

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

- - -

BEFORE:

John P. DeFazio	-	President, Council-At-Large
Nicholas Futules	-	Vice President, District 7
Samuel DeMarco, III	-	Council-At-Large
Thomas Baker	-	District 1
Cindy Kirk	-	District 2
Edward Kress	-	District 3
Patrick Catena	-	District 4
Sue Means	-	District 5
John F. Palmiere	-	District 6
Dr. Charles J. Martoni	-	District 8
Robert J. Macey	-	District 9
DeWitt Walton	-	District 10
Paul Klein	-	District 11
James Ellenbogen	-	District 12
Denise Ranalli-Russell	-	District 13

Allegheny County Courthouse
Fourth Floor, Gold Room
436 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219

Wednesday, July 5, 2017 - 5:07 p.m.

SARGENT'S COURT REPORTING SERVICE, INC.
429 Forbes Avenue, Suite 1300
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
(412) 232-3882 FAX (412) 471-8733

IN ATTENDANCE:

Jared Barker - Director of Legislative Services

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Meeting will come to order. We all rise for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and remain standing for silent prayer.

Let me say one thing before we start. We had our photographer, Margaret Stanley, pass away, who's been with us all the time. She's always been here, always smiling. She's been a good friend of everybody's, so in our prayers, we want to remember her.

So we'll start out with the Pledge of Allegiance, after me ---.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

(Silent prayer or reflection.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thank you. Roll call?

MR. BARKER: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Catena?

MR. CATENA: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Here.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?

MS. KIRK: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?

(No response.)

MR. BARKER: Mr. Kress?

MR. KRESS: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Present.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Martoni?

DR. MARTONI: Here.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Means?

MS. MEANS: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Here.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Ranalli-Russell?

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?

MR. WALTON: Here.

MR. BARKER: President DeFazio?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Here.

MR. BARKER: We have 14 members present at the moment.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 10224-17, and the rest of the proclamations will be read into the record.

MR. BARKER: Before beginning, I believe 10228-17, sponsored by Mr. Kress, he had wanted to hold that for a future meeting.

Is that correct?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Is that correct?

MR. KRESS: Yes, it is.

MR. BARKER: It's the proclamation honoring The Honorable Greg Domain.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Do you want to hold that?

MR. KRESS: Yeah.

I don't have him, but I wanted to --- yeah.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: He don't have no one. Do you want to hold it?

MR. KRESS: Yeah.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah, he'll hold it.

MR. BARKER: Okay.

10224-17. Proclamation recognizing July 4th, 2017 as a day of celebration upon the occasion of Moon Park's 50th anniversary. Sponsored by Council Member Baker.

10225-17. A Proclamation congratulating the Friends of Killbuck Lodge, Boy Scout Troop 248 and the community of Oakdale upon the occasion of the rededication of Killbuck Lodge on June 24th, 2017. Sponsored by Council Members Baker, Catena and DeMarco.

10226-17. Certificates of Achievement awarded to the 2017 Allegheny County Marbles Tournament Champions Lauren Shutey and Eli Murphy and Runners-Up Sierra Ricci and Gavin Held, and congratulating Ms. Ricci, Ms. Shutey and Mr. Murphy for winning national championship titles at the 94th Annual National Marbles Tournament held June 19th through 23rd, 2017 in Wildwood, New Jersey. Sponsored by Council Members Baker, Klein, Kress, Ranalli-Russell, Catena, DeFazio, DeMarco, Ellenbogen, Futules, Kirk, Macey, Means, Palmiere, Martoni and Walton.

10227-17. A Certificate of Recognition congratulating Mr. and Mrs. Hal and Sylvia Glick upon the occasion of their 25th wedding anniversary. Sponsored by Council Member Klein.

10229-17. Certificates of Recognition presented to local military service members at the Shaler Township Community Day celebration on July 4th, 2017. Sponsored by Council Member Kress.

10230-17. A Certificate of Achievement awarded to Mr. Thomas Barie of Boy Scout Troop 653 upon earning the rank of Eagle Scout. Sponsored by Council Member Kress.

10231-17. A Certificate of Achievement awarded to Mr. Casey James Lentz of Boy Scout Troop 4 upon earning the rank of Eagle Scout. Sponsored by Council Member Means.

And 10232-17. Certificate of Recognition congratulating Mr. Peter C. Drummond upon the occasion of his 81st birthday. Sponsored by Council Member Ranalli-Russell.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay.

We'll have public comment. Do you want to read the --- start with the list, Jared?

MR. BARKER: Up first is Diane Schmitt.

MS. SCHMITT: Good afternoon to County Council Members and attendees.

My name is Diane Schmitt. I reside in Kennedy Township.

After reading the local media articles on the lead testing mandate and the Allegheny County Health Department Article 23 itself, I raise three areas of concern with the proposed lead testing mandate.

Number one is the constitutionality of the mandate itself. A government mandate of any medically invasive procedure, even a sugar finger stick, without the consent of the person, without the warrant of a person, without emergency situation in which the person might be in, violates a person's Fourth Amendment constitutional right to the privacy of the person.

This may not seem like a big deal because this is only a capillary stick. However, it still falls under the SCOTUS ruling of 2013. Please see Exhibit A on page two of my packet, which sets the legal precedent for this and details a portion of the ruling ---.

MS. MEANS: Excuse me.

A point of order ---.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Wait.

What's your ---?

MS. MEANS: She's referring to a handout.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Hold it. Hold it.

What's your point?

MS. MEANS: My point is, she's referring to a handout and --- oh, here --- thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay.

MS. MEANS: Thank you.

MR. BARKER: You can continue.

MS. MEANS: So ---.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go ahead.

MS. SCHMITT: Okay. Thank you.

Please note the bold ruling on page two. It was pointed out to me that this might apply to the case itself, which was the case of Missouri versus McNeely, in which a drunken driver refused a breathalyzer, and was taken to the hospital and had a blood draw, unconsented and unwarranted.

In the ruling, if you read the bold printing, this was written by Chief Justice Roberts. The bold printing states the language does not state that warrants are required prior to searches, but this court has long held that warrants must be generally obtained. We have also held that bodily intrusions like blood draws constitute searches and are subject to warrant requirements. So I think that applies in this case.

Secondly, the FDA put out a Safety Communications Notification on May 17th, regarding the Magellan Diagnostics lead testing analyzer. There is a problem with the venous blood draw on that. It's giving false readings.

You will find the FDA notice behind page three. That would be Exhibit B. And Magellan followed up a month later in June by issuing a recall on the testing equipment. That is Exhibit C behind the FDA --- four-page FDA ruling.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay.

Unless you have a couple more words real quick ---.

MS. SCHMITT: Yeah, I do.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah.

Make it quick, because we have a lot of speakers and we have a time limit, too.

MS. SCHMITT: I understand.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay.

MS. SCHMITT: Magellan is the only manufacturer of the lead testing analyzing equipment that is CLIA waived.

CLIA is a policy governed by the Medicaid and Medicare Center and I would suspect that that would be the

main distributor for all the doctors' offices and the schools, to test the children.

Finally, I would ask County Council Members to remember who you represent. You're not here to represent a government mandate. You're here to represent every segment of the population in your districts, and these are people that may not want to have this done for their children.

Schools are not opted out of this. While parents may be opting out for their children, the schools are not opted out. They're required to report yearly. And pediatricians are not opted out and to me, that does not say voluntary. That says compulsory.

Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Next?

MR. BARKER: Kathy Risko.

MS. RISKO: Good afternoon. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to give testimony today about the importance of blood --- of blood lead level testing for children living in Allegheny County.

I'm Kathy Risko and I'm the Chief External Affairs Officer for Adagio Health.

For 45 years, Adagio Health has been providing health and wellness services in 23 counties in Western Pennsylvania. Most of the 180,000 patients and clients receiving services at Adagio Health are women who are uninsured, underinsured and need access to confidential healthcare services.

We provide prenatal care and post-partum exams, and our five county Women, Infants and Children, or WIC program, as you might know it, helps 1,100 pregnant women and small children to have a healthier start at life.

I'm here today because we firmly believe that --- that because access to clean water is not uniform across the county, this regulation is necessary to ensure early detection and treatment for lead poisoning in children.

Our children are our future and it's incumbent upon us to ensure their safety and health.

Young mothers ask our nutritionists if the well water is safe to mix in their infant's formula and many ask whether the water they drink while breastfeeding is safe.

The goal of this regulation is to improve the health of children in Allegheny County, and how can

anybody be against that goal? We routinely go --- we routinely go for tests to ensure that we're healthy. Mammograms, blood pressure screenings, skin cancer screenings, weight management to provide diabetes --- why not blood testing?

