is not a half step.

15                      On behalf of people like my  
16          brother, myself, and other parents in  
17          Philadelphia who are considering leaving  
18          this great city, please think about those  
19          folks, those hard-working people, who  
20          don't qualify for subsidy, who are on  
21          waiting lists, and who cannot get care  
22          without something like the sugary  
23          beverage tax as opposed to the container  
24          tax.

25                      Thank you.

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2                   (Applause.)

3                   COUNCILMAN HENON: Please state  
4 your name for the record and proceed with  
5 your testimony.

6                   MR. JONES: So good afternoon.  
7 My name is Reuben Jones and I'm here to  
8 pose a different question in regards to  
9 the priorities of the citizens of the  
10 City as well as the leadership of this  
11 city when it comes to our children.

12                   When we talk about the  
13 container tax or the beverage tax, my  
14 concern is that we have children in this  
15 city who do not receive adequate  
16 education by the time they reach first  
17 grade. We talk about the  
18 school-to-prison pipeline, which you know  
19 begins before they reach first grade. So  
20 if we want to prioritize our children's  
21 future, if we want to prioritize the  
22 well-being in this city, then I challenge  
23 the leadership in this city to consider  
24 not a \$182 billion corporation who could  
25 well afford this contribution to the

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           City, but to the citizens and the future  
3           of this city, which are our children and  
4           their well-being.

5                         My biggest point of contention  
6           is as a parent and recognizing the need  
7           to be able to provide in a two-parent  
8           household for our children. I also  
9           realize that there's a bigger benefit to  
10          the overall community, that if we invest  
11          in our children now, we save a tremendous  
12          bill down the line. So in the vernacular  
13          of an old television commercial, we can  
14          either pay now or we can pay later.

15                        Thank you.

16                        COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you.

17                        (Applause.)

18                        THE CLERK: Up next will be  
19          Calla Bush, Aminata Sy, and George  
20          Bartell.

21                        COUNCILMAN TAUBENBERGER:

22          Mr. Chairman?

23                        COUNCILMAN HENON: The Chair  
24          recognizes Councilman Taubenberger.

25                        COUNCILMAN TAUBENBERGER: Thank

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           you very much, Mr. Chairman. I ask that  
3           you would ask testifiers really to speak  
4           only to the merits of the container tax  
5           and not to compare the two. I think as  
6           members of this Chamber, we've heard all  
7           that, and if there's something new and  
8           different to talk about the container  
9           tax, to do so.

10                        Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

11                        (Applause.)

12                        THE CLERK: One more time,  
13           that's Calla Bush, Aminata Sy, and George  
14           Bartell.

15                        UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Calla  
16           Bush had to leave.

17                        THE CLERK: Okay. Thank you.

18                        (Witness approached witness  
19           table.)

20                        COUNCILMAN HENON: Please state  
21           your name for the record and proceed with  
22           your testimony.

23                        MS. SY: Good afternoon,  
24           everyone. My name is Aminata Sy and I'm  
25           a parent of three children. One of them

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           is Ebra Juan, currently in  
3           pre-kindergarten at Lea Elementary School  
4           in West Philadelphia. I'm here today to  
5           urge you, Councilmembers, to vote yes for  
6           Mayor Kenney's proposed soda tax to fund  
7           universal pre-K, because the container  
8           soda tax will not fund universal pre-K.  
9           I will explain why I support Mayor  
10          Kenney's proposal.

11                    I went to the School District  
12          when Ebra was two years old to find out  
13          about his registration process for pre-K.  
14          Shortly after, on the day when the  
15          registration opened, I brought all the  
16          required documents. The School District  
17          worker who waited on me said, quote, Just  
18          because you brought your child's  
19          documents early doesn't guarantee him a  
20          spot. We always have a long waiting  
21          list.

22                    I went home without any  
23          certainty that my child will have a spot  
24          for pre-K come September 2015.

25                    Months later, the School

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           District sent me a letter confirming that  
3           Ebra had a spot. I was overjoyed by this  
4           news. At the same time, I thought about  
5           the many children on that long list who  
6           didn't make it to a pre-K classroom.

7                         That's why I'm supporting Mayor  
8           Kenney's soda tax. No parent, no child  
9           in Philadelphia should simply hope for a  
10          pre-K spot. It should be guaranteed.

11                        Our children's journey to  
12          college begins right there in those pre-K  
13          classrooms. Ebra has been soaking up all  
14          of these lessons. He knows his letters  
15          and their sounds. He knows his numbers  
16          up to 20. He knows his shapes and  
17          colors. He knows many animals and mimics  
18          their sounds. He reads with the help of  
19          memorization and pictures. He writes his  
20          first and last name. He carries engaging  
21          conversations, not to mention he has made  
22          friends and every morning can't wait to  
23          see them.

24                        Why shouldn't the City give  
25          every three and four-year-old child the



1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2           chance to experience pre-K?

3                       Ebra is not an exception in his  
4           class by any means. I volunteered in his  
5           class on many occasions and got to know  
6           his peers and witnessed their growth too.  
7           During the different times that I read to  
8           Ebra's class, the students were  
9           attentive, eager, and ready to answer my  
10          questions. Pre-K works for Ebra. It  
11          works for all of our children.

12                      Councilmembers, if you stand  
13          for fairness, if you stand for education,  
14          as I do, then give our children a  
15          fighting chance by voting yes for Mayor  
16          Kenney's soda tax.

17                      COUNCILMAN HENON: Madam, can  
18          you wrap it up. We want to keep it to  
19          the container alternative.

20                      MS. SY: Yes.

21                      Do this for the sake of Ebra  
22          and Asia, Moses, Ian, Savanna, and all  
23          the other children like them who come  
24          from low-income families and whose  
25          parents like me cannot afford day care.

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2           Pre-K is our children's only path to a  
3           brighter future.

4                     Thank you.

5                     COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you.

6                     (Applause.)

7                     THE CLERK: Next up is Ashley  
8           Lewis, Jamie Gauthier, and Jill Fink.

9                     COUNCILMAN HENON: Again, I  
10          want to remind everybody that we are  
11          hearing testimony, public testimony, on  
12          the three bills that we have mentioned -  
13          160508, 160509, 160552. If you don't  
14          know what the numbers of the ordinance  
15          are per number, behind me to your right,  
16          my left, is a table and it has the bill  
17          numbers and its ordinance. Thank you.

18                    (Witnesses approached witness  
19          table.)

20                    COUNCILMAN HENON: Please state  
21          your name for the record and proceed with  
22          your testimony.

23                    MS. GAUTHIER: My name is Jamie  
24          Gauthier. Good afternoon, and thank you  
25          for the opportunity to address you today

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           on the container tax. I am the Executive  
3           Director of the Sustainable Business  
4           Network, or SBN. We are a membership  
5           organization of 40 locally owned  
6           businesses who believe that business  
7           should do well by people and the  
8           environment.

9                         I'm here on behalf of the SBN  
10           business community to ask that Council  
11           act today for full funding for critical  
12           initiatives that will fight poverty while  
13           rebuilding our local economy. I'm here  
14           in support of 95 million a year for  
15           universal pre-K, community schools, the  
16           rebuilding of parks, libraries, and rec  
17           centers, and energy efficient retrofits  
18           for City buildings, and I'm here today to  
19           ask that Council reject any option,  
20           including the container tax, that will  
21           not fully fund these initiatives.

22                         (Applause.)

23                         MS. GAUTHIER: As a business  
24           organization with members in the food and  
25           beverage industry, it took us months of

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           careful deliberation to figure out where  
3           to fall on this issue. We hosted  
4           informational calls with members and took  
5           a member survey, and in the end, we  
6           received an overwhelming mandate from our  
7           membership to stand in strong support of  
8           the sugary beverage tax proposal, and  
9           here's why: The SBN business community  
10          understands that for businesses to  
11          thrive, people and neighborhoods must  
12          thrive too. We know that Philadelphia's  
13          economy will never be strong as long as  
14          400,000 of our residents live in poverty.  
15          We know that Philadelphia's workforce  
16          will never advance if our schools  
17          continue to struggle for resources. And  
18          we know that our business districts will  
19          never succeed if we fail to make  
20          investments in neighborhood  
21          infrastructure, like parks and rec  
22          centers. And that's why we've been as  
23          active as we could in the past month  
24          visiting your offices, issuing public  
25          statements, trying to act on the mandate

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           from our members to get the sugary  
3           beverage tax done. And it feels like  
4           we're close.

5                     The debate over the past few  
6           months with Councilmembers has  
7           highlighted for the SBN business  
8           community that you, our leaders in  
9           Council, think these initiatives are  
10          important for our city and our economy  
11          too. And so now is the time to discuss  
12          when and how we get it done.

