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UPTOWN STANDARD

MAY 2021

FRFF

BILAL POSTPONES SHERIFF SALES



PRIMARY ELECTION 2021 INSIDE: THE UPTOWN STANDARDS ENDORSEMENTS

INSIDE:

- RABB INTRODUCES PACKAGE OF BILLS TO PROTECT MEDICAL CANNABIS PATIENTS, DISPENSARIES FROM EVICTION, DISCRIMINATION.
- COUNCILMEMBER THOMAS CALL FOR EXTENDING BAR HOURS.
- 2020 PHILLY HIP HOP AWARD WINNER SON OF 215



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\$3.50

\$3.25

\$3.25

\$1.82

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DEEP FRY SPECIAL #4

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3 LBS. GROUND BEEF

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FOR ONLY





DELI SPECIAL #1













DELI SPECIAL #3



PRIMARY ELECTION GUIDE 2021 THE UPTOWN STANDARDS ENDORSEMENTS ARE IN RED

BALLOT QUESTIONS

Question #1 Proposed Constitutional Amendment 1 Termination or Extension of Disaster Emergency Declarations Ballot Question: Shall the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to change existing law and increase the power of the General Assembly to unilaterally terminate or extend a disaster emergency declaration—and the powers of Commonwealth agencies to address the disaster regardless of its severity pursuant to that declaration—through passing a concurrent resolution by simple majority, thereby removing the existing check and balance of presenting a resolution to the Governor for approval or disapproval?

Question #2 Proposed Constitutional Amendment 2 Disaster Emergency Declaration and Management Ballot Question: Shall the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to change existing law so that: a disaster emergency declaration will expire automatically after 21 days, regardless of the severity of the emergency, unless the General Assembly takes action to extend the disaster emergency; the Governor may not declare a new disaster emergency to respond to the dangers facing the Commonwealth unless the General Assembly passes a concurrent resolution: the General Assembly enacts new laws for disaster management?

Question #3 Proposed Constitutional Amendment 3
Prohibition Against Denial or Abridgement of Equality of Rights Because of Race or Ethnicity Ballot Question: Shall the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended by adding a new section providing that equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged because of an individual's race or ethnicity?

Question #4 Statewide Referendum Making Municipal

Fire and Emergency Medical Services Companies Eligible for Loans Ballot Question: Do you favor expanding the use of the indebtedness authorized under the referendum for loans to volunteer fire companies, volunteer ambulance services and volunteer rescue squads under 35 PA.C.S. §7378.1 (related to referendum for additional indebtedness) to include loans to municipal fire departments or companies that provide services through paid personnel and emergency medical services companies for the purpose of establishing and modernizing facilities to house apparatus equipment, ambulances and rescue vehicles, and for purchasing apparatus equipment, ambulances and rescue vehicles, protective and communications equipment and any other accessory equipment necessary for the proper performance of the duties of the fire companies and emergency medical services companies?

Question #5 Proposed Charter Change Submitted to the Voters By: Bill No. 210073 (approved March 10, 2021); Resolution No. 210085 (adopted March 4, 2021) Ballot Question: Shall The Philadelphia Home Rule Charter be amended to provide for an expanded Board of License Inspection Review that can hear and decide cases in three-member panels?

CANDIDATES

Justice of the Supreme Court (Democratic)
Statewide (Vote for One)

• Maria McLaughlin [1]

Justice of the Supreme Court (Republican) Statewide (Vote for One)

- Paula Patrick [101]
- Kevin Brobson [102]
- Patricia A McCullough [103]

Judge of the Superior Court (Democratic) Statewide (Vote for One)

- Jill Beck [2]
- Timika Lane [3]

• Bryan Neft [4]

Judge of the Superior Court (Republican) Statewide (Vote for One)

• Megan Sullivan [104]

Judge of the Commonwealth Court (Democratic) Statewide (Vote for not more than Two)

- David Lee Spurgeon [5]
- Lori A Dumas [6]
- Sierra Street [7]
- Amanda Green Hawkins [8]

Judge of the Commonwealth Court (Republican) Statewide (Vote for not more than Two)

- Drew Crompton [105]
- Stacy Marie Wallace [106]

Judge of the Court of Common Pleas (Democratic) Citywide (Vote for not more than Eight)