We are a healthcare nonprofit that puts the health and welfare of our vulnerable citizens first. This regulation does this and we strongly support its passage.

Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Next?

MR. BARKER: Next up is Lester Ludwig.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Not here.

MR. BARKER: Next up, after that --- I believe there's a typographical error in this one. I think it should read the Reverend Sally Jo Snyder.

REV. SNYDER: Good afternoon. I wish to thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony to this vital issue, which is at the very heart of what it means to be a shared community, and that is at the heart of what it means to be a Pittsburgher.

My name is the Reverend Sally Jo Snyder. I've been ordained 25 years within the United Methodist Church and currently I direct the advocacy and consumer engagement efforts of the Consumer Health Coalition. My entire ministry has been about mobilizing those who are marginalized.

All of the major world religions have in common several things, including the importance and care and defense of children, the gift of water, literally, symbolically, ritually, the call to be about something greater than oneself, the call to do what is just for our shared community with the focus on our most vulnerable members before focus on me, and my, and what I want.

Pittsburgh is an old city, albeit a beautiful city, with aging infrastructure and old buildings with old paint.

We must be proactive and take any and all steps necessary to protect and guard the health and welfare of our children. Each child is our responsibility. I ask the council to vote yes on the recommendation from the Allegheny County Health Department.

Lead toxicity is particularly dangerous because oftentimes, it is silent, and the impact of a child who has been exposed to high levels of lead may not appear

immediately until the effects occur and are far much worse, later.

I began my testimony by referencing recurring themes in all the major world religions. There is another one, and that is urgency, today, now. It is the urgency to act for that which is just and for that which defends the most vulnerable among us.

Vote yes, and let's take action now to assure and to ensure the vitality of our most livable city of Pittsburgh.

Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Next?

MR. BARKER: Damitra Penny.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Is she coming up?

MS. PENNY: Okay. Cool. Hi, my name is Damitra Penny, actually, and these are my grandchildren, Sierra and Maggie. It's Mikaya, but I call her Maggie.

Thank you for letting me speak today. I just want to share a story with you. My sister and I recently got the free water pitchers from the city, that they were giving out, and the filters. And on the pitcher, when you fill it up with your water, it tells you, like, if there's lead and chromium, and things like that, in --- in your water.

And for me, I live on a hill. I had two --- two spots on there. My sister lives in Mount Washington. Hers was full. That scared me and that got me to thinking.

I'm at high risk. My grandchildren are high risk for different --- you know, many diseases. You all know that.

And I just --- that's --- we have --- I have to know if they have lead in their system because we have to catch this before the --- the medical issues come. That's how I feel.

And I did a little research about the effects of lead. It can cause damage to the brain, kidneys and it can interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to the brain. And like I said, infants and children are at the most greatest risk to be affected by it, so if we --- if we don't test them, we won't know. I don't like going into anything blind. I want to know what I'm dealing with.

And you know, I have diabetes. Diabetes doesn't have me. If my grandchildren have some type of effect from lead, they will have it. It will not have them.

And we can cut it off at the pass. We do not have to stand here and look at my grandchildren, and tell them that they are not worth getting tested to make sure that they are healthy, viable citizens. And they can grow up --- they --- you all can grow up and be one of them.

MIKAYA: Yeah.

MS. PENNY: Yeah. That's right. Yes, you can. She can be whatever she want to be. I don't want her going there sick and unhealthy. And I think she wants to be one of y'all, so ---.

MS. KIRK: Maybe a little bit older.

MS. PENNY: I'm --- I'm going to --- I'm going to end with that.

Look at my grandchildren and tell them they're not worthy. She got another idea.

Thank you very much. You have a blessed day.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay.

MR. BARKER: Next is Lawrence Swanson.

MR. SWANSON: I'm pleased to be here. I'm Larry Swanson. I'm the Executive Director of ACTION Housing in Pittsburgh.

We recently celebrated our 60th year, and our mission is affordable housing. We are best known for the real estate we develop. We're involved in about 2,000 housing units, but we also do a lot of program services, a lot of engagement. We do a major weatherization program. We're in homes. We're in about 1,500 homes, every year.

And when we do that work, if we touch a lead surface, we remediate it under the current EPA standards, which is careful remediation, typically encapsulation. But we do a clearance testing, but it's limited to the surfaces we touch.

Over the last 30 years, I've been around this conversation in Allegheny County. I sent each of you a letter and what I said the cost of the one solution, which is getting rid of all the lead that we can find in our properties, is over \$1 million. We don't have that money.

How do I get to that number? It's easy. We got over 150,000 units that were built prior to 1970. If you assume half of them have lead in them, that's what it's going to cost you.

By the way, the treatment --- the treatment, for most of this time, is encapsulation, not removal. That means the lead is still there. That means that when somebody does a home remodeling project, they may uncover lead accidentally, unknowingly expose it to children, and poisoning would occur.

So the reality is the only solution that we have the economic means to save our children, is to go to universal blood lead level testing with appropriate --- with appropriate safeguards for parents to opt out if they --- if they so choose. It's really the best solution. It's the only solution we have as a society, so I ask you to vote in --- in favor of the resolution.

And since it's Pittsburgh, there's a member of County Council whose daughter and mine happened to show up at daycare at the same day when they were three months old, and they were together for five years. Both of them have done well in life, have been very successful. They're healthy children. They're in their --- I think their early 30s now. I hate to admit that. But all I ask is we give every child that opportunity.

Thank you, Mr. Klein.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Mr. Sawnsen.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah. Next?

MR. BARKER: Libby Powers.

MS. POWERS: Good afternoon --- or evening, rather, Council Members and attendees. My name is Libby Powers, and I am a member of the Consumer Health Committee --- or Consumer Health Coalition Committee for Disabled People.

I am here to give a statement about the vital importance of providing free diagnostic lead testing for all children living here in the city of Pittsburgh and in Allegheny County.

Even with the many advances, many over the last decade in diagnostic testing, technology and changes to the ingredients of the type of paint used to paint the exterior and interior of our homes, yet Pittsburgh is an older city with older buildings with older paint, paint that has lead.

Research shows that lead is also found on and in the toys our children play with.

Lead is a threat that the county Health Department is working to address and to eliminate. The tragedy of lead calls us to do all we can to both address,

test and work to eliminate any and all causes of lead exposure to children.

I ask the County Council to approve the recommendation of the Allegheny County Health Department to require all young children ages 9 to 12 months in the county, to be tested for lead exposure, to be retested at age two, and to offer catch-up testing for any children beginning school without having been tested.

I ask this of you all because the safety and well-being of all human lives shall not be marked with a price tag because we are all priceless, irreplaceable human beings, which means our local government must determine to do the right thing, regardless of the cost, and provide free lead testing to every child living in the city of Pittsburgh and in Allegheny County.

Together, we can make our homes and communities a much safer, healthier and vibrant place to be.

Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thank you. Next?

MR. BARKER: Bill McDowell.

MR. MCDOWELL: Good evening. Members of Allegheny County Council, thank you for this opportunity to speak today.

My name is Bill McDowell, and I'm also a volunteer with the Consumer Health Coalition, and I actively participate on the Health Committee for Persons with Disabilities, which is a cross disability group. It advocates on many disability issues, as well as community issues, and we see this as one and the same. Community issues and disability issues are to be thought of as the same.

The possibility of lead in drinking water is a community issue which we all should be greatly concerned about, especially for our children.

I strongly support legislation that the Allegheny County Board of Health recommends to require young children ages 9 to 12 months to be tested for lead exposure, to be retested at two years of age and also catch-up testing for children who have --- who have started school, but have not been yet tested.

We want to remember that Pittsburgh is a rust belt city, yet the major difference is --- is under --- is that under the leadership, the late Mayor Richard Caliguiri and city council and county officials, we've had a --- a renaissance.

We're often listed as 15th of the most valuable cities in the country. We are a city of champions. We have a hockey team that yet again showed us that they're champions. Their coach tells them --- tells their --- his players to play the right way.

You can show that you, too, are champions. You can play the right way by passing legislation that would test all young children for lead exposure. If you fail to do so, it would be a far greater tragedy than the Pirates, Steelers and Penguins having losing seasons.

Show our young children and their parents who care for them and love them dearly, and our entire community, that you care about them and our shared community now and in the future.

Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thank you. Next?

MR. BARKER: Alison Fujito --- appears to not be here.

Next up, would be Justin Schreiber.

DR. SCHREIBER: Good evening. My name is Dr. Justin Schreiber. I'm a pediatrician and child psychiatrist in Pittsburgh, and thank you very much for the opportunity to come to speak to you about an important topic that's something that I deal with every single day.

So I come here to tell you the importance of supporting lead level testing because checking lead levels are safe, they're effective and they are a way to protect children.

