

Plain English Statement Re Ballot Question No. \_\_  
As Required By Section 201.1 of the Pennsylvania Election Code

Submitted to the Voters By:  
Bill No. 130878 (approved May 19, 2014); Resolution No. 130884 (adopted May 8, 2014)

Ballot Question:

Shall The Philadelphia Home Rule Charter be amended to establish and define the functions of the Office of Sustainability, headed by a Director of Sustainability?

Statement:

The City's current Office of Sustainability was established by the Mayor in 2008 to set sustainability targets and to evaluate the City's progress in meeting those targets. The proposed Charter change would make the Office permanent by formally creating, in the Charter itself, an Office of Sustainability. The Office would be headed by the Director of Sustainability, to be appointed by the Mayor. The Office would be responsible for developing and coordinating the implementation of policies and programs to meet the City's sustainability goals. These goals will relate to matters such as energy use, air and water quality, tracking of greenhouse gas emissions, solid waste management, access to open space and local and healthy food, tree canopy coverage and climate change preparedness planning.