- Caroline Turner [9]
- Terri Booker [10]
- Wendi Barish [11]
- Craig Levin [12]
- Cateria R McCabe [13]
- Nick Kamau [14]
- Daniel R Sulman [15]
- Patrick J Moran [16]
- Maurice Houston [17]
- Betsy Wahl [18]
- Michele Hangley [19]
- Rick Cataldi [20]
- John R Padova [21]
- Chris Hall [22]
- Mark J Moore [23]
- Tamika Washington [24]

Judge of the Municipal Court (Democratic) Citywide (Vote for not more than Three)

- Michael C Lambert [25]
- Barbara Thomson [26]
- George Twardy [27]
- Greg Yorgey-Girdy [28]

District Attorney (Democratic) Citywide (Vote for One)

- Carlos Vega [29]
- Larry Krasner [30]

District Attorney (Republican) Citywide (Vote for One)

Charles Chuck Peruto [107]

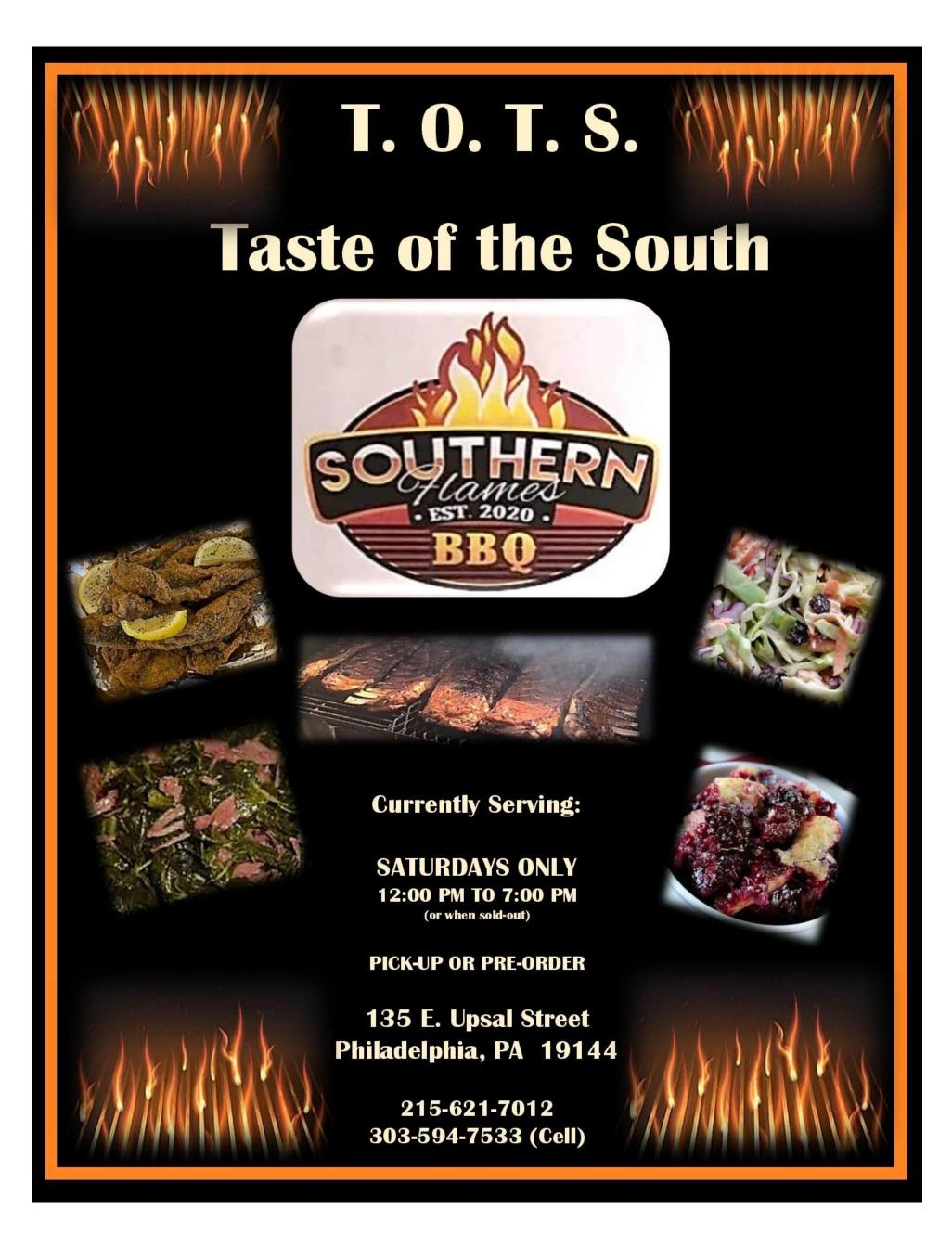
City Controller (Democratic) Citywide (Vote for One)