So they're safe. They're a simple blood test, a test that we do very often to test many different things beyond lead, every single day in the office, with almost no side effects and no risks that come with that.

They're effective. They give us important information that we otherwise, would not be able to do. There's no other way for me to be able to appropriately be able to determine if there is a high lead level in the child that I am working with. And they protect children.

So lead, that we know, we've heard already, it's in our --- it can be in water. We've seen this in Flint. We've seen it through what we've seen here in Pittsburgh. We've seen it in paint. We see it in toys. And never do the --- the people who are experiencing this know that that's occurring.

And as a pediatrician, when I first see them coming in --- or as a child psychiatrist, I don't know

that they immediately have a higher lead level until I get that test, and I am not able to do my job to help prevent and to protect them unless I help to get that information from that test.

Children don't show other early signs. They don't show it until it's really a high risk for them. And again, as a child psychiatrist, this could be later on, seeing mood disorders, things like irritability, worsening depression, problems with executive function and attention, not being able to focus in class, having worsening of development and IQ, all things that I would love to be able to constantly be able to prevent, but it is rare that I can do that.

Lead is one of the few things where I can identify and prevent before it actually leads to significant impairment. I decided to work with kids because I want to impair --- I want to be able to prevent disease. I don't want to have to be able to treat it after it happens and I think there's a great opportunity here for this.

So please join me in supporting a legislation that is safe, that's effective and that protects children.

Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Next?

MR. BARKER: Debra Bogen.

DR. BOGEN: Good evening. My name is Dr. Debra Bogen. I too, am a pediatrician, and a professor of pediatrics at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh at the University of Pittsburgh, and I'm here to tell you a story about why you should test children for lead in our county.

So a number of years ago, a family transferred their medical care to our clinic at the Children's Hospital Primary Care Center. They had been getting care in a community clinic that does not routinely do lead screening.

And when they came to me at 15 months, I said to the mom, do you know if your child had lead and hemoglobin testing? And she said no, no. My older children haven't and my younger child hasn't, but if it's your routine here in your clinic, go ahead and do it. I said it's definitely our routine. We always screen children for lead and hemoglobin, and I was very sad when I got the test results back and the lead level was 21.

And this is a family that lives in a wealthy community in Pittsburgh. They had renovated their home a

few years before, and they had been very careful with their contractor to make sure there was lead abatement. They knew they lived in an old home.

And so we confirmed the test again, and it was still 21.

We got the county amazing lead program involved, who went out and inspected the home, and in fact, could not find any lead in the home at all. And after a very careful investigation, they discovered that there was actually a sandbox outside the home, outside one of the beautiful windows in the home --- where all the lead abatement had been careful inside the home, but not necessarily outside the home --- and the sandbox was full of lead.

At the time, the mother was pregnant with her third child and her older child got tested. Her younger -- older child got tested. She got tested. And they, fortunately, didn't have lead exposure, or very much, because they play in the sandbox, too, but they don't eat the sand like a one year old does.

So the one year old had extremely high lead levels. If they had stayed at that private practice and hadn't, by chance, come and transferred their care to a clinic that routinely screened, they would have no idea that their child had an elevated lead level.

That mother is still thankful to me. She brings me all four of her children because of that, and she is a huge advocate. And she asked me to please share her story tonight, to encourage you to please get children tested.

We won't know if they're positive if you don't test. We can do something about it. That family now has a lead-free yard and sandbox as a result of the testing. And I have many other stories I could share like that, but I think that really brings home the point that you don't know it, if you don't screen for it.

Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thank you. Next?

MR. BARKER: Jennifer Wolford.

DR. WOLFORD: Good evening. Thank you for the opportunity to come and speak with you today.

My name is Dr. Jennifer Wolford and I'm a pediatrician at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh (adjusts microphone) at and the University School of Medicine, and I particularly work with children who really I have a lot

--- we have a lot of concerns about their unmet healthcare needs.

So I'd like to talk a little bit about lead, specifically. We know it's a hazard to children's health and to adults' health, but children absorb four to five more times of that into their system. And when that affects the developing brain and central nervous system, even low exposures can result in an effect on the IQ, an ability to pay attention, and lower academic achievement.

And what's so fantastic about working with children, it's about making these small corrections early in their lives, so we prevent further damage and that we get that trajectory back up so that they can be everything that they're grow --- meant to grow and to be.

Lead toxicity, as mentioned, is silent and it's --- there's not any very clear symptoms unless we're doing the screening, unless we have that information to treat. One of the things I think is most important about this bill, this legislation for screening, is that we can really, then, identify the children who are having even low exposures to lead, so that we can prevent further exposure.

But importantly, that we learn about our city. We learn about the --- through the value of universal screening, we start to really understand what it is that we're fighting against in order to protect our children of our community.

The recommendations by the Center for Disease Control state that children should be screened if they live in an area of high prevalence or if the --- if they live in an area where 27 percent of the houses were born before --- I'm sorry, were built before 1950.

We know that 89 percent of houses in Allegheny County are built before '78 and 60 percent of those are built before 1950. This is the highest risk of lead poisoning. So therefore, all children in Allegheny County will benefit from universal screening of lead exposure and this equals universal testing.

I think it's one of the most important things we can do to get a complete picture of the lead exposure risks in our county and then additionally, to identify those children that we can make changes for, today.

Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Next?

MR. BARKER: Michele Buford.

MS. HOLMES: So Michele was unable to be here today, so I'm filling in for her.

My name is Chelsea Holmes. I just wanted to make that update.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Well, okay. Does anyone have a problem with her filling in?

(Chorus of nos.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Seeing no --- okay. Go ahead.

MS. HOLMES: Okay. Thank you.

I thank you for the opportunity to provide public comments on Draft Article 23, Mandatory Blood Lead Level Testing Regulation.

By way of background, Women for a Healthy Environment educates the community about environmental risks that impact public health and advocates for policy solutions that better protect the health of communities across the region.

One common thread within our programs is the emphasis on protecting those most vulnerable, our children. To that end, we are strongly in favor of proposed Article 23. Lead exposure to infants and children in Allegheny County continues to be a priority for our organization.

Over the last several months, we have provided community presentations on this important topic. And to prevent lead exposure through drinking water, launched a faucet filter distribution program for pregnant women and households that have children under the --- have children ages zero to six. And with the Green Building Alliance, developed a mini grant program for schools and early learning centers that provides funding for those learning environments that wish to test and mitigate for lead exposure.

As I'm sure you are aware, there are many sources of exposures to lead, a known public health hazard in the county. These include water, paint, dust and soil.

Currently, Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority is under an administrative order by the PA Department of Environmental Protection for lead levels that exceed the lead and copper rule threshold of 15 parts per billion.

We know that at least one in every four homes in the PWSA service area contains a lead service line. Further, Pennsylvania ranks 5th in the county --- 5th in the country for both homes built before 1978 and homes

built before 1950, indicators of potential lead in paint exposure.

According to the PA Department of Health, in 2014, 14 percent of Pennsylvania children under seven were tested for lead and 26 percent of children ages one to two, were tested for lead. A decrease in blood lead level testing in children has occurred over the last several years.

Lead is a known environmental health risk, but strategies are available to prevent this exposure. Should elevated blood lead levels be detected, steps are already in place to assist that child and family, which includes an investigation of the lead source followed by required removal of the lead exposure and referral for early intervention services.

It is imperative that every child in the county be screened for lead. As stated earlier, Women for a Health Environment strongly supports the mandatory blood lead level testing regulation.

Thank you, again, for this opportunity to provide comments.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Next?

MR. BARKER: Patrick Dowd.

MR. DOWD: Thank you, Members of Council.

My name is Patrick Dowd. I'm the Executive Director of Allies for Children.

I want to, again, thank you, as always, for taking time to think carefully about the ordinances that come before you, particularly as it relates to children here in the county.

As you know, the county Health Department --- the board of the Health Department, conducts its own public comment period. And like this evening, there were a large number of people who commented on the proposed ordinance and the overwhelming majority of people who provided comment were in support of the --- the board passing that ordinance. And thus, it's finding its way to you for passage here this evening and our organization, Allies for Children, would encourage you to be in support of this ordinance.

A wide variety of people here this evening, parents, health advocates, environmental advocates, those who focus on housing, health experts, a lot of different people here this evening, urging you to support this legislation. And part of the reason, it's obviously ---

this is a serious and important issue as it relates to children, particularly here in Allegheny County. But also, the ordinance that's in front of you, the proposed ordinance, is really a common sense solution.

So let's just think about this for a second. With respect to children, you've heard people talk about how important this is for making sure that we understand the current state of the situation for children here in Allegheny County. And by setting the --- the policy to yes, we will screen, that's --- it's --- that's really what you're doing. You are really helping children in that regard and you've heard some powerful stories on that front.