13                    As valiant as Council's  
14          collective effort to open the discussion  
15          has been, the best option is not the  
16          container tax, which falls far short in  
17          terms of the revenue it will generate,  
18          the kids it will help, and its ability to  
19          impact health outcomes. Nor is it any  
20          number of options that have popped up in  
21          the past few weeks.

22                    If we all agree that the  
23          initiatives on the table are too  
24          important not to happen, then we all  
25          agree that the best choice is the one

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           that gets us to \$95 million - \$95 million  
3           towards an educated local workforce, \$95  
4           million towards healthier people and  
5           stronger neighborhoods. It's the sugary  
6           beverage tax that will get us there while  
7           also positively impacting the health of  
8           our community.

9                        COUNCILMAN HENON: Sorry to cut  
10          you off. Thank you for your testimony.

11                       MS. GAUTHIER: Thank you so  
12          much.

13                       (Applause.)

14                       COUNCILMAN HENON: Again,  
15          before I ask you to state your name for  
16          the record and proceed with your  
17          testimony, we have over 50 people who are  
18          here to publicly testify in support,  
19          opposition, comments. Please keep it to  
20          the relative bills that I have announced  
21          that are here that we are speaking on  
22          today. If not, I am going to have to cut  
23          your testimony off short. And if you  
24          have written testimony, we could  
25          certainly submit it to the stenographer

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2           for the record. So thank you.

3                     Please state your name for the  
4           record and proceed with your testimony.

5                     MS. FINK: Thank you. Good  
6           afternoon. My name is Jill Fink. I'm  
7           the owner of Mugshots Coffeehouse, a cafe  
8           and caterer in Fairmount, and also the  
9           Executive Director of Weavers Way  
10          Community Programs, a non-profit that  
11          gives people the knowledge and power to  
12          make healthy food choices for themselves  
13          and their families.

14                    I am here today in support of  
15          universal pre-K, community schools, parks  
16          and recs, libraries. I am going to -- so  
17          if you'll excuse me, it's not going to  
18          flow that well because I'm cutting a lot  
19          of stuff out. I'm cutting it down.

20                    I will say that as a business  
21          owner, as an early proponent of this tax,  
22          and I continue to be so, the respectful  
23          debate that we've had over the past  
24          several months has confirmed my belief  
25          that we all want what's best for the

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           City, its residents, and its future  
3           growth. I have been inspired by  
4           conversations with colleagues, neighbors  
5           and, most profoundly, a number of high  
6           school students that were here with me  
7           earlier today, who unfortunately had to  
8           leave but will be submitting their  
9           testimony to each of you individually.  
10          All of us believe in these programs and  
11          initiatives and support the sugary drinks  
12          tax to get us there.

13                    It's now time to take action,  
14           to be bold and courageous and taking a  
15           stand to guarantee a brighter future for  
16           our youngest residents, to ensure our  
17           youth have safe and accessible rec  
18           centers where they can be physically  
19           active, and to take action that will curb  
20           the consumption of products we know lead  
21           to obesity and diabetes in communities  
22           that are already the most underserved.

23                    The container tax is not the  
24           most viable option to achieve these  
25           things. And while I respect Council's



1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           intention in creating such an  
3           alternative, from a funding perspective,  
4           the container tax will not create the  
5           revenue required to support these vital  
6           programs. And from a health perspective,  
7           the container tax eliminates the options  
8           to purchase a healthier, non-taxed  
9           alternative.

10                   I understand the inclination to  
11           avoid a, quote, regressive tax, but  
12           perhaps it's more useful to think of  
13           diabetes as a regressive disease, one  
14           that disproportionately affects  
15           low-income communities and communities of  
16           color, the same communities that are  
17           aggressively targeted by the soda  
18           industry.

19                   I'll just leave it at that.  
20           Thank you very much.

21                   COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you  
22           for your testimony.

23                   (Applause.)

24                   THE CLERK: Next up we have  
25           Jennifer Devor, Christopher

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           Radford-Wilson, and Katherine  
3           Gleason-Bachman.

4                       MS. FINK: Christopher Radford  
5           is another Saul student, who also had to  
6           leave.

7                       (No response.)

8                       THE CLERK: Next up we have  
9           Kimrenee Patterson, Jonathan Kirch, and  
10          Lakeisha Sears.

11                      (No response.)

12                      THE CLERK: Now we have Gregory  
13          Corbin, Shelly Yanoff, and Ron  
14          Whitehorne.

15                      (Witnesses approached witness  
16          table.)

17                      COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you  
18          for being here. Please state your name  
19          for the record and proceed with your  
20          testimony.

21                      MR. CORBIN: My name is Gregory  
22          Corbin, citizen of Philadelphia,  
23          concerned citizen of Philadelphia.

24                      Two quick stories. One night  
25          parked in front of my house, looked up to

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           the right, looked to the left, heard  
3           about four gunshots. Concerned, actually  
4           followed the car, questioning how insane  
5           I may be in this scenario, just to get a  
6           license plate. Unfortunately, they sped  
7           off too fast.

8                         The quality of life for  
9           Philadelphians is constantly at risk.  
10          Our young people are afraid to go to the  
11          playgrounds. Our parents are afraid to  
12          parent in the playgrounds.

13                        Second story. One student  
14          asked me one day, Is the Bahamas next to  
15          Iraq?

16                        No, it's not.

17                        Can you drive to the Bahamas?

18                        If our young people do not know  
19          where they sit at on the map, how in the  
20          world can we wage war against them with  
21          their own education when they don't have  
22          the access or the opportunity? The  
23          difference between some young people and  
24          some others is that they have more  
25          opportunities to make more mistakes.

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2           And, granted, we all make mistakes. So  
3           God bless it that we don't continue to  
4           make more mistakes, because we all are  
5           self-destructing from the inside out.  
6           Philadelphia is consistently in danger,  
7           and it is up to each citizen in this city  
8           to make a change, and that starts with  
9           the leadership and it starts with the  
10          citizens that are in this room.

11                        So I'm opposing the container  
12          tax, because there's no way in the world  
13          for our young people to keep suffering.  
14          They need to look forward to a better  
15          life and not the one where they have to  
16          look out to the right or look out to the  
17          left before they get out of the car and  
18          hear gunshots.

19                        Thank you.

20                        COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you.

21                        (Applause.)

22                        MR. WHITEHORNE: My name is Ron  
23          Whitehorne. I'm with the PCAPS Community  
24          Schools Task Force, and I'm here to  
25          oppose the container tax.

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2                   To me, the fundamental question  
3 facing our city and this body is will we  
4 seize this moment and move forward with  
5 the initiatives that improve the  
6 prospects for our children and families,  
7 or will we turn our backs on it and  
8 continue the policies of neglect?

9                   In attending these hearings,  
10 I've heard virtually no one speak against  
11 community schools, expanding pre-K  
12 education, and rebuilding our parks,  
13 libraries, and rec centers. Indeed,  
14 opponents of the soda tax carefully  
15 preface their comments by declaring their  
16 support for these initiatives. But these  
17 initiatives cost money, and support for  
18 them divorced from a plan to pay for them  
19 is meaningless.

20                   We have a good plan in the soda  
21 tax. While it may not be perfect, it  
22 promises to fund these initiatives. The  
23 opposition to it claims to champion the  
24 interests of poor communities, but given  
25 that these initiatives clearly benefit

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           the communities, the Mayor's plan is  
3           clearly in that plus.

4                     Let's reiterate that this is  
5           not a tax on consumption but on beverage  
6           producers. Consumers have a choice not  
7           to buy soda, and we know that choosing to  
8           do without it is a wise choice when it  
9           comes to their health.

10                    As for the immensely profitable  
11           beverage producers, they can afford to  
12           eat some of the costs of this tax. Let's  
13           not waste our pity on them. Let's save  
14           our compassion for the thousands of  
15           children who are currently being denied  
16           an equal education as promised by the  
17           Supreme Court in the historic Brown  
18           decision.

19                    (Applause.)

20                    MR. WHITEHORNE: By passing the  
21           soda tax and finding these initiatives,  
22           City Council can send a powerful message  
23           to Philadelphians and beyond that we are  
24           a city that's going to fight for the  
25           future of our children.

1 6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2 Thank you.

3 (Applause.)

4 MS. YANOFF: I'm Shelly Yanoff  
5 and I'm a citizen of the City, and I have  
6 spent more years in this place testifying  
7 on behalf of lots of kids and families  
8 who can't get here. I will be very  
9 brief. I want to underscore how the  
10 previous two speakers just captured what  
11 I wanted to say. But I wanted to just  
12 remind you that the history of our  
13 ability to take -- seize the time and  
14 make it better for kids is marked by  
15 "you'll throw those people out," "the  
16 taxes will kill us," "we'll never get  
17 there."