Rebecca Rhynhart [31]





Day & Night Food Market/7722 Ogontz Ave



AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS

MARKETS

Chew's Market 6709 Chew Ave

Mt Airy Deli 7200 Devon St

Rodriguez Mini Mart 6731 Ogontz Ave

Stop One Food Market & Deli 6510 N 21st St.

Heems 1 Stop Shop 200 W. Clapier St

Town Supermarket 5031 Germantown Ave

M&F Supermarket 1431 E. Vernon Rd

Sam Meats 1524 Wadsworth Ave

Pat's Caribbean 1527 Wadsworth Ave

Day & Night Food Market 7722 Ogontz Ave

Crab & Claw 7801 Ogontz Ave Roxie Market 8315 Stenton Ave

Famous Deli 7522 Ogontz Ave

Young's Deli 7401 Stenton Ave

Stenton Supermarket 6400 Stenton Ave

Royal Meats 1619 Wadsworth Ave

Pete's Deli 8016 Ogontz Ave

Riley Deli 7701 Ogontz Ave

NRC Mini Market 1532 67th Ave

Convenience Store Inc. 1951 74th Ave

Serrata's Grocery Store 7453 Walnut ln

TNT Food Market 1947 72nd Ave

RESTUARANTS

Bizini's Seafood & Steaks 1800 Lindley Ave

Victoria's Kitchen 7304 Ogontz Ave

Vernie's Soul Food 1800 Eleanor St

Uptown Seafood 6255 Limeklin Pk

Jeisy's Grilled Chicken 5701 Germantown Ave

Tasties 5241 Germantown Ave

Mr Hook Fish & Chicken Halal 5625 Germantown Ave

Silver Star Kitchen 1453 Vernon Rd

Jeisy's Grilled Chicken 5701 Germantown Ave

Paradise Jamaican Restaurant 1530 E. Wadsworth Ave. AGAPE Christian Café 1605 E. Wadsworth Ave

O Sunny Side Breakfast 7706 Ogontz Ave

Food From The Heart 8010 Ogontz Ave

BBQ Town 7711 Ogontz Ave

Philly's Platinum Grille 7719 Crittenden St

Sister Muhammad's 4441 Ger5mantown Ave

Eatibles Delight 1540 E. Wadsworth Ave

Lincoln Chicken & Burger 801 E Chelten Ave

SERVICE

Nutrition & Herb Center 5601 N. 10th St

Cleaners & Laundry 7222 Ogontz Ave

D&Y Laundry Mat 6825 Ogontz Ave Laundry Depot 2548 W. Cheltenham Ave

Z Laundry 8001 Ogontz Ave

H2O Laundry 8207 Stenton Ave

Nickens Agency 1550 Wadsworth Ave

Ponzettas Tof 4928 N. Broad St

SALONS

Michael's Unisex Salon 8008 Ogontz Ave

Allure Hair Designs Inc 8006 Ogontz Ave

UPTOWN SEAFOOD

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POSTPONING SHERIFF SALES IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO. FAR FROM THE ONLY THING TO DO



By: Rochelle Bilal, Sheriff, City and County of Philadelphia

If you're a human being with at least one compassionate bone in your body, then you don't like sheriff sales. These events, held to recoup unpaid mortgages for banks and unpaid taxes for the City of Philadelphia, signify nothing so much as the loss of a family's home – the latest and most terrible tragedy in a long string of misfortunes ending in the bang of a gavel.

As Sheriff of the City and County of Philadelphia, I am sworn to serve the citizens of this great city. I am also sworn to execute the orders of the court, which include when to hold Sheriff for even more hardship for Sales. Before the pandemic, this meant holding multiple sales a month. When it became clear that there would be no way to safely hold inperson sales – which could attract close to 600 people – I petitioned the court to postpone sales until the day came that we could ensure the safety of all participants.