Secondly, this helps parents and you've also heard this. This helps parents. It makes them aware. It helps them get the right kind of care for their kids, but also, it's respectful of their rights. There is a wide exception rule that --- that is exactly the same language that you'll find in state law in these kinds of situations. They're similar kinds of situations. So it's respectful of those rights of parents who want to say no, in fact, we do not want that screening.

There is also --- and just to be clear, there is absolutely no penalty that I saw --- and I'm sure there isn't, because I read it carefully, just like you. There's no penalty for not taking that test.

For school districts, it's really important to consider this is the Health Department really continuing its ongoing work with school districts. The --- the Health Department works on vaccines. The Health Department works on body mass indicators. It works on all sorts of things with school districts. This is no different from the work that is currently being conducted. It is pretty much the same. They're just simply adding this component which is really important.

And I would like to point out if a child does not get tested, they aren't --- unlike vaccines, they are not excluded from school. That is --- just to be clear, there are literally no penalties in this.

This is also good for the Health Department. Figuring out what the state of --- of lead exposure is in this region will help the Health Department and ultimately, you all and the County Executive figure out how to target the limited resources that are available to do this work.

Lastly, and of equal import, this is really common sense, an important ordinance when we think about the future residents of this county. This is about actually beginning to take care of a problem that we're --- we're almost finished with. It's also about showing the public that we --- the county cares about this and is willing to do the right thing. And as Bill McDowell said, you can take the right actions and lead us in the right direction.

Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thank you. Next?

MR. BARKER: Thomas Hoffman.

MR. HOFFMAN: Hi, there. Thank you very much for having this opportunity for people to speak.

My name's Tom Hoffman. I'm with the Sierra Club and I live in the Point Breeze area of Pittsburgh.

I might point out my lead level was higher than the EPA. I had to get a filter on my line.

I'm representing the Our Water Campaign, and this will be the toughest thing I do all night, is making sure I get everybody --- Pittsburgh United, Pennsylvania Interfaith Impact Network, Sierra Club, One Pennsylvania, Nine Mile Run Watershed Association, Merton Center, Hill District Consensus Group, New Voices and Clean Water Action.

We're focused on winning safe, affordable and publicly controlled water in the city of Pittsburgh and tonight, we're sort of focused on the safe piece of that. We formed to respond to the myriad of problems at PWSA, including the lead exposure. And we're here tonight to speak in support of the ACHD lead tasting --- lead testing ordinance --- not tasting.

We know that there's no safe level, and for children, this is especially true. But when lead exposure is caught early, the effects on children can be remediated.

We had concerns about --- high test levels could lead to discrimination for residents of low income and minority communities, but ACHD has convinced us that there are strict confidentiality --- confidentiality guidelines. And my understanding is the ACHD passed this unanimously.

One of the things we were struck --- struck by in the campaign, is like, the lack of data on anything to do with lead. I mean, we don't know where the pipes are. We don't know what the water levels are. We don't --- we

know where the paint --- we don't know anything, really. So we really support this on the basis of getting more and more data about the whole lead problem in Pittsburgh, because good data means better informed public policy here in Pittsburgh and Allegheny County.

And ten states and DC have similar ordinances that have worked well, so we support ACHD and Allegheny County taking leadership for Allegheny County and Pennsylvania.

Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thank you. Next?

MR. BARKER: Andrew Ellsworth.

MR. ELLSWORTH: Good evening, esteemed Members of County Council.

My name is Andrew Ellsworth. I am Vice President of Health and Learning and Green Building Alliance.

Green Building Alliance is a regional 501(c)(3) nonprofit, based in the South Side. I will point out it's actually highly unusual for us to give testimony in front of political bodies. That's generally not what we do. But we --- it underscores the importance of this specific topic.

GBA's work is to promote healthy and high performing places for people to live, learn, work and play. Having homes, schools and communities that are contaminated by lead do not fit into the vision of --- our vision of the Pittsburgh region as a place that provides a high quality of life for our residents, while also protecting the region's natural and cultural assets.

Currently, we're partnering with Women for a Healthy Environment --- you heard Chelsea earlier --- on the 1000 Hours a Year Project to reduce and prevent childhood lead poisoning by providing mini grants to schools and early learning centers, to address the serious threat posed by lead in drinking water, soil and dust.

This work is difficult and we do not have adequate resources to comprehensively address the problem. But we recognize that better information on the sources of the exposure would be extremely useful in improving the lives of many, especially for minorities and those living in low-income communities.

Also, I would say that I'm a --- I'm a parent of two young children. My kids are four and five. And I've renovated an old Pittsburgh home in Bloomfield, and my

youngest child had higher lead levels than I would have liked, as a result of some of that work. And I learned a lot, even already being conscientious about how important this is and how much dedication it takes to really resolve this issue.

As such, we urge you to vote yes on the legislation that mandates lead screening for all children, but with the understanding that this is not the whole solution, in and of itself, but it's a really important step.

It's also sad that we, as a society, use our children as canaries for measuring the risk of environmental contamination. But this is, unfortunately, where we are and we have to use what tools we have available to get an accurate picture of the problem and how we can best intervene in this decades-old issue. Many more resources are needed to seek out and remove all potential sources of lead, but we dream of a day when no child or family has to suffer from the permanent, but completely avoidable effects of lead poisoning.

We also hope that we collectively learn our lesson and take precaution with --- with understanding the long-term risks of introducing new and untested substances in our environments. At one point, lead was a miracle and it was widely used because it was so --- it had so many positive features. Let us not forget this lesson of preventing these problems in tomorrow's generation.

We look forward to partnering with you and many others to collectively solve this problem in the months and years to come.

Thank you for the --- for your time this evening.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Next?

MR. BARKER: Kathi Elliott.

MS. ELLIOTT: Good evening. Thank you for this opportunity to be able to speak to you this evening.

My name is Kathi Elliott and I'm here as a resident of Allegheny County, as a nurse practitioner and the Executive Director of Gwen's Girls, a nonprofit that provides prevention and intervention services to at-risk girls living in low economic and high poverty areas.

One of our core areas that we address is the health and wellness of this vulnerable population. I am here today to express my support for lead testing for infants and young children.

As you know and as you've heard in several other testimonies, lead poisoning can be hard to detect. Symptoms and signs usually don't appear until dangerous amounts have accumulated. Exposure, even low levels of lead, can cause damage over time, especially in children.

The greatest risk is to brain development where irreversible damage can occur. This long-term effect includes developmental delay and learning disabilities.

Most lead poisoning in children results from eating chips of deteriorating lead-based paint. Many of our families and residents live in older homes where lead-based paint was used.

Infants and young children are most likely to be exposed to lead than of --- than older children. Young children also absorb lead more easily and it's more harmful to them than it is for adults and older children.

The bottom line is that lead poisoning is entirely preventable. Please support the recommendation of the Allegheny Health Department and support this ordinance to ensure that our children begin life in the most safe and health way.

Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thank you. Next?

MR. BARKER: We did have one individual who signed up after the deadline for signing up. He's present.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Does --- does anyone have a problem letting him speak?

MR. PALMIERE: No, let him speak.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Let him speak?

Who is it, Lester Ludwig?

MR. BARKER: No, his name is Adam Tuznik.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Let him speak and then Lester Ludwig's here, so --- go ahead, you can speak.

MR. TUZNIK: Yeah, my name is Adam Tuznik. I live in the city of Pittsburgh and I'm a community organizer with Clean Water Action.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Well, hold on a second.

MR. TUZNIK: Yeah?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: A couple people want you to spell your last name. They --- because it's not on our list.

MR. TUZNIK: Yes sir. My name is Tuznik, T-U-Z-N-I-K.

And thanks for affording me the opportunity to speak today.

I'm a community organizer with Clean Water Action. We're a nonprofit, grassroots organization that's dedicated to protecting the environment and public health here in Allegheny County.

On behalf of Clean Water Action's 15,000 members in the county, we urge you to support the ordinance which requires blood lead testing in young children.

Elevated blood lead levels in children have been directly linked to permanent physical and neurological damage. Children exposed to high levels of lead at an early age have development problems, learning disabilities, and there's even been some studies that found a correlation between childhood lead exposure and a tendency to commit violent crimes later on in life.

There's been a lot of ways for children to be exposed to lead, as we heard earlier, and Pittsburgh's current water crisis is only increasing that risk. Mandatory lead testing is going to provide valuable information to parents who might very well be, too, inspired to alter the --- the children --- the child's living environment to reduce their exposure to lead.

And that's done for their children, but it benefits the county because those lead abatement steps are, many times, permanent. So every person and their child that lives in that residence from here on are also going to have those benefits.