18 The liquor-by-the-drink tax,  
19 lots of very good Councilpeople were very  
20 worried that neighborhood taverns would  
21 close. Neighborhood taverns did just  
22 fine. It's time that we stop scaring  
23 people and start to follow what our mind  
24 and heart tells us and, that is, that we  
25 have got to do what we can to get those

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           rec centers in good community-supported  
3           places, to get every child a good chance  
4           to go to school and to be prepared for  
5           school and to have those schools prepared  
6           for them. You have this opportunity at  
7           this beginning time. Let's not shut it  
8           out.

9                     I urge you to follow your best  
10           instincts, your hopes, not your fears.

11                    Thank you.

12                    COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you.

13                    (Applause.)

14                    COUNCILMAN HENON: Go ahead.

15                    MS. DEVOR: My name is Jennifer

16           Devor and I am a parent, a public school  
17           advocate and, most importantly, I am a  
18           concerned Philadelphian. I am concerned  
19           because I see children without access to  
20           quality pre-K education and without  
21           access to functioning recreation centers  
22           and libraries in the fifth largest city  
23           in the country.

24                    Today, you have an opportunity  
25           to do something incredibly bold to help



1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           resolve these concerns and push  
3           Philadelphia over to the right side of  
4           history, to make Philadelphia one of the  
5           first major cities of its kind.

6                     Please do not vote on the  
7           container tax but yes on the sugary drink  
8           tax. There are a lot of new  
9           Councilpeople here --

10                    (Booing.)

11                    MS. DEVOR: -- who all ran on  
12           the platform to bring change, many of  
13           whom I voted for, believing that you  
14           would do so if elected. If you vote no,  
15           it is back to business as usual. If you  
16           vote for the container tax and not for  
17           the sugary drink tax, you will not be  
18           delivering the quality of government that  
19           this city has deserved.

20                    COUNCILMAN HENON: Excuse me.  
21           Either for or against a bill that's on  
22           the agenda here, please.

23                    MS. DEVOR: Against the  
24           container tax.

25                    Your people, your constituents

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           deserve a better Philadelphia, a  
3           Philadelphia that you have the  
4           opportunity to give them by voting no on  
5           the container tax.

6                         Thank you.

7                         COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you.

8                                 (Applause.)

9                         COUNCILMAN HENON: And, again,  
10           I want to state this for the record  
11           again. We have certain bills -- we have  
12           three bills here, that it would be  
13           helpful for those who are going to  
14           approach the witness table here and  
15           submit public testimony that we keep it  
16           to pro or con on the container tax, pro  
17           or con on community schools, universal  
18           pre-K, and the School District  
19           contributions, as well as the healthy  
20           receipts tax and encouraging merchants to  
21           provide healthy beverages alternatives.

22                         So when you approach and begin  
23           your public testimony, please state which  
24           bill you are going to be speaking on.  
25           And I know it's going to be tough to keep

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           it within those parameters, but please do  
3           so. There's a way to do it without  
4           speaking about other subjects here.

5                     Thank you.

6                     THE CLERK: Next up is Minister  
7           Rodney Muhammad, James Darrell Robinson,  
8           and Jordan Muse. Following them will be  
9           Rabbi George Stern, Tanisha Woods, and  
10          Albert Hicks.

11                    (Witnesses approached witness  
12          table.)

13                    COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you.  
14          Please state your name for the record.  
15          Welcome, and proceed with your testimony.

16                    MINISTER MUHAMMAD: Minister  
17          Rodney Muhammad, President of the  
18          Philadelphia branch of the NAACP.

19                    Good afternoon. I am opposed  
20          to a container tax. We have a good  
21          initiative with what the Mayor has  
22          offered, which is a tax on sugary  
23          beverages at the distributor level. I am  
24          against the container tax. Is that what  
25          I'm supposed to say first to let you

1 6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2 know?

3 COUNCILMAN HENON: You are  
4 against the container tax which is here,  
5 yes, and in support of, I'm sure, funding  
6 pre-K and all --

7 MINISTER MUHAMMAD: Well, I'm  
8 for funding pre-K. I'm for the  
9 rebuilding of libraries and these rec  
10 centers.

11 I just want to say that I am  
12 not here to advocate and try to save soda  
13 companies that can well do this. We've  
14 done the math. This other tax is  
15 painless and can be absorbed. I wanted  
16 to talk about the structural inequities  
17 that work like a birdcage on our  
18 community.

19 Anyone that's in a cage knows  
20 that every bar of the cage is connected  
21 to other bars, which forms the trap that  
22 keeps the bird trapped in the cage. When  
23 it comes to poverty, substandard  
24 education, excessive rents, mortgage  
25 denials, poor nutrition and all, these

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           represent bars that form a cage or a  
3           cycle of poverty in the community. We  
4           have found that through multicultural  
5           marketing, poor black children, poor  
6           Latino children primarily are targeted,  
7           and they are carrying these companies,  
8           but these companies waxed fat with  
9           enormous profits and they can join with  
10          the residents of Philadelphia that have  
11          already proved through four property tax  
12          increases in the last five years that  
13          we're willing to bear some share of the  
14          load, but nobody should be a freeloader  
15          in the City of Philadelphia when it comes  
16          to our children.

17                   And so we want everyone joining  
18           in. And I'm saying if we don't do  
19           something now, then we pay the misery tax  
20           later, endless programs trying to repair  
21           lives, the cost and burden on the -- for  
22           public safety on the City's budget, long  
23           prison sentences. The list just goes on.

24                   So I am here to support the  
25           universal pre-K, which proves that if 90

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           percent of that brain is developing  
3           between three and five years of age,  
4           while I'm sitting here somebody is  
5           turning five or six years old and we may  
6           have well missed the critical period, and  
7           failure to do something then means we pay  
8           a heavy tax later.

9                        I know my time is limited, but  
10           we need to do a careful study on the  
11           marketing that goes on. It's merciless  
12           on the poor, the ignorant, and those who  
13           are uninitiated in these professional  
14           tactics that bring in enormous dollars to  
15           these companies, and they can well carry  
16           this load.

17                       COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you.  
18           Thank you for your time.

19                       (Applause.)

20                       THE CLERK: Next up Rabbi  
21           George Stern, Tanisha Woods, and Albert  
22           Hicks.

23                       COUNCILMAN HENON: And for  
24           respect and order in this body, please  
25           clap, boo, whatever, applaud, please

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           respect the people who are making  
3           testimony here and refrain until they are  
4           done speaking. Thank you.

5                           (No response.)

6                           THE CLERK: Next up is Idris  
7           Guyton, Ray Jackson, and Maura McCarthy.

8                           (No response.)

9                           THE CLERK: Dominique Marshall,  
10          Jeff Brown, and David McCorkle.

11                           (No response.)

12                           THE CLERK: Next three, Anthony  
13          Jackson, Nan Feyler, Barbara Coleman.

14                           MS. COLEMAN: That's me.

15                           THE CLERK: All right.

16                           And while she's coming down,  
17          George Martin, Dr. Essence Allen, and Ann  
18          O'Brien.

19                           (No response.)

20                           THE CLERK: While we're waiting  
21          for one of the speakers to come down,  
22          next is Movita Johnson-Harrell, Imam  
23          Sheikh Sheriff, James Williams.

24                           (No response.)

25                           THE CLERK: We have Isaiah

1 6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2 Gonzalez, Angela Johnson, and Leonard  
3 Nathan.

4 (No response.)

5 THE CLERK: We have Larry  
6 Lichtman and Henry Nicholas.

7 (Witness approached witness  
8 table.)

9 MR. GUYTON: My name is Idris  
10 Guyton and I am opposed to the container  
11 tax. I'm going to try to keep it  
12 confined to the container tax out of  
13 respect for the opposition to the other  
14 tax, but I will say that the reason why I  
15 am opposed to the container tax is that  
16 the only way you can get around this  
17 container tax is like this. This is like  
18 what a Muslim would consider a prayer.  
19 This is the only way you can get around  
20 the container tax, by having liquid  
21 poured in your hand. You can't go and do  
22 something else. You can't choose a  
23 different drink. All you can do is  
24 eliminate the container. So by using --  
25 by going through another method for the



1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           funds, that's a better alternative, in my  
3           opinion.

4                         Now, everyone in this room  
5           believes that or knows for a fact that  
6           400 million is more than 64 million, that  
7           95 million a year is more than 64 million  
8           a year. So it's without question that  
9           the 95 million that will be raised in  
10          other ways can do more than the 64  
11          million can ever dream of doing. So I  
12          think those things being factual need to  
13          be considered.