In December 2020, I received orders from the First Judicial Court of Philadelphia to resume Sheriff Sales by April 2021. Knowing that it was just a matter of time before such an order was given, my team had done the legwork necessary to ensure that we would be ready to move forward with virtual online sales.

These sales have been an unqualified success, allowing for unprecedented protection for homeowners, attorneys, and bidders. In addition, the sales have generated better-than-expected participation and sales,

which has allowed us to return even more money to those who have lost their homes while cutting the expenses associated with conducting in-person sales.

Those expenses are more than \$200,000 a year. That's \$1 million over 5 years, costs that are charged to the individuals losing their property.

Virtual sales cost the individuals losing their property nothing. Zero.

Despite the resumption of sales being announced last year, and despite months of outreach about the transition to virtual sales, there was intense pushback against the resumption of sales in some quarters, including repeated calls from elected officials and homeowner advocacy groups to postpone the sales. While there is no argument that resuming Sheriff Sales during the pandemic creates the opportunity those caught in the foreclosure process, the law is clear: Without a viable, val-

id legal reason, I cannot petition the court for a postponement. To do so would open the floodgates to lawsuits – which, if successful, would have to be paid by Philadelphia taxpayers – by attorneys and plaintiffs who have the right to expect the court and my office to perform our duties regarding such sales.

But as I made clear during my successful 2019 campaign to change the way the Philadelphia Sheriff's Office conducts its business, I am not someone who is content to accept the status quo. A few days ago, in the latest round of meetings my team has held with a coalition of homeowner advocacy groups that includes Community Legal Services, the Philadelphia Unemployment Project, and Philadelphia Legal Assistance, I came to the determination that the latest federal relief package contains legal reason sufficient for me to petition the court to temporarily postpone Philadelphia Sheriff Sales.

In light of the potential funding coming to the City of Philadelphia – which should receive a significant portion of the estimated \$350 million to be disbursed to the commonwealth via the American Rescue Plan's Homeowner Assistance Fund, help could indeed be on the way for so many Philadelphians who need to stay in their homes, Accordingly, I formally petitioned the court for a 60-day postponement of sales so that all parties can better determine the impact of this funding.

While this petition is a significant step in the arduous journey to help at-risk Philadelphians keep their homes, the road ahead for too many homeowners is long and dangerous unless real, meaningful legislation is enacted as soon as possible. Without bold, transformative action by my fellow elected officials in City Council, the General Assembly, and Congress, when literally countless evictions that have been put off indefinitely by executive

orders at the state and federal levels are no longer postponed, this city, this state, this country will bear witness to record numbers of homes entering the sheriff sale process – and no one wants to see that happen.

I look forward to working with Philadelphia City Council, the state authorities responsible for disbursing the Homeowners Assistance Fund to municipalities, homeowner advocacy groups, and anyone else who has a plan to mitigate this looming crisis.

Rochelle Bilal is the Sheriff of the City and County of Philadelphia. The office has a \$27 million budget and more than 300 employees. *Under her leadership, there* has been a renewed focus on community outreach and constituent services.



The Änest Home Brand is a Lifestyle Brand, emphasizing Food, Family and Home, from a Millennial mom perspective.

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> Receive a FREE sample of our Signature Jerk Seasoning with a purchase of a whole cake or when you order online at www.anesthomebrand.com

Place your orders directly at (267)240-9190 or info@anesthomebrand.com



WILLIAM AND TARA REUNITED TO BECOME THE KING & QUEEN OF SEASONINGS

William and Tara reunited to become the KING & **QUEEN of SEASONINGS**

Who do you think are the better cooks men or women? Now that I got your attention, both, William & Tara combine their love of eating & cooking flavorful foods and became Coowners of Big Grill Flavor Seasoning Company.

Shelly Shell: When was Big Grill Flavor Seasoning Company founded? William & Tara: Big Grill Flavor was founded one rainy day in May 2019. We used our business management skills and love for cooking, and came up with the idea of seasonings with

Proprietors

a healthier vibe.

Shelly Shell: What was the first dish you cooked together?

William & Tara: We cooked steak and grilled salmon using Big Grill Flavor seasonings and sauces. We are awesome cooks and when we add our seasonings, it really brings out the flavor of any food.