It's great how many long-term community benefits come from this, and it's apparent that the Health Department put a lot of time and consideration into its drafting. Our members were happy to see that the proposal passed the Allegheny County Board of Health unanimously. And we're happy to see that almost everyone in this room feels the same way.

We really urge the council to show the same level of support tonight. So thanks again for your time. I appreciate it.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thank you. Lester Ludwig is here. Do you want to speak?

MR. LUDWIG: Yes.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Well, go ahead. You're late. Hurry up.

MR. LUDWIG: My name is Les Ludwig. I live at 6589 Rosemoor Street in Squirrel Hill.

I'm here as part of the team, L and A Consulting, and we bring a product to your attention.

And first, though, I was delighted to hear that there was some attention being paid to lead because if I open the Health Department brochure that's downstairs in the office, it has a section devoted to --- to water, that there's 79 companies, apparently, that the county is responsible for lead or the quality of the water.

Now, when you start with the lead problem, you're in the area of --- to dig, to play with Shakespeare, to dig or not to dig --- to be or not to be. And digging has already been proven not to work. It increases the lead content of the water and therefore, they stopped digging.

So what is it that I have that's different? Well, what would you describe --- let's look at what you would describe as a product that should be looked at by the people who make decisions, not horsed around in the political system. It stops the releases --- a product has to stop the release of or leeching across from lead pipes into the water.

The product that I bring has that capability. It literally creates a lining on the existing plumbing systems and stops the leeching. Well, if you stop the leeching, you're stopping the lead.

Okay.

It also seals the leaks, the small leaks in the --- in the plumbing system. And when --- when you pass the water --- the hydrant, what --- what is it that's coming out of the pipe? It's all water, true, but it's also dollars. It's chlorine, it's phosphates that are added to the water to give it the qualities that are needed.

Now, this system that I'm talking about reduces the amount of flushing because you reduce the amount of leakage. It takes less power to pump the water. Why? Because the inside of the pipes are smooth as a result of the coating that's built up.

There's four or five more points.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Well, ---.

MR. LUDWIG: Send me to the proper committee, so that we can get it on the agenda, sir.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay.

MS. MEANS: Point of personal privilege.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Wait a minute. Hold it.
Relax.

What is your point?

MS. MEANS: My point is I have a very recognized member of the South Hills community, a physician who was unable to attend this evening, and he would like his comments entered into the records.

So I was --- wanted to request that his comments be entered into the record. He sent them to all of us and in his request, he did ask Dr. Campbell.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Does anyone have a problem with that?

DR. MARTONI: No.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: No? Okay. Go ahead.

MS. MEANS: Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Let's go down to
10239-17.

MR. BARKER: And before proceeding any further, please let the record reflect that Mr. Klein is present.

10239-17. A motion to approve the minutes of the May 23rd, 2017 regular meeting of Council.

MR. DEMARCO: So moved.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks? Seeing none, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
10219-17.

MR. BARKER: Approving the reappointment of Gerard J. Aufman, Jr. to serve as a member of the Council of Friends organization for North Park, for a term to expire on July 5th, 2019. Sponsored by Council Member Kirk.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Cindy, do you want to --- Representative Kirk, do you want ---?

MS. KIRK: Hi, I'd like to just pass --- or propose a motion to reappoint Jerry Aufman to serve on the Council of Friends in North Park. He's been a very active member and active in the North Hills.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks? Seeing none, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
10220-17.

MR. BARKER: Approving the appointment of Roxanne Buckels to serve as a member of the Council of Friends organization for Settlers Cabin Park, for a term to expire on July 5th, 2019. Sponsored by Council Member Baker.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Baker, you ---?

MR. BAKER: Thanks, Mr. President.

Yeah, this is a constituent that both Councilman DeMarco, I know, and a couple other members --- in four years, she's the first person to actually reach out for me --- out to me to serve on this Friends of Settlers Cabin Park. So with that, we put her name ahead for consideration and think she would make, hopefully, a positive difference as a --- a new member.

MR. CATENA: Second.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks? Go ahead.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: I just wanted to say that I've known Roxanne, personally. She's a very quality person and I think she'll do an outstanding job if she committed --- if she's committed to do this, she's going to do a great job doing it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Any other remarks? Seeing none, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
10198-17.

MR. BARKER: Approving the appointment of Abass B. Kamara to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Jail Oversight Board for a term to expire on December 31st, 2017. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Kress?

MR. KRESS: Thank you, Mr. President.

On June 28th, the Committee on Appointment Review convened and at that time, the committee made an affirmative recommendation.

At this time, I'd like to make a motion to approve.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks? Seeing none, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
10199-17.

MR. BARKER: Approving the reappointment of Carey L. Cummings, Esquire to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Human Relations Commission for a term to expire on December 31st, 2020. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Kress?

MR. KRESS: Thank you, Mr. President.

On June 28th, the Committee on Appointment Review convened and at that time, the committee made an affirmative recommendation.

At this time, I'd like to make a motion to approve.

MR. CATENA: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks? Seeing none, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
10210-17.

MR. BARKER: Approving the appointment of Jean V. --- Jean Holland V. Dick to serve as a member of the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council for a term to expire on December 31st, 2020. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Is that Representative Klein?

MR. KRESS: It's me.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Oh, I'm sorry.

MR. KRESS: I'm back again.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Oh, you back again? Go ahead, I'm sorry.

MR. KRESS: On June 28th, the Committee on Appointment Review convened and at that time, the committee made an affirmative recommendation.

At this time, I'd like to make a motion to approve.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks? Seeing none, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
10211-17.

MR. BARKER: Approving the appointment of Oliver Byrd to serve as a member of the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council for a term to expire on December 31st, 2020. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Kress, again.

MR. KRESS: One June 28th, the Committee on Appointment Review convened. At that time, I like --- excuse me. At that time, they made an affirmative recommendation.

At this time, I'd like to make a motion to approve.

MR. CATENA: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks? Seeing none, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.

MS. MEANS: A point of personal privilege.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: What is it?

MS. MEANS: Mr. President --- yes, I would like to move motion 10241-17, which is a new business, to this section of our agenda because it's a timely vote.

May I have a second?

MR. DEFAZIO: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks? All those in favor signify by saying aye.

MS. MEANS: Aye?

Don't we --- shouldn't we take a roll call vote, Mr. President?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Well, if you want to take it, we'll do it that way.

Take the roll call.

MR. KLEIN: Wait a minute. Point of clarification. I didn't hear.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: She --- in the agenda, her issue comes up later on. She wants to move it up.

MR. KLEIN: In terms of --- what number?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Her number is all the way to the back, would be --- her number would be 10241-17.

Is that correct?

MS. MEANS: That's correct.

Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: She wants to move that up.

MR. BARKER: All right.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: And we're requesting --- she requested a voice --- I mean, take the voice --- I mean -- - sorry.

MS. MEANS: Roll call.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Roll call vote.

MR. BARKER: Okay.

I got you. Thank you.

MS. KIRK: On the actual thing or the moving ---
?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: No, we're only voting on
moving it up in the agenda.

So you want to take the roll call?

MR. BARKER: On the motion to advance Bill
number 10241-17. Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Catena?

MR. CATENA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Aye.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: No.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?

MS. KIRK: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?

MR. KLEIN: No.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Kress?

MR. KRESS: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: No.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Martoni?

DR. MARTONI: No.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Means?

MS. MEANS: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: No.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Ranalli-Russell?

MS. RANALLI-RUSSEL: No.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?

MR. WALTON: No.

MR. BARKER: President DeFazio?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: No.

MR. BARKER: Ayes seven, nos eight. The motion
fails.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Let's move on. Okay.
Where were we stopped at --- we're down to 10223 --- or
no, liaison report?

MR. BARKER: No, we actually had stopped at Bill
10217-17.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 10217 --- okay. Hold on.
Okay. 10217-17.

MR. BARKER: A Resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2017, submission #07-17. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Klein?

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Mr. President.

At a meeting of the Committee on Budget and Finance on June 20th, 2017, the committee considered a Resolution amending the 2017 Grants and Special Accounts Budget to accommodate the receipt of unforeseen additional revenues.

It is before the full council today with an affirmative recommendation from the committee and at this time, I make a motion to approve.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks? Seeing none, we'll take the roll.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Catena?

MR. CATENA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Aye.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?

MS. KIRK: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?

MR. KLEIN: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Kress?

MR. KRESS: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Martoni?

DR. MARTONI: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Means?

MS. MEANS: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Ranalli-Russell?

MS. RANALLI-RUSSEL: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?

MR. WALTON: Yes.

MR. BARKER: President DeFazio?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ayes 15, nos zero. The bill passes.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 10214-17.