14                        I am in full support of funding  
15          universal pre-K, parks and recreations,  
16          and libraries, and doing something about  
17          the City's pension.

18                        I wanted to bring this small  
19          thing because I'm limited to what we're  
20          talking about here. For everyone to just  
21          think for a second, and I'm not trying to  
22          be facetious. The movie Rocky, everyone  
23          in the City knows Rocky. Everyone loves  
24          Rocky. That story is the true story of  
25          the struggle of Philadelphia and

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           Philadelphians. One scene that comes to  
3           mind to me is the scene where Rocky is in  
4           the meat freezer. He's punching the  
5           slabs of meat. He's punching that beef.  
6           The question that you have to ask is, Why  
7           is he doing that? Because he has come to  
8           the conclusion that it was more  
9           beneficial for him to punch that meat  
10          than to practice boxing in a rec center,  
11          because it wasn't adequately funded. He  
12          did not have the equipment to do it in a  
13          rec center. So he had to go to a meat  
14          freezer and punch beef.

15                        (Applause.)

16           MR. GUYTON: So we can get  
17           around this tax by doing it a smart way.  
18           And that's all I have for you.

19                        Go Eagles.

20                        (Applause.)

21           MS. COLEMAN: Good afternoon.  
22           My name is Barbara Coleman and I have  
23           been an educator in Philadelphia,  
24           Pennsylvania for the past 30 years.  
25           During this time, I have an opportunity

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           to see thousands of students grow,  
3           develop, and change the world. I am both  
4           honored and blessed to be able to work in  
5           the field that I love.

6                        If serving as an educator made  
7           me a tenth as financially wealthy as it  
8           has enriched me professionally, the issue  
9           of how to fund universal pre-K in the  
10          City of Philadelphia would not be an  
11          issue at all. I'd simply write you a  
12          check.

13                       Unfortunately, I don't have a  
14          pot of gold, but hopefully my experience  
15          can help shed some light on the issue of  
16          utilizing a tax to finance universal  
17          pre-K education in the City.

18                       Mercy Neighborhood Ministry,  
19          where I serve as the Program Director,  
20          has been the backbone of the  
21          Tioga/Nicetown community since 1993. If  
22          you're unfamiliar with the odds against  
23          our community children, here is a tiny  
24          snapshot: According to the Philadelphia  
25          Inquirer statistic database, the average

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           household income is approximately 35,000,  
3           but the poverty rate is 32.2 percent and  
4           unemployment is 15.9 percent, more than  
5           230 percent higher than the current  
6           national rate of 4.7. State and local  
7           funding accounts for a significant  
8           portion of education expenditures. In  
9           most states it's sales and income tax,  
10          both corporate and personal. But on a  
11          local level, these funds usually come  
12          from the property taxes, which have the  
13          potential to create the most significant  
14          disparity in the quality of education  
15          between states.

16                   Philadelphia area, unworthy of  
17          the opportunity to escape the cycle of  
18          poverty, when we continue to fund the  
19          criminal detention centers and cemeteries  
20          because of the property values in our  
21          communities are low. If there was a  
22          viable solution for generating the funds  
23          required to bridge financial gaps in  
24          these neighborhoods, would you implement  
25          it to save even one child?

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2                   The creative campaign for  
3           unhealthy soda drinks from companies like  
4           Dr. Pepper and Snapple groups targeted to  
5           low-income neighborhoods in Philadelphia  
6           resulted in \$876 million given to  
7           shareholders in 2015, a 23 percent  
8           increase from the previous year. If the  
9           Dr. Pepper/Snapple group can benefit from  
10          the dollars that leave our community, we  
11          should be employing a portion of those  
12          dollars to investment in our future.

13                   I had an opportunity to ponder  
14          both the pros and the cons of this tax  
15          and I was weighing the proposal, as a  
16          quote of Ms. Marian Wright Edelman,  
17          President and founder of the Children  
18          Defense Fund located in Washington, DC,  
19          weighed heavily on my heart. As you  
20          prepare to vote on this proposal, I'll  
21          leave you with her words: Investing in  
22          children is not a national luxury or a  
23          national choice. It's a necessity. If  
24          the foundation of your house is  
25          crumbling, you don't say, I can't afford

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           to fix it, while building astronomical  
3           expensive fences to protect it from the  
4           enemies.

5                     The issue is not are we going  
6           to pay. It's are we going to pay now up  
7           front or are we going to pay a whole lot  
8           more later? When will you choose to pay  
9           for the investment?

10                    COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Thank you.  
11                    (Applause.)

12                    COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Let me  
13           announce first that the Committee is not  
14           going into recess. We are taking a  
15           five-minute break. Thank you.

16                    (Short recess.)

17                    COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you.  
18           We are reconvening the Committee of the  
19           Whole. And is there anyone for the  
20           Administration or anyone else that wishes  
21           to testify on Bill No. 160552? If you  
22           are, please approach the bench and begin  
23           with your testimony.

24                    (Witnesses approached the  
25           witness table.)

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2                   COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you.

3           When you're ready, please state your name  
4           for the record and begin with your  
5           testimony on Bill No. 160552.

6                   COMMISSIONER BRESLIN: Good  
7           afternoon, members of the Committee of  
8           the Whole. My name is Frank Breslin. I  
9           am the Revenue Commissioner and Chief  
10          Collections Officer. I am joined here by  
11          Marisa Waxman, Deputy Revenue  
12          Commissioner. I am here today to present  
13          testimony in support of Bill No. 160552  
14          proposed by Councilwoman Reynolds Brown  
15          to create a Business Income and Receipts  
16          Tax Credit for certain merchants selling  
17          healthy beverages.

18                   The Administration shares the  
19          sponsor's vision of increasing healthy  
20          beverage options throughout the City and  
21          incentivizing residents to select those  
22          beverages. This credit has the potential  
23          to offset financial impacts of a sugary  
24          drinks tax on smaller retailers that  
25          currently rely heavily on sweetened

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           beverage sales and make alternatives to  
3           sugary products more widespread. We  
4           support this credit and are committed to  
5           continuing to work with Council to  
6           provide the right incentives to make more  
7           healthy beverage options available.

8                         Thank you for the opportunity  
9           to testify.

10                        COUNCILMAN HENON: Well, thank  
11           you so much.

12                        So the Chair recognizes  
13           Councilwoman Blondell Reynolds Brown, who  
14           is the sponsor of this bill.

15                        Councilwoman.

16                        COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you,  
17           Mr. Chairman.

18                        Good afternoon. Let me say  
19           thank you to the Administration for  
20           acknowledging that this is another small  
21           step towards us as a city providing more  
22           healthier options for citizens.

23                        Thank you very much.

24                        COMMISSIONER BRESLIN: Thank  
25           you.



1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2                   COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you,  
3 Mr. Chairman.

4                   COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you so  
5 much.

6                   Is there anyone else here who  
7 wishes to testify on Bill No. 160552  
8 specifically?

9                   (No response.)

10                  COUNCILMAN HENON: That being  
11 none, thank you for your testimony.

12                  And the Committee of the Whole  
13 will stand for another break until 5:00  
14 p.m. this evening. Thank you.

15                  (Short recess.)

16                  COUNCILMAN HENON: Good  
17 evening, ladies and gentlemen. I just  
18 want to make an announcement that the  
19 Committee of the Whole will stand in  
20 recess until 6:30. Thank you for your  
21 time.

22                  (Short recess.)

23                  COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good  
24 night. It's pretty late. Thank you all  
25 for being patient with us today. As you

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           know, budget time has traditionally been  
3           a trying time, and in this particular  
4           year, an extremely trying time, but we  
5           hope to conclude our business tonight.

6                        I must say for the record that  
7           this has been a rather difficult process  
8           for a number of us. We hope that the  
9           outcome is one that will obviously  
10          benefit pretty much every citizen in the  
11          City of Philadelphia. The action that we  
12          will take will probably have some people  
13          with a sour taste in their mouths, but we  
14          believe that working with those  
15          individuals on the long-term basis, we  
16          will ensure that this will be a fair and  
17          equitable solution as it relates to our  
18          ability to do what we can that benefits  
19          the citizens of the City of Philadelphia.  
20          So I just wanted to say that before.

21                       We have pretty much concluded  
22          our public testimony this afternoon. So  
23          at this time, I would like to call on the  
24          Administration for brief testimony, and  
25          that will be followed by Councilman Oh,

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2           who will make a brief presentation, and  
3           we'll go from there. Thank you.