Shelly Shell: Describe the flavors and the taste?

William & Tara: You won't be disappointed with Big Grill Flavor seasonings in terms of flavor. The flavor of our products are tremendous and it doesn't matter which seasonings, rubs and/or sauces

you purchase. We use the finest ingredients shipped from all over the world. All of our seasonings, rubs and/ or sauces are fresh and packaged to order. The quality is insane!

Shelly Shell: When did you know that you had the right combinations to create the seasonings?

William & Tara: Even though friends & family raved about our food we decided to use Tara's scientific method and invoke a blind taste test until that one seasoning was simply perfect. Yes, we actually make our seasonings, rubs and sauces from scratch using over 100 different spices from around the world.

Shelly Shell: Tara, you're a teacher and William, you're a Mortgage Banker; how do you balance everything?

William &Tara: Working with a partner can be stressful sometimes, especially in decision-making. We make it work because we are passionate about food and how it should taste! We know that it is important to have shared interests. We love cooking and owning a business. That tions. We are always visitis our balance! We set priorities, plan and do things way in advance and never double book opportunities. We believe that you should build rituals into your life and keep them in mind each time a task must be done.

You have to be considerate of each other's time and you must keep the emotions out of the business! With our jobs, we work hard and with our business...we work even harder!

Shelly Shell: How often do you get to cook together to create new seasonings?

William & Tara: We inspire each other with ideas as we travel across the globe on business, as well as vacaing upscale and local stores offering house-label kitchen accessories & gourmet goods like seasonings, rubs and sauces.

Shelly Shell: How do you make sure the seasonings



have flavor yet remain health-conscious?

William & Tara: Well Shelly that question is a complex question. My father who passed a few years Shelly Shell: What are back was a chef that happened to be diabetic with high blood pressure. So, he was very careful with his salt content. During our research, we found the majority of all seasonings contained about 70 to 80 percent salt (sodium). We figured out a way to give an insane flavor without using so much sodium. We took it out and added more spice

to what people paid for. Giving Big Grill Flavor its business slogan "Less Salt...More Seasoning."

some of your favorite dishes to make?

William & Tara: (Giving you our short list) Salmon, Barbecue Ribs, Mac & Cheese, Country String Beans, Chicken Tacos, Lemon Pepper Wings (No Salt), Jerk Chicken Breast & Wings. We make a West Virginia Chicken Seasoning that can go on just about anything.

That is one of our most pop- to season your food. We ular seasonings! The West Virginia Chicken Seasoning is very consistent and has a great flavor on everything from pork, fish, beef and vegetables. You can't go wrong with this product!

Shelly Shell: As a multiple business owners and marketing experts, what type of plans do you have to expand the Big Grill Flavor Seasoning Company?

first focus is letting everyone know that BGF has a low salt and no salt option

believe this will set up our next journey, which is building our brand. While we do this, we are actively seeking Brand Ambassadors Wow... great question. As that would love to take this journey with us. A Brand Ambassador is that home cook or chef that's willing to give BGF their opinion about our products and give cooking ideas that work with our seasonings. If anyone is interested in being a William & Tara: Our Brand Ambassador, they can email us at in-<u>fo@biggrillflavor.com</u>

Shelly Shell: What are your expectations for Big Grill Flavor Seasoning Compa-

William & Tara: owners, we look forward to fantastic relationships with bothour customers and suppliers. We are consumers, so we understand good customer service and quality... and that's the best product for the best price. And we plan to do just that!

By Shelly Shell

THE BROKER COLUMN: MEET THE CRYPTO'S-DEFI AND NFT.

By RS Broker

It's so much happening in these markets. The stock market, the cryptocurrency market, the real estate market, the labor market, etc. As the RS Broker, there isnt enough space on this paper to address the exploding prices in each of these industries (well labor it's more like jobs are going away). But I have to focus on Cryptocurrency because it's the future and its moving fast.

NFT aka "NFTies" are non -fungible tokens. It stores information saved on a digital ledger, which is different from any other information and not inter-

changeable. Examples are digital coupons, videos, art, etc- but it's all online; you can't hold it in your hand. It is ownership listed on a blockchain, and can be sold on an auction and preventing piracy. NFTs are part of the Ethereum blockchain. Examples of NFT platforms are OpenSea, FansForever, and Rarible.