MR. BARKER: An Ordinance of the Council of the County of Allegheny ratifying a new regulation of the Allegheny County Health Department promulgated pursuant to the authority granted to county departments of health under the Pennsylvania Local Health Administration Law. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Palmiere, do you want to ---?

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you, Mr. President.

We met, I think it was the 28th of June, and we --- I think it was a seven, two vote to --- to bring this up. I put an affirmative recommendation to the full council and I move to --- I make a motion to ---.

MR. MACEY: Second.

MR. WALTON: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks? Seeing none, we'll take the roll.

MR. KRESS: Wait a minute.

MR. FUTULES: We got all kind of remarks.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Got all kind of them, better raise their hand, then. Okay. We'll start with Baker. You had your hand raised?

MR. BAKER: No ---.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. You raised your hand, though?

MR. CATENA: No.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Sam DeMarco, was your hand raised?

MR. DEMARCO: No.

MR. FUTULES: I'm ready.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Wait a minute. Representative Ellenbogen.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: You know what? I look at this bill and --- you know, all the years I've served on this council, it just seems like when something becomes an issue that nobody else wants to deal with, it ends up here.

You know I --- my father once told me that the most powerful force in the universe was emotional

blackmail, and when we're dealing with our children and grandchildren, I think that that is the case.

I intend to vote for this bill. However, I feel as though when I hear the medical community talk about it, that there's this big crack in the sidewalk and they're coming here not to fix it, but to give Band-Aids because they know that they're going to get bruised.

I hold the opinion that the focus should be on trying to correct what's wrong here. We know that there are problems with our water system. You know, you'd have to be living in a --- in a foreign country not to know. That seems to be what's driving this.

Now, some of us that have lived our whole lives here that grew up in the shadows of the steel mills and played with lead soldiers and --- of course, maybe that's what's wrong with me --- that, you know --- you know, we were a generation that was exposed to this, you know.

I feel that I have to vote for it, because you know, I have children, grandchildren and --- and maybe it's a good start to say that, hey, you know, what kids have a problem here?

But the medical community, the political community, the committee as a whole, first of all, needs to focus on that water and sewer authority which we know --- when you're passing out things to stick on your spigot for nothing, then that tells me that there's alarms that should go off.

So that being said, I would like to see the Health Department --- and you know, Dr. Hacker, I've always supported you and --- and I like how you do business.

But somebody needs to put some heat where it needs to be applied, to prevent our kids from having these kind of lead levels, not just letting --- let's just let the dice go where they go and test everybody and so, oh, you know my lead levels are too high.

So that being said, I would like to see a refocus on prevention so that we don't have to spend a pound on cure.

Thank you, Mr. President and members of council.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Back up, because --- wait a minute. Representative DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Mr. President, thank you.

I was pleased during the committee meeting that Chairman Palmiere heard --- or held --- he did a great job

of allowing us the opportunity to ask questions.

And I asked numerous questions of Dr. Hacker who explained many of the preventive steps that the Health Department is taking. They've gone out. They've had all the Pittsburgh Public Schools tested. They're looking at a number of other areas.

They have a number of programs out there in which they're doing everything they can to prevent that and we covered a lot of that at that committee meeting. In addition, the --- the other concerns that had been brought to my attention by different folks about, hey, are we able to do this from a state perspective?

That was answered by our solicitor who explained that under the Pennsylvania Disease Prevention and Control Act, that the Health Department of Allegheny County has the ability and has the authority to be able to ask the schools to continue to report this. So I'm satisfied and very supportive of this legislation.

Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Okay. First of all, I'd like to thank the speakers for all coming in this evening, those of you who were for it and against it.

And I'd like to thank Dr. Hacker for --- for bringing this to our attention and raising the awareness of this county, an ongoing issue for the last 40 years or so.

We use the word mandate, but some people here say that's against our amendments rights. But of course, we also use the word you can opt out, so I don't believe it's against anyone's rights because you have that option to opt out. This legislation doesn't really say do it or else.

I think it's more of an educational mandate here, to let the people know that this is a serious issue and that if you care about the safety and the welfare of your small children, you will certainly have your children tested without a mandate. The doctors here tonight have spoke about that, and they're all doing that already.

But I truly believe that this is raising the awareness through the news media, letting the people really know that you could have a problem.

I've seen the statistics of the areas, and I was shocked to see that my own district, Frasier Township, was a hotspot for lead, a rural area. And I was shocked to

see that. I was thinking that, more or less, the city of Pittsburgh had the big issues, but that's not true. Just about every one of the members of this council have issues in their own districts.

And let's face it. Who doesn't care about children? That's what this is all about. We all care about the children. That little girl, here, that little -- I wish she was here because she's so adorable. Who --- who doesn't care about her or the small children of this county?

This --- I like to use the word, this is a no-brainer. This is something that should be done a long time ago and I support it.

Thank you, Dr. Hacker.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Kirk?

MS. KIRK: Hi, I'd like to just point out something we had learned in our committee meeting, which surprised me, is we had a scientist, I think he actually was a scientist from Duquesne University.

He pointed out you could be in a new home. You could have everything abated, but he found out through his studies that a little Elmo doll or a little rubber toy caused one child's lead level to be high. Who would have found that?

Or another one, there was a plot of land at their grandparents' house, just that one little spot. Because they're able to, by the child's blood, they find the isotopes --- match it.

And they were going to these houses, just like House on TV when they do investigations, and they found it. One was a mother's button on one of her pieces of clothes the kid kept chewing on. That caused his lead level to go high.

So you can't just say, well, I'm in a new house. My kids are safe, just sort of like we heard before. As for myself, I generally really, really dislike mandates. However, in this case, this is --- involves a silent, avoidable health issue to children.

And based on that and the information we've gathered over all the speakers and whatnot, I will be supporting this wholeheartedly.

Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Do you have anything?

MR. KLEIN: Yeah.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go ahead.

MR. KLEIN: Well, last week and the meeting of the Committee on Health and Human Services, Dr. Hacker made a pretty compelling case for why we ought to push ahead with testing. And she was joined by a gentleman at the table, who Councilwoman Kirk just referenced to, Dr. Kingston from Duquesne University, who is a professor in the Bayer School of Environmental Sciences.

And I wasn't --- I had some questions about where Dr. Kingston might come down on this issue. But I --- I recall that he said this at the conclusion of his remarks, and that is that lead testing will enable proper intervention for the most vulnerable among us, speaking of children. And he was certainly on board with our proceeding, our pushing ahead with this.

From my vantage point, I share the perspectives of many of those that have been shared with us today, that lead testing gives us information. And without information, we can't really assess the scale of the problem that we are facing. It's only with that information that we can deploy the resources that we have in order to meet the challenges that we face.

I would also say this. It is the job of government, with its resources, to mobilize its efforts by first, creating awareness. Parents, families can make their own decisions, ultimately, as a result of this legislative enactment. If they choose to opt out as a matter of conscience, they certainly have the right to do that. No one is compelling them to go through this process.

But I think that our responsibility is to move the ball forward because only then, with this knowledge, with the creation of this kind of awareness, can we then make larger decisions about how we respond to what we find. But we can only make those decisions based on what we learn through this process.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thank you. Do you have anything?

MR. KRESS: Sure. Yeah. All right. Thank you, Mr. President. The first thing I want to say is that under Medicaid --- and if Dr. Hacker maybe can even --- I guess I'll elucidate on this. But Medicaid, in and of itself, if you are receiving Medicaid benefits and you're a parent --- and your children --- you get free testing.

Is that not correct?

You have to --- you're required to be tested, is that not correct, if you're on Medicaid?

So the children --- I mean, yeah --- so --- so that's correct.

So basically, we already have testing for children, for lead, in Allegheny County, who are in jeopardy.

Okay?

That's the thing. This isn't about, like, oh are we trying to stop people from being tested? That's not what we're trying to do here. Children already need to be tested if they're on Medicaid benefits. The problem is not every child on Medicaid benefits is being tested right now, in Allegheny County. The question is why aren't they?

So that's something that you need to look into. That's --- that's one of my questions.

But also, today, you heard a story. You would think that the story of lead in America has been a horror story. That's actually not the case. It's actually a success story because back in the '70s, if you would have tested children for lead, about 78 percent of the children in the '70s would have tested over --- I think, positive for lead, I think over ten micrograms --- deci --- is it deciliters --- from their blood?

In the '90s, it dropped down to 4.4 percent. In Allegheny County itself, from 2009 to 2016, children in Allegheny County, aged between 0 and 71 months, their blood levels decreased by 53 percent. So the children actually have positive readings that decreased by 53 percent and we're looking at ten micrograms of deciliters.

And that even takes into consideration that more children were tested in 2009 and --- excuse me --- there was more children tested in 2014 and 2016 than in 2009 and 2011.