4                       (Witnesses approached witness  
5           table.)

6                       MR. DUBOW: Good evening,  
7           Council President Clarke.

8                       COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Good  
9           evening.

10                      MR. DUBOW: And members of the  
11           Committee.

12                      Council President, you asked us  
13           to give a short testimony on where the  
14           proceeds of the tax would go and the  
15           impact that the tax would have on our  
16           fund balance.

17                      So at \$91 million, the proceeds  
18           would go to pre-K, community schools, a  
19           little bit for parks and recs employees,  
20           which we added at your suggestion, debt  
21           service on rebuild, the tax credit  
22           program that Councilwoman Reynolds Brown  
23           proposed, some modifications to the  
24           budget based on discussions we've had  
25           with Council, and then a portion would go

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           to fund balance. That portion that would  
3           go to fund balance is important to us  
4           because our fund balance numbers get very  
5           low during the course of the Plan and  
6           would be even lower without these  
7           revenues. And so that's where the  
8           revenues will go.

9                        COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

10          Okay. Just for the record, we'll  
11          probably have some sort of a release  
12          indicating the fund balance issue, but  
13          just for the record, while you have  
14          continued not only in this Administration  
15          and prior Administrations referencing  
16          fund balance challenges, I just want to  
17          for the record, this connection between  
18          the fund balance issue and this proposed  
19          tax measure was not a part of the earlier  
20          discussions and it was made known  
21          extremely relatively recently that in  
22          fact was where the early years of the  
23          revenues being generated will go to the  
24          fund balance. So just for the record --

25                       MR. DUBOW: That's correct.

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:  --

3           that was not a part of --

4                   MR. DUBOW:  That's correct.  By  
5           the end of the -- actually, when you get  
6           to the fourth year, by then all of the  
7           money is really going to the initiatives,  
8           but in the early years, some of it goes  
9           to fund balance.

10                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

11           Right.  So that could have made a much  
12           more different conversation, I know for  
13           me --

14                   MR. DUBOW:  Understood.

15                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:  --

16           if I had known that early on that that  
17           was the basis for the additional revenue.

18                   Any questions of members of  
19           these witnesses?

20                   Councilman Greenlee.

21                   COUNCILMAN GREENLEE:  Just very  
22           quickly.  Thank you, Mr. President.

23                   Just very quickly, I just have  
24           to add what he said.  It's too late in  
25           the evening to get in an argument, but I

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           just was disappointed that that fund  
3           balance issue was never brought up. Do  
4           you have any quick statement on why that  
5           wasn't?

6                       MR. DUBOW: No. We should have  
7           brought it up earlier.

8                       COUNCILMAN GREENLEE: Okay.  
9           Like I said, it's late in the evening.  
10          I'll leave it go like that, but I hope in  
11          the future we could get full disclosure,  
12          that's all, because we heard it was all  
13          about the kids, all about the kids and,  
14          you know, sometime this afternoon we  
15          heard it's also about fund balance. Just  
16          tell us everything we need to know and I  
17          think it could help a lot better.

18                      Thank you, Mr. President.

19                      COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: I  
20          concur, Councilman. It could have been a  
21          much different debate, but it is what it  
22          is.

23                      Mr. Dubow, as usual, as a  
24          crafty veteran of the budget wars gives  
25          you a quick answer, it's our fault. It's

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           kind of hard to argue with that. Kind of  
3           hard to argue with that.

4                    Any other questions by members  
5           of these witnesses?

6                    (No response.)

7                    COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:  
8           There being none, thank you very much --

9                    MR. DUBOW: Thank you.

10                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: --  
11           for your testimony.

12                    At this time, the Chair would  
13           like to recognize Councilman Oh.

14                    COUNCILMAN OH: Thank you very  
15           much, Council President. With your  
16           permission, I will introduce an amendment  
17           during the public meeting portion, but  
18           during the public hearing, I would like  
19           to address it and explain why I'm  
20           introducing the amendment.

21                    COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:  
22           Please do, Councilman.

23                    COUNCILMAN OH: Thank you very  
24           much.

25                    I am setting up some charts

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           that I'll refer to, but I'm just going to  
3           read from an op-ed that I had wrote and  
4           distributed last night.

5                     There's good news for both  
6           sides of the soda tax debate and for the  
7           rest of our citizens. There's enough  
8           money in the current proposed budget to  
9           fund the Administration's new programs  
10          without raising taxes. That's because  
11          Philadelphia's budgeting process has  
12          historically included large sums of money  
13          parked in departments for future use,  
14          without identifying the purposes for  
15          which they will be used, regardless of  
16          whether people approve of how the money  
17          is ultimately spent. The problem is that  
18          they are not able to voice their opinion  
19          on how these funds should be spent, if  
20          they should be spent at all.

21                     Here's how it's done: Every  
22          year Council approves requests to fund  
23          City departments. The Administration  
24          budgets far more money for certain  
25          departments than it will actually allow



1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           them to spend. Later, the Administration  
3           will request that the extra money be  
4           transferred and spent for some other  
5           purpose. The cycle repeats itself, and  
6           each year funds are over-allocated,  
7           excess funds are reallocated and then  
8           they are spent for reasons not identified  
9           in the budget.

10                        That's why I'm introducing a  
11           budget amendment to stop this cycle and  
12           use the excess money to fund new programs  
13           without raising taxes.

14                        As of today, my staff has  
15           uncovered \$180 million in likely  
16           disguised over-allocations in the  
17           proposed 2017 budget. One hundred three  
18           million of these tax dollars can be  
19           reallocated to fund new programs such as  
20           universal pre-K and parks and recreation  
21           infrastructure repairs. Otherwise more  
22           money will be collected from citizens  
23           than is needed and used later for some  
24           purpose other than stated.

25                        My staff has calculated the

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           average difference between budgeted and  
3           actual amounts of spending in each  
4           department over the past seven years. We  
5           found that one office was allocated an  
6           average of 9 percent more than it spent  
7           over the past seven years and transferred  
8           a total of \$55 million over that time.

9                         Another office was allocated 72  
10           percent more than it spent for materials,  
11           supplies, and equipment in 2014 and 32  
12           percent more than it spent in 2015.

13                        A commission was allocated \$10  
14           million or more than it spent every year  
15           over the past seven years, which would be  
16           about \$70 million in over-allocations.

17                        Finally, one line item in the  
18           budget was allocated a total of \$66  
19           million between 2014 and 2015, and none  
20           of those funds were spent for that  
21           purpose.

22                        By simply applying the  
23           seven-year percentage differential in  
24           spending to department requests each  
25           year, we can cut \$180 million from the

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           proposed \$4.1 billion budget without  
3           reducing one penny of actual services and  
4           support. But in order to be cautious, I  
5           reduce the \$180 million figure to  
6           approximately 103 million by evaluating  
7           budget items according to each  
8           department's pattern of spending. Some  
9           departments have demonstrated improved  
10          ability to manage their funding, and so I  
11          did not propose reducing their requested  
12          funding.

13                        On the other hand, I have  
14          proposed reducing budgeted allocations  
15          for departments that have not shown  
16          improvement in managing their funding,  
17          adjusting line items to a more realistic  
18          figure of what they will actually use.

19                        Why is 103 million out of 4.1  
20          billion in the overall budget important  
21          to the citizens? Because extra programs;  
22          for example, \$26 million for universal  
23          pre-K, 4.2 million for community schools,  
24          require extra money, and unless that  
25          money comes out of the existing budget,

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           additional revenues is needed through  
3           borrowing, taxes, and fees. That means  
4           additional and unnecessary burdens are  
5           placed on our citizens.

6                     The over-allocated 103 million  
7           we've identified far surpasses the  
8           revenue projections for the first year of  
9           the Administration's soda tax, which is  
10          48 million, and Council's projections of  
11          the first year cost of pre-K, community  
12          schools, and rebuilding infrastructure,  
13          which is 60 million. In fact, if we save  
14          this money each year by budgeting and  
15          spending more efficiently, we would raise  
16          515 million in the same amount of time  
17          that the Administration would raise 432  
18          million for pre-K and community  
19          infrastructure through the soda tax.

20                    We need good programs. We  
21          should do our best to support the new  
22          Administration whenever possible, but we  
23          also need jobs, opportunities, new  
24          investment, and better fiscal  
25          accountability from our government to our

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           citizens. Otherwise, we'll end up with  
3           none of the above, but the citizens will  
4           pay the tab.

5                     If you want our city to move  
6           forward with universal pre-K, community  
7           schools, improvement in parks and  
8           recreation facilities, and rebuild  
9           community infrastructure, your wish can  
10          come true. You don't have to believe  
11          that you need to pay extra for it. Let's  
12          get the City's budgeting in order before  
13          we resort to increasing taxes.