DeFi are Decentralized Finance blockchain. These are financial services without the usual suspects running the show. It's made to build a financial system open to everyone. A new way for lending and borrowing. And just like NFTs, most of DeFi applications are built on Ethereum. DeFi also

replaces the middleman (broker, bank, etc.) with a smart contract. We can also describe it as the merger between traditional banking services with blockchain technology, in layman's terms. Other parts of DeFi are Derivatives Insurance. It can allow users to lend assets like other cryptos to others and make interest.

We saw DOGE coin, a coin that was made just for fun, turn many into millionaires. It did this because of branding, and support by those who love the coin (just like Gamestop have loyal customers who support the company). Somehow, this coin is still in the top 10 in market cap in the cryptocurrency world.

Now we have the others DeFi with a purpose like HOGE coin and SOGEthese are part of the "man's best friend "crew I call it, all having a dog as it symbol and are gaining a lit of support from those who are into cryptocurrency. Some of these coins are good some bad- defi coin, NFT coin, even shitcoins are being gambled on in this new world of cryptocurrency, and the blockchains and applications associated with them. It's not enough space in this paper to fully explain the NFT and DeFi world, so please google these or look src=android-link at videos on YouTube that explains this new concept of ownership and Money. If you want to invest, please use link below. Whether

your 20 or 60, a new transfer of wealth is upon the horizon. This isn't just the USA going through a change. The whole world is... It won't be easy, but you never know until to try. Oh, and don't forget to follow me on IG or YouTube at @TheGetMoneyShow. Believe in yourself, believe in your dreams, and always remember money a'int just green. We are not financial advisors or giving out financial recommendations. Link to invest in cryptocurrency is right here coinbase.com/join/saunde qw3?



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RABB INTRODUCES PACKAGE OF BILLS TO PROTECT MEDICAL CANNABIS PATIENTS, DISPENSARIES FROM EVICTION, DISCRIMINATION

With the increasing momentum the medical and recreational marijuana legalization cine, and we must ensure movement is generating, it also is leaving certain legalities questionable.

33 states including Washington, D.C, have legalized marijuana for medical purposes with some intent to legalizing it all together on a commercial landlords,' state level. Federally, the 'drug' is still classified as an serves to protect the providillegal, class one substance.

This brings up the question of workplace safety and possible performance issues.

According to the National Survey on Drug and Health, 15.2 million Americans over the age of 25 have admitted that they regularly partake in the consumption of weed.

Now, it is recommended to consult a lawyer in regards to business policies and how criminating against such much employers should handle issues such as employee work performance, drug screening policies or plan for on-the-job injuries and workmen's comp.

On Thursday, April 22, 2021, Councilmember Derek Green's legislation on making it illegal for employers to test new hires for marijuana use. With certain exceptions for jobs such as law enforcement, jobs requiring commercial driver's licenses, and the health care field. The bill was passed in a 15-1 vote. Mayor Kenney is expected to sign the bill into law and will take effect on January 1, 2022.

Workplace discrimination of any kind should not be tolerated. Especially if there is a medical-related issue. With that being said, the call to protect medical cannabis patients and medical dispensaries are imperative.

State Representative Chris Rabb, (D-Phila) has introduced 3 bills designed to address and form legislation certified to use the mediregarding this growing marijuana movement.

"Medical cannabis is medithat people who are prescribed medicine don't have that held against them by their landlords or by their employers, and we must ensure that the providers of that medicine will not be discriminated against by Rabb said. "My legislation ers of medical cannabis and their patients, and to help them live without fear.'

Rabb's bills are outlined as follows:

Employee Protections for Medical Cannabis Patients- To provide protections for employees failing drug tests due to their use of medical marijuana by forbidding employers from discharging, threatening, refusing to hire, or otherwise disemployees, and allowing such employees to bring a civil action against their said employer.

Commercial Tenant Protections for Medical Cannabis Dispensaries - Would protect commercial tenants that legally sell or provide medical cannabis by amending the Medical Marijuana Act to prohibit landlords from evicting, threatening to evict, or otherwise discriminating against a commercial tenant for the lawful sale or possession of medical cannabis if the tenant is certified by the commonwealth.