And actually, if you look at the latest readings in 2016, less than a half of one percent of children tested over ten for lead in Allegheny County, out of 14,086 children tested. So we've actually had success in Allegheny County when it comes to testing.

I mean, the fact is lead is being taken out of the environment. The children aren't testing positive for lead. We had serious issues with lead years ago. We don't have those problems now.

Now, take a look at something else. In 2016, we had 649 drug overdoses. In 2009, we only had 225 drug overdoses. That's a tripling of drug overdoses in Allegheny County.

Now, if lead levels in Allegheny County had gone the same way as drug overdoses, I would probably vote for this bill because there's a problem with lead. However, lead in and of itself, in our children's blood, has been going down.

Now I've had calls from people in my district who say, well, you know, why are you trying to do the universal screening? Now, the question we run into, of course, that with the universal screening, is it mandatory? Isn't it mandatory?

It's not mandatory. But if you look at the way they question it --- well, you're going to ask the person, the parent, do you have any religious exemptions or do you have any religious objections to this test? The person is going to say, probably, no. Or do you have a moral outrage? They're going to probably say no.

So my question was like --- okay. If you just want to make it optional, just say would you like to have your child tested for lead? That would have been a simple question to ask.

Also, I want to leave it to the medical community, too, to make these decisions. I believe that parents, really, that it should be left to their decision along with the doctor because we do have a medical community here.

I guess we're testifying today. People came up and said that maybe that doctors aren't doing their jobs. I don't know. Based on the evidence I see, it seems like they are actually doing their jobs. But again --- again, I'm not telling --- nobody here --- none --- no parent at all thought to have their child tested for lead.

If you think your child needs to be tested for lead, test them. But I don't think I need to tell you to test your child. I think it should be left to the doctor and the parent.

I don't think it's the purview of government, especially in this instance when the lead levels in children of Allegheny County have been going down. If they had been going up, again, that to me would indicate a problem and yes, we would have to step in.

Now, when it comes to the opioid epidemic, maybe there's something Allegheny County can do in regards to that. But again, I don't think it should be up to me to tell a doctor to do their job. You're a pediatrician. You should be testing the child. I shouldn't have to tell you to do your job. That's how I feel about that.

Also, when it comes to lead screening, you know, there's obviously areas in Allegheny County that are affected more than others. So why don't we do more targeted screening? That's where we have the Medicaid program. Just make sure that the children are being tested who need to be tested.

And then --- and then I guess --- I guess at the end of the day, it just really comes down to a decision. Who should actually oversee the wellbeing of the child? Is it really the government or is it the parent?

And I think in this instance, with all the facts that I've seen, I truly believe that we don't have a horrible case here. And again, if you --- if you're a parent and you wish to have your child tested, it should be up to you. But I don't think we need to really pass this bill. But again, I'm not saying that nobody should be tested for lead, but I don't know if we need to force this upon people.

So thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go ahead, Mr. Macey.

MR. MACEY: Thank you, President DeFazio.

There's not a lot I can say that hasn't already been said, except that we do know that lead levels come from a variety of different places. And part --- part of what I see is we don't know what we don't know, and this is a way to learn more and find out where these lead levels are coming from, and more importantly, what communities. And I suspect there's communities of modest means that may have higher lead levels.

I know it sounds like an oxymoron to say you mandate something and then you --- you say, well, you don't have to. You can opt out. But you can opt out. There's no penalties. You still can go to school. You're not penalized. You're not, you know, put in any --- any type of adverse conditions.

I think what's important here, is that we, as a community and a region, become more progressive in trying to mitigate this issue and keep our region the most

livable region in the nation. Therefore, I am going to support this and I would thank you very much.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Wait a minute.

Representative Martoni, you got anything?

DR. MARTONI: No.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Representative Means?

MS. MEANS: Thank you, Mr. President, for recognizing me.

I'm going to first start with Mr. Kingston because Dr. Kingston, I invited him to address our committee meeting because it --- he's a great, brilliant scientist and he has --- he can solve the mystery. It's no longer conjecture.

You have lead paint in your house. Maybe you have lead paint in your house, but maybe the --- the child never ate the lead and the lead in his blood system is in the --- is from the water. So that's a great scientific discovery, that there are isotopes.

So the blood in your --- the lead in your blood has an isotope, but is it --- did it come from dirt, or did it come from water, or did it come from your food, or did you eat paint? So --- and then he can solve the mystery so we know exactly where the contamination came from. It's not a guess. It's not conjecture.

I also want to point out that in the committee meeting, there was a comment made by Dr. Hacker that the average doctor only spends seven minutes with the child. And I --- but I do want to enter into the record the Bright Futures Parent Supplemental Questionnaire. And I would like Mr. Barker or someone to step forward --- enter this questionnaire into the record and to give each member of council a copy.

After you get your copy, I'm going to ask you to turn to the third page and look at the questions in this questionnaire. Now, this is from the American Academy of Pediatrics and --- and this is a questionnaire that parents get at six months, and they're asked these questions. So these questions help the doctor ascertain does your child need a lead test?

And in the committee meeting, Dr. Hacker said, when she was asked, how does --- how does the physician decide whether your child needs a test or not. And she --- her comment was, well, he looks at the child.

And I am so thankful that all the --- all the pediatricians were here today and I am really thankful.

And I agree with it, it's their job to test the children, so please test the children. They need tested.

But here are the questions on the third page, I want you to look at. Does your child have a sibling or playmate who has or had not been lead test --- I'm sorry --- who has or had been --- had lead poisoning. That's one question.

Next question, does your child live in a regularly --- in or regularly visit a house or childcare facility built before 1978 that is being or has been recently, within the last six months, renovated or remodeled? Does your child live in a --- live in or regularly visit a house or childcare facility built before 1950? So again, the doctor is using an assessment tool.

So it brings me to another question. So the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that children be blood lead tested at age one or two, at least that's what I saw. If someone wants to point to me, it's different, I'd be willing to see that, but I was told it was one and two.

So I am not so --- I am not convinced that all the insurance companies are going to cover the cost of this test, so I'm going to tell you I am very concerned about who will pay for this test.

The county cannot mandate that a test be --- diagnostic test be given, the state can. The county cannot mandate that --- that data be collected from the school district, but the state can.

So I am really --- I really --- I --- as legislators, we should have had a public hearing. This is a hot issue and the Board of Health did not have a public hearing and the county council did not hold a public hearing. There were a lot of questions that we had that we did not get the --- the ability to ask that question and as legislators, that's our job.

We're supposed to look line by line at the piece of legislation and decide, do we have the authority to mandate that every child be blood lead tested, do we? Do we have the authority to mandate that the school district collect data? Do we have the mandate to tell the insurance companies they must cover a diagnostic test?

Now, again, if the American Academy of Pediatrics says one or two, then how do you go for the second test? Do you say --- and when a doctor orders a test, he has to put in why he's ordered the test and he

needs a diagnosis. So is the diagnosis, the child lives in Allegheny County? Just saying.

Education is absolutely the key and I agree with Council Member DeMarco and I agree that it's --- education is the key. And Dr. Hacker is to be commended because she reached out to the state and she asked the state to lower the marker from ten to five, so that we can offer remediation to household --- inspections to households that are under --- or that are five and above, because before that, it was ten and above. And Dr. Hacker is --- should be commended.

The other thing she should be commended for is getting money to remediate households. But I'm curious to know, and a public hearing would have told us, how many children over --- had a blood lead level of over ten, even consented to have the --- the Board of Health come in and inspect their home? And then did they consent to that and did they consent to have someone remediate their home? And again, they could be remediating the lead paint and maybe the child was contaminated by drinking water.

I love children. I have devoted my life to children and families. I'm a parental rights activist and yes, I want the children tested, I do. But I do not want a mandate that children must be tested. Again, education is the key. I think all this could be simply put in a letter to every pediatrician and healthcare worker in the county, please test the children.

Again, I regret there was not a public hearing. This is a hot issue. I agree with Ed, the number --- the --- the number of children with high blood levels is going down and the amount of lead in their --- the amount of lead level levels in their blood is going down.

I have a few more comments.

We stand at the edge to do something we have never done before. This body, to my knowledge, has never mandated a diagnostic test be done. This body has never mandated that a school district collect data. It is an unfunded mandate. So we stand at this place where we're about ready to violate parental rights and we should give great pause to this moment.

We should think very --- a lot upon what gate we are opening. And parents have come and spoken before this council because they're afraid the next step is a mandated vaccine.

Let me just look real quick here. So --- and if --- again, if we would have had a Board of Health meeting, we could've heard from different legal sides to let us know, do we have the authority to do these mandates? Today, in our caucus meeting, we were visited by the county solicitor and he explained to us different aspects of what give the county authority.