14                    Council President, I'd like to  
15          point to the two charts. They illustrate  
16          that \$102.486 million in over-allocations  
17          could be reallocated from the budget for  
18          the programs. That's only 2 percent of  
19          the \$4.1 billion proposed budget. And  
20          the next two charts will demonstrate, for  
21          example, one of the departments, which is  
22          the Sinking Fund, if you look at the  
23          blue, that is the amount of money that it  
24          has requested or the amount of money that  
25          has been allocated to that fund. The red

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           is the actual amount of money it spends.  
3           The red and the blue have no correlation.  
4           Money is put in there. Money is spent  
5           from there. There's an excess over that  
6           time, I think 2009 to 2015, of about \$53  
7           million. That appears to me to be a  
8           department that holds money for other  
9           purposes.

10                    The problem is that City  
11           government operates in one-year terms and  
12           five-year plans. When you look at that  
13           last chart, it will show you that the  
14           cigarette tax will sunset in 2019 and the  
15           proposed soda tax in red will provide a  
16           level of money in addition to the blue,  
17           which is the revenues that we -- that is  
18           in accordance with the Five Year Plan.  
19           We do not have a number for '22 and '23,  
20           2022, 2023. But from testimony from the  
21           Administration during the Nutter years  
22           and now under Kenney, the testimony has  
23           been that when the PICA wage tax sunsets  
24           in 2023, it's going to put a \$350 million  
25           hole in the budget. So I've reduced the

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           anticipated revenues by \$350 million.  
3           When you compare that to what's on the  
4           right, that is the amount of obligations  
5           that the City has. The red on top of  
6           that is the School District debt. It's  
7           not -- it doesn't add up all together.  
8           Each year the debt grows, until it is at  
9           \$600 million in 2021.

10                        When you look at 2021, the  
11           School District is short \$600 million,  
12           and we have typically and historically  
13           shouldered that burden because the state  
14           does not put in its fair share. We will  
15           probably have to do that again.

16                        When you look at 2023, on top  
17           of that \$600 million, if that's not taken  
18           care of, there will be \$350 million  
19           missing from our budget. So if you look  
20           at the year 2023 in terms of how much  
21           money we anticipate receiving and how  
22           much debt we're going to have, the debt  
23           far outweighs, far outweighs the revenues  
24           that we're going to receive.

25                        I believe that it would be wise

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           of us to look at 2023, because that is  
3           the last year of the second term of the  
4           Administration and we'll lose continuity  
5           possibly of the City officials that are  
6           looking at this issue.

7                         So with that, I would like to  
8           present an amendment to the budget that  
9           relies on money that is currently in the  
10          budget that is not allocated, I don't  
11          believe, for the purposes that they have  
12          been categorized.

13                        Thank you very much.

14                        COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

15          Thank you, Councilman.

16                        (Applause.)

17                        COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

18          Thank you very much for your testimony,  
19          Councilman. And as we move ahead, we do  
20          need to look at other options, and I  
21          always use this term about our first  
22          response to a problem or an initiative  
23          can't be to stick our hands in the  
24          taxpayers' pocket, which we do way too  
25          much.



1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2                   There has been discussion over  
3 a period of time in the last year about  
4 other options. Councilman Domb talks  
5 about collections of taxes, corrections  
6 in commercial real estate. Those are  
7 things that we have to look at in a very  
8 serious and aggressive way as we move  
9 ahead.

10                   This whole issue about  
11 zero-based budgeting, we're told by the  
12 Administration that we're going deal with  
13 that in earnest in the upcoming years,  
14 because there are opportunities beyond,  
15 again, sticking our hands in the  
16 taxpayers' pockets.

17                   So I do concur, not necessarily  
18 with your numbers, but this concept and  
19 our ability to make sure that our first  
20 response is not that and we become a more  
21 efficient government as it relates to the  
22 operation of the City of Philadelphia.

23                   The Chair recognizes Councilman  
24 Green.

25                   COUNCILMAN GREEN: Yes. In

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           reference to the information presented by  
3           Councilman Oh, I wasn't sure if Rob Dubow  
4           was still in the room, because I'm  
5           interested in seeing his perspective on  
6           that information that was presented.

7                        COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

8           Absolutely. He'll be right here,  
9           Councilman. He stepped out for a second.

10                      Thank you. He's coming.

11                      (Pause.)

12                      COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

13           Mr. Dubow, Councilman Oh just gave a  
14           riveting presentation on our ability to  
15           identify revenue. I think you're  
16           familiar with it.

17                      I believe, Councilman, you had  
18           a similar proposal last year in terms  
19           of --

20                      COUNCILMAN OH: Yes.

21                      Good evening.

22                      MR. DUBOW: Good evening.

23                      COUNCILMAN OH: He is quite  
24           familiar, as we have discussed during the  
25           testimonies, about the PICA wage

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           sunsetting and the fact that the \$350  
3           million would affect the year 2024, and I  
4           understand you're going to work on that,  
5           but it coincides with the time where the  
6           School District will have been in its  
7           third year or second year after it has a  
8           \$600 million debt, and what I have kind  
9           of looked at each year is our budgeting  
10          process, which the Administration puts  
11          together a budget and it has numbers that  
12          it assigns to each department, and each  
13          year money is transferred from outside of  
14          those departments, sometimes in small  
15          amounts, sometimes in large amounts. I  
16          think when I look at OIT, Office of  
17          Information Technology, we anticipate  
18          that in the operating fund, money will  
19          not likely be used. And so pointing out  
20          to the Sinking Fund, when we look at how  
21          much money has been put in the fund and  
22          how much money has been transferred out  
23          of the fund, there is no correlation  
24          between its need, its requirements, and  
25          its spending and, therefore, it looks

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           like there's about \$53 million that have  
3           been transferred out of that department  
4           since between 2009 and 2015.

5                       We look at another commission  
6           that over the last seven years has been  
7           allocated \$10 million more than they use,  
8           for a total of \$70 million. So it  
9           appears that over-allocations of funds is  
10          not arbitrary, that over-allocations of  
11          funds is depositing money for either  
12          intended purposes, which may be good, but  
13          they're not identified to Council,  
14          they're not identified to the public, and  
15          they may include projects that the public  
16          does not value more than keeping taxes  
17          lower or funding things like universal  
18          pre-K.

19                       So that was my presentation.  
20          So I look at about \$180 million off the  
21          top which is likely over-allocations, cut  
22          it down to about \$103 million and say  
23          from there, that money can be reallocated  
24          from the budget for the purposes of  
25          paying for the first year of the

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2           Administration's desired programs.

3                       MR. DUBOW: So what's the  
4           question?

5                       COUNCILMAN OH: That was an  
6           explanation of what was presented when  
7           you weren't here. The question was  
8           Councilman Green's.

9                       COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The  
10          Chair recognizes Councilman Green.

11                      COUNCILMAN GREEN: Yeah. I  
12          guess the reason why I wanted Mr. Dubow  
13          to come and make a perspective on the  
14          proposal, because it's been presented  
15          there's additional dollars available in  
16          this year's budget in order to pay for  
17          pre-K, and I wanted to get the  
18          perspective -- as well as rebuild. So I  
19          wanted to get the perspective from the  
20          Administration, is that their same  
21          perspective?

22                      MR. DUBOW: As you might guess,  
23          it's not. And we acknowledge that there  
24          are some places where we'll spend less  
25          than budgeted and other places where we

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           will spend more. At the end of the year,  
3           what we care about is the bottom line,  
4           and what we're talking about before is  
5           kind of how narrow our fund balance has  
6           gotten, and that's a big concern for us.  
7           And one of the -- I mean, one of the  
8           areas that the Councilman talked about  
9           was our Sinking Fund Commission. That's  
10          where we pay our debt service, and that's  
11          an area we want to make sure that we do  
12          have enough, because we don't want to  
13          miss any of those payments. But that's  
14          our general response.

15                    COUNCILMAN GREEN: And what was  
16                    last year's fund balance, last fiscal  
17                    year fund balance?

18                    MR. DUBOW: It will take me a  
19                    second.

20                    COUNCILMAN OH: I'm sorry,  
21                    Council President, can I make a point of  
22                    order, a point of information.