Tenant Protections for Medical Cannabis Patients -Would protect tenants with a medical cannabis prescription by amending the Medical Marijuana Act to prohibit landlords from being able to evict, threaten to evict, or otherwise discriminate against

a residential tenant for the usage or possession of medical cannabis if the tenant is cine.

The legislation was introduced in March as the calls to their offices from concerned medical cardholders in regards to state DUI penalties pertaining to cannabis use. Along with co-author

state Rep. Todd Polinchock just like any other prescrip-(R-Bucks), the legislation would remove DUI penalties for noncommercial driv- By Alana Lukens er's license holders who hold a medical cannabis card who are not impaired

tion medications.





COUNCILMEMBER THOMAS CALL FOR EXTENDING BAR HOURS



We have all had to experience or implement change with work during this worldwide epidemic.

Especially the hospitality industry. Restaurants, Clubs, Nightlife, waitstaff, bartenders, chefs, kitchen

staff, the companies who supply products for these establishments, may have been some of the hardest hit economically.

They've had to become magicians pulling out money rabbits from hats. And unless these workers have other employment skills or options they have very little means to support themselves and their families.

There are no options for remote work. As advanced as technology is, a waitstaff can not prepare or serve dinner and drinks to you virtually. Let us not forget how much this industry does for tourism and the arts. Live music and shows generate a considerable income for the city as well.

Councilman-at-Large Thomas is advocating for addendums to boost and help generate revenue.

City Council Arts and Culture Task Force called upon both Pennsylvania's State Senate and House of Representatives to provide regulatory relief to businesses and other liquor licensees.

Along with Councilmember Thomas, the Task Force proposed that extending bar hours, increasing happy hours, and opening more after-hour establishments could allow for the start of the industry's recovery and increase employment.

"We created lifelines for the

hospitality sector and arts community to get through the pandemic but we have to start to think about reopening and the long term," said Councilmember Thomas.

Nightlife and Live shows, whether they be music or art, anything performancebased are a draw for tourism and an amenity for the city. It can also be more of a beneficial tax base than it already is.

Liquor-by-the-drink tax, which is mostly generated from city restaurants and bars, saw a 23% decline in 2020. A majority of this tax is allotted to the Philadelphia School District.

Thomas went on to say, "We haven't properly val-

ued our nightlife community but these businesses and performers are vital to our city. They create jobs, generate revenue, attract tourists and new residents, and are the backbone of our cultural identity. By providing much-needed regulatory relief, we will see the return on the investment from an economic and a social perspective."

Councilmembers Parker, Brooks, Henon, Gilmore-Richardson, Green, Bass and Domb all cosponsor this resolution.

By Alana Lukens



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2020 PHILLY HIP HOP AWARD WINNER - SON OF 215



In a new dawn of Hiphop, many consider "MumbleRap", its still lyrical artists standing the test of time. From the hard but beautiful city of Philly comes "Son Of The 215", or MorrisAllen his given name. In his early years he went by D.Billz. Born an raised in the Uptown "MountAiry" section

of philly. Child of a retired

soul singer and a sister with legal or illegal. Reality rap a classic Hiphop stash, it was destiny.legends like gave him an early inspiration. "I want to be the next sound of Philadelphia"says the son.Coming From Uptown gave him more inspiration saying "Uptown is like no other beautiful, an we have are own style an way, I want the whole world to know"!

While attending MLK high school, Battling on backblocks, and burning stages down he wasn't far from his task!Working with legends like singer Carol Riddick and Spade & Dutchieman Of Major Figgaz.

Razor sharp metaphors & clever stories of urban life in the hood finding a way,

he calls it. On tracks like "HeavyNow" prod by Harrix it off. His recent project SchoollyD, and Fresh prince he says "found my glo,I can see my way threw the dark"on a bass pounding track. "TrapKeepWinnin" he gives the corners hope, an Brings PhillySwag on "NewPhilly" with the video making its way on to WorldStarHipHop.com. Nominated as one of HipHopSince1987's breako ut artist of 2020! New Jersey indie music award "Best HipHop Act" 2 years in a row, an Philly Hiphop awards 2020 "underground" Artist of the year. Opening for StylesP,benny the butcher, an Casanova. Wit a 7 city tour that stoped at A3C,SOB's, Ovo Fest, and SXSW. A deal

with rocnation's distribution company #EQDistro to top "VeteransDay2" is CLAS-SIC status, with hit SOE FT Freeway blazing the Tristate also featuring philly superstar Bry Greatah an More! Working on new album "SuccessOrNothing" an launching his Two5thteen-LLC imprint, When ask what's his motivation his proud response was 'The 215" look Out for the NEW hope of Philly SonOFThe215 Ig @son of the 215 Twitter @sonOfThe215 YouTube SonOFThe215



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COUNCILMEMBER DOMB'S LEGISLATION PROPOSES TO REDUCE WAGE TAX RATES

As I am sure we all are looking forward to rebuilding our lives, Post-Pandemic, many City Councilmembers are focused on the future.