23                    COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:  
24                    Sure, Councilman.

25                    COUNCILMAN OH: So in my early

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           years when I arrived at Council, we had  
3           this issue with the firefighters, and the  
4           Administration said that they could not  
5           afford to pay the firefighters \$210  
6           million. The firefighters said that  
7           we're not asking for \$210 million. We're  
8           asking for \$64 million. And so this  
9           litigation had occurred repeatedly during  
10          the Nutter Administration. They lost  
11          numerous times. There was an excess --  
12          there was a fund balance, and we  
13          introduced a bill to appropriate the \$64  
14          million of the fund balance to settle  
15          this contract and relieve the City of  
16          this continuous litigation and appeals,  
17          which didn't look like it was going  
18          anywhere, and there was a resolution of  
19          that problem.

20                   My point is, fund balances are  
21          fund balances, and I do understand we  
22          need to have a fund balance, but this  
23          issue about the fund balance occurred  
24          today. I mean, we've been at this for a  
25          long time, and if it's that important, it

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           should have come up long before this.  
3           But there is some need for money at any  
4           given point, and I think even though it's  
5           a fund balance, it can be very useful.  
6           We ended up basically not using that, but  
7           the money was used. There was a  
8           settlement with the firefighters, and  
9           that was taken care of.

10                    COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: All  
11           right. Okay.

12                    Councilman, there was a  
13           question on --

14                    MR. DUBOW: To answer the  
15           question, we ended last year with \$150  
16           million. We're projecting that this year  
17           we'll end with 70 million. Kind of our  
18           general target is, we'd like to be at  
19           around 6 percent, which would be a couple  
20           hundred million dollars. So we're well  
21           below where we should be. We're well  
22           below where rating agencies would want us  
23           to be. It's one of the things that they  
24           consistently say, that we have fund  
25           balances that are too low.



1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2                   COUNCILMAN GREEN: And so just  
3 to wrap up my point of questions, so from  
4 your perspective, you don't believe we  
5 have additional funds of \$100 million in  
6 the budget to fund pre-K or rebuild?

7                   MR. DUBOW: That's correct.

8                   COUNCILMAN GREEN: Okay. And  
9 that's based on your analysis of working  
10 with the departments and the allocation  
11 they need to spend as well?

12                   MR. DUBOW: Correct.

13                   COUNCILMAN GREEN: Okay. Thank  
14 you.

15                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:  
16 Thank you, Councilman.

17                   Mr. Dubow, why the fund balance  
18 difference? Why was there such a  
19 difference? Did we have unforeseen  
20 expenditures?

21                   MR. DUBOW: We actually in the  
22 budget, we anticipated that it was going  
23 to go down, and it has.

24                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:  
25 Because of?

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2                   MR. DUBOW: Things like  
3 increased labor costs, pension costs.

4                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:  
5 Contracts?

6                   MR. DUBOW: Yeah.

7                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:  
8 Okay.

9                   The Chair recognizes Councilman  
10 Domb.

11                   COUNCILMAN DOMB: Thank you,  
12 Council President.

13                   And good evening.

14                   MR. DUBOW: Good evening.

15                   COUNCILMAN DOMB: I just want  
16 to verify for the record. Moody's, one  
17 of the bond rating services, says in  
18 their bond rating analysis, there are  
19 three major focal points we need to look  
20 at as a city. One is funding for the  
21 schools, two is pensions, and three is  
22 the fund balance. Am I missing anything?

23                   MR. DUBOW: That's correct. I  
24 mean, pensions and kind of fixed costs in  
25 general, but pensions is a specific area

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           of concern, and we obviously talked about  
3           that throughout these series.

4                    COUNCILMAN DOMB: But those  
5           should be our three focal points for all  
6           of us?

7                    MR. DUBOW: Yes.

8                    COUNCILMAN DOMB: Thank you.

9                    COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:  
10          Thank you, Councilman.

11                   Councilman, are you okay?

12                   COUNCILMAN GREEN: Yes.

13                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:  
14          Thank you, Mr. Dubow.

15                   MR. DUBOW: Thank you.

16                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Can  
17          you hang around?

18                   MR. DUBOW: Yeah.

19                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:  
20          Thank you.

21                   The Chair now recognizes  
22          Councilwoman Quinones-Sanchez.

23                   COUNCILWOMAN SANCHEZ: Yes. I  
24          first want to thank Councilman Oh for the  
25          presentation. I think he crystalizes

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           what I've said from day one, that every  
3           Mayor should have a budget and a budget  
4           realignment that specifies his  
5           priorities. I don't think that's been  
6           done in this city. I don't think it's  
7           been done, and I think the zero-based  
8           budgeting that we talked about, the  
9           PILOTs, OPA assessments are all  
10          additional revenue streams that I think  
11          we're missing out on.

12                         And so I want to thank David  
13           for that and assure him that the  
14           information will be utilized as we work  
15           with the Administration on what I  
16           consider a full realignment of his  
17           departments to his priorities, priorities  
18           that he got elected on, priorities that I  
19           support.

20                         I also want to thank  
21           Councilwoman Blondell Reynolds Brown and  
22           Councilwoman Bass. This has been a very  
23           tough negotiation, and while today I  
24           intended to present an amendment, I will  
25           not do so because I don't have the votes,

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2           but I wanted to speak on it.

3                       The premise of this soda tax  
4           the third time in less than ten years was  
5           that we were going after the big  
6           distributors, big, big whatever they are.  
7           In this legislation, there are two safety  
8           valves that allow the Administration to  
9           go after the local retailers - the  
10          stores, the bodegas, that convenience  
11          store in our corner. I feel very  
12          strongly that if the Administration  
13          through their legal opinion feel that  
14          they can defend this in court, that they  
15          should not have that fallback provision  
16          to go after the small retail stores.

17                      And so I want to continue to  
18          remind the Administration where we  
19          started, that this was different because  
20          it was at the distributors, and remind  
21          folks that the retail stores have got  
22          caught up in the middle and, as has been  
23          reported widely, this will have a  
24          desperate impact in minority communities,  
25          communities of color, and low-income

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           communities, and I feel very strongly  
3           that the Administration should take that  
4           provision off their legislation.

5                       Now, because I don't have the  
6           number of votes, I'm not going to put  
7           that forward, but I'm going to remind the  
8           Administration why they said this tax was  
9           different.

10                      Thank you.

11                      COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

12           Thank you, Councilwoman.

13                      The Chair recognizes  
14           Councilwoman Parker.

15                      COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: Thank  
16           you, Mr. President. I did not prepare to  
17           have any comments to make about what I  
18           know was a very difficult and  
19           hard-to-reach compromise and consensus  
20           that I feel was built.

21                      I want to thank you,  
22           Mr. President, for your leadership as the  
23           legislative leader of this body,  
24           attempting to balance the issues and  
25           concerns of 17 members, who each have a

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2           right to be heard.

3                       I want to thank the  
4           Administration for doing exactly the same  
5           and understanding that everyone's  
6           position added value to this discussion.

7                       There is one thing,  
8           Mr. President, that has bothered me after  
9           long discussions and late nights of  
10          hearings about this issue of consumption  
11          in minority communities. We've heard  
12          that message over and over and over  
13          again, and I believe it is true. There's  
14          a high level of consumption in minority  
15          communities. But I believe that if we  
16          are really interested in closing the gap  
17          between the have's and the have not's in  
18          the City of Philadelphia, instead of  
19          thinking about that community, that  
20          minority community, as a community of  
21          consumers, we should be thinking about  
22          why that community is consuming and not  
23          owning.

24                      Travel through those  
25          communities and see how many people in

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           those neighborhoods who are consuming  
3           actually own a cent in those retail  
4           outlets in those neighborhoods. They  
5           don't.

6                           (Applause.)

7                           COUNCILWOMAN PARKER: And with  
8           that being said, I will not say all,  
9           Mr. President -- and if I called you  
10          Mr. Speaker, I told you I have flashbacks  
11          sometimes. But I will say to you,  
12          Mr. President, after we get through  
13          tonight and as we move forward, I will  
14          look to you, sir, as the legislative  
15          leader of this body, my 16 other  
16          colleagues, along with the  
17          Administration, to let you know I will  
18          continue to work extremely hard in  
19          advocating for training so that the very  
20          people who are consuming can one day go  
21          back to the days when they held some  
22          ownership in those retail outlets.

23                           Thank you very much for your  
24          patience, Mr. President.

25                           COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:



1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2           Thank you, Councilwoman.

3                   (Applause.)

4                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

5           Thank you, Councilwoman. And this is a  
6           better job because I don't have to go to  
7           Harrisburg, which I would if I were the  
8           Speaker. I can essentially travel like  
9           eight blocks to work. But thank you for  
10          the reference.

11                   Any other members?

12                   (No response.)

13                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: No  
14          additional witnesses are scheduled. So  
15          with that, we will now go into the --  
16          this concludes the public hearing. We  
17          will go into the Committee of the Whole,  
18          we will go into our public meeting.

19                   And we will now recognize  
20          Councilmember Bass for a single motion on  
21          the six resolutions. Councilwoman Bass.

22                   COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Thank you,  
23          Mr. Chairman. I move that Resolutions  
24          No. 160583, 160584, 160585, 160586,  
25          160587, and 160588 be reported from this

1 6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2 Committee with a favorable  
3 recommendation.

4 (Duly seconded.)

5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6 Thank you. It has been moved and  
7 properly seconded that Resolutions No.  
8 160583, 160584, 160585, 160586, 160587,  
9 and 160588 be reported from this  
10 Committee with a favorable  
11 recommendation.

12 All those in favor say aye.

13 (Aye.)

14 COUNCILMAN OH: Council  
15 President?

16 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: I'm  
17 sorry. I was going to call for your  
18 motion.

19 COUNCILMAN OH: I wasn't sure  
20 the procedure here. So I just wanted  
21 to --

22 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: No.  
23 I was going -- for your amendment?

24 COUNCILMAN OH: Yes.

25 COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: Yes.

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2           I was going to get the easy one out of  
3           the way first.

4                        COUNCILMAN OH: Thank you.

5           Sorry about that. I wasn't sure.

6                        COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: All  
7           right.

8                        Let's do this again. All those  
9           in favor of the motion will signify by  
10          saying aye.

11                       (Aye.)

12                       COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

13          Those opposed?

14                       (No response.)

15                       COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The  
16          motion carries, and these resolutions  
17          will be reported from this Committee with  
18          a favorable recommendation at the next  
19          session of Council.

20                       I would now like to recognize  
21          Councilman Oh.

22                       COUNCILMAN OH: Thank you,  
23          Council President. I'd like to offer an  
24          amendment to Bill No. 160172. A copy of  
25          the amendment has been circulated to all

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           members of the Committee. I move for the  
3           adoption of the amendment.

4                       (Duly seconded.)

5                       COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It's  
6           been moved and properly seconded.

7                       All those in favor say aye.

8                       (Aye.)

9                       COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:  
10          Those opposed?

11                      (No.)

12                      COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: It  
13          seemed like the nays have it, Councilman?

14                      COUNCILMAN OH: I agree.

15                      COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:  
16          Thank you very much.

17                      The motion is denied.

18                      At this time, the Chair  
19          recognizes Councilmember Henon for a  
20          motion on the amendment to Bill No.  
21          160172.

22                      COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you,  
23          Mr. Chairman. I offer an amendment to  
24          Bill No. 160172. A copy of the amendment  
25          has been circulated to all members of the

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           Committee, and I move for the adoption of  
3           the amendment.

4                         (Duly seconded.)

5                         COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

6           Thank you. It has been moved and  
7           properly seconded that the amendment to  
8           Bill No. 160172 be approved.

9                         All those in favor of the  
10          motion will signify by saying aye.

11                        (Aye.)

12                        COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

13          Those opposed?

14                        (No response.)

15                        COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The  
16          motion carries, and Bill No. 160172 has  
17          been amended.

18                        The Chair again recognizes  
19          Councilmember Henon for a motion on Bill  
20          No. 160172, as amended.

21                        COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you,  
22          Mr. Chairman. I move that Bill No.  
23          160172, as amended, be reported from this  
24          Committee with a favorable recommendation  
25          and further move that the rules of

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           Council be suspended to permit first  
3           reading of this bill at our next session  
4           of Council.

5                         (Duly seconded.)

6                         COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

7           Thank you. It's been moved and properly  
8           seconded that Bill No. 160172, as  
9           amended, be reported from this Committee  
10          with a favorable recommendation and  
11          further moved that the rules of Council  
12          be suspended so as to permit first  
13          reading of the bill at the next session  
14          of Council.

15                        All those in favor say aye.

16                        (Aye.)

17                        COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

18          Those opposed?

19                        (Nay.)

20                        COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The  
21          ayes have it and the motion carries.  
22          Bill No. 160172, as amended, will be  
23          reported from this Committee with a  
24          favorable recommendation and a request  
25          that the rules be suspended so as to

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           permit first reading at the next session  
3           of Council.

4                     The Chair again recognizes  
5           Councilmember Henon for a motion on the  
6           amendment to Bill No. 160176.

7                     COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you,  
8           Mr. Chairman. I offer an amendment to  
9           Bill No. 160176. A copy of the amendment  
10          has been circulated to all members of the  
11          Committee and I move for the adoption of  
12          the amendment.

13                     (Duly seconded.)

14                     COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:  
15          Thank you. It has been moved and  
16          properly seconded that the amendment to  
17          Bill No. 160176 be approved.

18                     All those in favor say aye.

19                     (Aye.)

20                     COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:  
21          Those opposed?

22                     (No.)

23                     COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The  
24          ayes have it, the motion carries, and  
25          Bill No. 160176 has been amended.

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2                   The Chair again recognizes  
3           Councilmember Henon for a motion on Bill  
4           No. 160176, as amended.

5                   COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you,  
6           Mr. Chairman. I move that Bill No.  
7           160176, as amended, be reported from this  
8           Committee with a favorable recommendation  
9           and further move that the rules of  
10          Council be suspended to permit first  
11          reading of this bill at our next session  
12          of Council.

13                   (Duly seconded.)

14                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:  
15          Thank you. It has been moved and  
16          properly seconded that Bill No. 160176,  
17          as amended, be reported from this  
18          Committee with a favorable recommendation  
19          and further moved that the rules of  
20          Council be suspended to permit first  
21          reading of this bill at the next session  
22          of Council.

23                   All those in favor of the  
24          motion will signify by saying aye.

25                   (Aye.)



1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

3           Those opposed?

4                   (No.)

5                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The  
6           ayes have it and the motion carries, and  
7           Bill No. 160176, as amended, will be  
8           reported from this Committee with a  
9           favorable recommendation and a request  
10          that the rules of Council be suspended so  
11          as to permit first reading at the next  
12          session of Council.

13                   The Chair recognizes  
14          Councilmember Henon for a motion on the  
15          amendment to Bill No. 160552.

16                   COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you,  
17          Mr. Chairman. I offer an amendment to  
18          Bill No. 160552. A copy of the amendment  
19          has been circulated to all members of  
20          this Committee, and I move for the  
21          adoption of the amendment.

22                   (Duly seconded.)

23                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

24          Thank you. It has been moved and  
25          properly seconded that the amendment to

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2           Bill No. 160552 be approved.

3                   All those in favor signify by  
4           saying aye.

5                   (Aye.)

6                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

7           Those opposed?

8                   (No response.)

9                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The  
10          ayes have it and the motion carries, and  
11          Bill No. 160552 has been amended.

12                   The Chair recognizes  
13          Councilmember Henon again for a motion on  
14          Bill No. 160552, as amended.

15                   COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you,  
16          Mr. Chairman. I move that Bill No.  
17          160552, as amended, be reported from this  
18          Committee with a favorable recommendation  
19          and further move that the rules of  
20          Council be suspended to permit first  
21          reading of this bill at our next session  
22          of Council.

23                   (Duly seconded.)

24                   COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

25          Thank you. It has been moved and

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.  
2           properly seconded that Bill No. 160552,  
3           as amended, be reported from this  
4           Committee with a favorable recommendation  
5           and further moved that the rules of  
6           Council be suspended so as to permit  
7           first reading of this bill at the next  
8           session of Council.

9                         All those in favor say aye.  
10                        (Aye.)

11                        COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE:

12           Those opposed?

13                        (No response.)

14                        COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: The  
15           ayes have it and the motion carries, and  
16           Bill No. 160552, as amended, will be  
17           reported from this Committee with a  
18           favorable recommendation and a request  
19           that the rules of Council be suspended to  
20           permit first reading at the next session  
21           of Council.

22                        Let it be known for the record  
23           that Bill No. 160508, 160509, and  
24           Resolution No. 160180 are being held in  
25           Committee.

1           6/8/16 - WHOLE - BILL 160172, etc.

2                    There being no other business  
3 of the Committee today --

4                    (Applause.)

5                    COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARKE: --  
6 the meeting is concluded and the hearing  
7 is concluded. It will be recessed to the  
8 call of the Chair.

9                    Thank you all very much.

10                   (Committee of the Whole  
11 concluded at 8:05 p.m.)

12                               - - -

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CERTIFICATE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the proceedings, evidence and objections are contained fully and accurately in the stenographic notes taken by me upon the foregoing matter, and that this is a true and correct transcript of same.

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MICHELE L. MURPHY  
RPR-Notary Public

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