Allen Domb (At Large) introduced 3 bills that purpose reforming Philadelphia's tax structure in order to entice business owners, employees, and their families to grow roots within the city limits. The bills suggest that by reducing Net Income Tax and Wage Tax it could eradicate the extra burden it poses on business owners having to pay both Net Income and **Gross Receipts**

"Our city faces a challenging unique moment in time. We can use this moment to continue down the same path we've been on, or we can take bold actions to help change the trajectory of Philadelphia," said Councilmember Domb. "Now is the time to examine what's working and not working. We need to explore how we get the desired results we all want and need for Philadelphians."

(Below: Straight off the Website)

Councilmember Domb's legislation timeline to reduce wage tax rates for Philadelphia residence and nonresidence would span 20 years. Residences will see 3.8% to 2.9%The reduction in Wage Tax rates for residents and non-residents would be over a 20-year period. It would reduce the resident rate from 3.8% to 2.9% and reduce the non-resident rate from 3.5% to 2.8%. The Net Income reduction would be over 10 years and cut the

rate by more than half from 6.2% to 3.0%. In addition, the legislation simplifies and reduces the tax burden on businesses by allowing them to pay the higher of either the Net Income or Gross Receipts portion of the Business Income and Receipts Tax, thereby eliminating the requirement to pay both. The Net Income is a tax on business income after expenses are deducted and the Gross Receipts is a tax on business receipts without deducting any expenses.

"Our present crisis will not allow us to continue to tolerate having one of the highest tax burdens among the largest U.S. cities, while having the lowest employment rate per 1,000 residents," said Domb. "Philadelphia must become more competitive in the region and across major U.S. cities by attracting people and encourage people to live and fostering job growth." According to Domb, the pan-

demic has magnified the difficulties that come with bringing back demand. Businesses are faced with staying and paying complicated and higher tax rates or moving outside the city and paying less.

"In a post-pandemic world, and as technology continues to advance, the ease of working anywhere will only become more prevalent," said Domb. "We have to have a serious conversation about the create an open dialogue and precarious situation we find ourselves in this year and what it means for our future. When you can live and work anywhere, we need to compete for demand in Philadelphia."

Several officials and community leaders provided their support for the measure to introduce the legislation: "I want to thank my colleague, Councilmember Domb, for his leadership on this issue," said Councilmember Katherine Gilmore Richardson. "This is an important starting point in the conversation about restructuring our tax system to reflect our current realities."

"I'm excited to see these bills put on the table by Councilmember Domb," said Councilmember Mark Squilla. We need to start the discussion about how we impact job growth through our tax policies. This is long overdue and paramount to how Philadelphia comes back in the aftermath of this pandemic." "Philadelphia faces a number of debilitating challenges. We need creative ideas to help us turn it around and this proposal will send a message to residents and businesses alike that Philadelphia is a good place to do business and we can jumpstart our economy in

the aftermath of this pandemic," said former Governor and Mayor Ed Rendell. "When I was Mayor, I started the city on a path of cutting the Wage Tax over a 20-year period to help grow our economy. Councilmember Domb has chosen to do the same, and it will be a great incentive to work in Philadelphia."

"We support progressive tax policies that will alleviate the burden that many Black and brown-owned businesses face in Philadelphia," said Della Clark, President of The Enterprise Center. "By enacting tax reform, we can help stimulate an inclusive and equitable economic recovery." The package of bills will be

referred to the Finance Committee for public hearings. "The goal of these bills is to start thinking outside the box to reform our tax structure," said Councilmember Domb. "I want to engage everyone in this conversation and it's important that we take this rare

opportunity in time to think

about what we do to alter the

City's current trajectory."

By Alana Lukens



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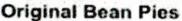
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