Again, it's one side. I wish we could have had two sides give the presentation and I wish the public could have heard what we heard so they could decide if they agree or not agree.

Today, many people have talked about water, over and over again, water. And so it's well-documented that the PWSA water supply has been contaminated. They've handed out water pitchers. The EPA says so many lines need mitigated and changed. So why isn't the --- the testing being centralized around the people who have been drinking water with lead in it?

And again, education is the key. Think about the little babies that are having their powdered formula mixed with contaminated lead water, a growing body that readily absorbs the lead. Education is the key. These moms should be given literature when they leave the hospital and told not to mix their formula with their tap water or to run their tap water longer.

Again, I am opposing this county-wide mandate and I think you for giving me the time to speak.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Palmiere, you have anything?

MR. PALMIERE: It's interesting, Mr. President, about an hour and a half, two hours ago, there wasn't going to be very much comment.

Number one, the reason why there wasn't a public hearing, I went to all my colleagues and asked every one of them if they thought it was necessary. The only one that said --- thought it was, was Sue. The rest of them said no.

I provided as much information as I possibly could at that committee meeting, and I had Dr. Hacker, I had --- I had Dr. Kingston there. They were free and ready to ask any question they wanted.

Okay?

There was no restrictions. There was no --- I didn't tell anybody, don't ask this. Don't ask that.

They were free and clear to do anything they wanted to do and ask anything they wanted to do.

And ladies and gentlemen, it comes down to this. One person, one vote. I don't lobby these people. If I feel it's important or --- or it's something that's imperative to vote for, I don't lobby them. It's up to them to make up their minds. That's what a good chairperson does, we facilitate. We don't dictate.

Okay?

The consensus was we didn't need a public hearing. If there was consensus for a public hearing, we would have had it.

Other issues came up before in this committee, and they wanted a public hearing and we had it. And I had panels on both side of the aisle, deliberating. We were here for hours. In the final analysis, everything was done. Everything was handled professionally and everyone handled themselves with dignity.

I want you to understand this isn't getting rammed down anybody's throats. This is free --- they're free to vote the way that --- my committee people --- or my people --- my people on the --- on the council, here, my colleagues are free to vote any way they wish.

Now as far as I'm concerned, personally, when it comes to the children, we can't do enough. We don't have enough information to keep these children safe. I have children. I have grandchildren. I have great grandchildren and I'm concerned for them.

I take my job as --- as chairman of this Health and Human Services Committee, very seriously. I put more time in here than any other committee and I'm also Chairman of Parks. You know why I do that? Because the issues that come before us in my committee are important.

Therefore, I put my time and effort into it. I want you to know this was vetted. This was taken care of completely, professionally, honestly, and I --- you --- I --- you have no doubt in your mind, I'm for this 100 percent. But I --- you can talk to any one of my colleagues. I did not lobby any one of them.

Thank you very much, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Russell, if you wanted to say anything, go ahead.

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: Thank you, Mr. President. With what Sue was saying, I --- you know, I agree with what she was saying and everything.

But again, the bottom line is, this is not --- you're not --- you know, you do not readily have to opt into this. It is your decision. So it's --- to me, I consider it --- it's not mandated.

And this --- you know, going back and forth, back and forth, back and forth, it's not solving any problems here. The children are what is important. And we all have children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and they're the future, and I think we need to test them and make sure.

And maybe, if more people --- more children were tested, the statistics may have been higher as well.

So thank you very much.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Walton, do you have any ---?

MR. WALTON: Yes, Mr. President.

I call for the question.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Well, okay.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: There's a second. Under remarks? Sue?

MS. MEANS: Oh, I --- I had another comment I wanted to make.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: No, we're past that. Wait a minute. He has a motion on the floor, more or less ---

MS. MEANS: Uh-huh (yes).

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: --- to cease debate. There's a second.

MR. FUTULES: Needs to be voted on.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Any other remarks or anything? Okay. Let's --- let's --- take the ---.

MS. MEANS: Can you clarify what we're voting on, Mr. President?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Cease debate, is all ---.

MS. MEANS: We're --- we're --- to cease the debate?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Right.

MS. MEANS: Correct? Okay.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Do you want to take the roll call?

MS. KIRK: Just to cease the debate?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah, just to cease the debate.

MR. BARKER: On the motion to end debate, Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Catena?
MR. CATENA: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?
MR. DEMARCO: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Ellenbogen?
MR. ELLENBOGEN: Aye.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES: No.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?
MS. KIRK: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?
MR. KLEIN: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Kress?
MR. KRESS: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Martoni?
DR. MARTONI: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Means?
MS. MEANS: No.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Ranalli-Russell?
MS. RANALLI-RUSSEL: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON: Yes.
MR. BARKER: President DeFazio?
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ayes 13, nos two. The

motion to end debate passes.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay.

Now, let's go with the roll call on --- there was a motion and properly seconded, so let's go with that.

MR. BARKER: On the motion to approve Bill Number 10214-17, Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Catena?
MR. CATENA: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?
MR. DEMARCO: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Ellenbogen?
MR. ELLENBOGEN: Aye.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?
MS. KIRK: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?
MR. KLEIN: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Kress?
MR. KRESS: No.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Martoni?
DR. MARTONI: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Means?
MS. MEANS: No.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Ranalli-Russell?
MS. RANALLI-RUSSEL: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON: Yes.
MR. BARKER: President DeFazio?
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ayes 13, nos two. The bill passes.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Let's move on to liaison reports. Anyone have a liaison report? Starting with Representative Baker. We'll go down this way in a minute.

MR. BAKER: All right. Thank you, Mr. President.

Just a quick update on a great weekend in district one. We had an excellent Firecracker 5k in Moon, followed by community day the next day, followed by our 50th anniversary celebration for Moon Park.

A fun fact about Moon Park, it was actually the --- the land was found by Joe DeNardo back in the 1960s, so Joe said it would be a great park and it was. So we're very proud of --- of Moon Park for all the great things going on.

Going right from here to --- that was a terrible joke. I apologize.

Going right from here to Sister Renee's celebration tonight, at the supervisor's meeting, so lots of good things going on in Moon.

I want to thank Councilwoman Kirk for joining me in the Ross parade, which was very nice, over the weekend. We had a great time at that and we also had Ross Community Day.

So lots of good things going in district one and I hope everyone else enjoyed great weekends in their district as well.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Going down to --- Representative Means, we'll go back and forth. Go ahead.

MS. MEANS: Thank you for --- thank you for recognizing me, Mr. President.

I wanted to thank --- congratulate Mount Lebanon community on a great community day event yesterday. It was just wonderful in every way.

And I also wanted to take a minute to talk about Margaret Stanley and to say she was not only a great photographer for 30 years for the county, she was my friend. She always had a smile. She was always upbeat. She was always helpful. She would tell me funny stories and cheer me up. She was an amazing person, an amazing photographer, and we will miss Margaret dearly.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thank you. Down this way, again --- wait a minute. Down there, did someone --- no, no, no. Representative Kirk?

MS. KIRK: I'd just like to report I was in Leetsdale for the 4th of July. That's a very small town. It's like 1,200 people live there. The whole town is a mile squared, but they throw a very large party and parade for the 4th of July. It was a lot of fun. It's a great little town and it continues on for another two days, I think, their festival.

So if you have a chance, go there. It's a --- it's a real nice little place, right --- right over by the Sewickleys.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. And going back down this way --- okay. Let's go to Representative Macey.

MR. MACEY: Thank you, Mr. President.

I just want to continue to tell everybody to support their volunteer fire companies and the first responders. And if you come across a police officer or fireman, thank them for what they do and ask them to have a safe day. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Down this way --- okay. Here --- I think Representative Palmiere was next, over here.

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you, Mr. President.

I just want to --- I want to thank a couple of my colleagues here, Mr. Catena --- and Paul was there, as a grandfather, yesterday, at the Brentwood Parade along

with 42,000 other people. And Mr. Baker was also there and President DeFazio.

We had --- we had President DeFazio set up in a limo. You know, I mean, what the heck? If you're going to --- if you're going to put the president in a car, you might as well put him in a --- I'm just teasing.

MR. CATENA: And the calls were jumping Johnny -- jumping Johnny.

MR. PALMIERE: Jumping Johnny, yeah. You know, it was a wonderful day and I'll bet out of the 40-some thousand people, 20,000 of them were children. And I'll tell you, they're up there with their bags, their Giant Eagle bags and all those --- and if you don't give them candy, they come up and kick you in the shins.

It's a --- just a --- just a wonderful event, all the way around and I just want to thank my --- my colleagues. And those of you that couldn't come for whatever reasons, maybe next year. There's always next year. And --- and thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah. Yeah, you know what? When I get --- once I get this hip fixed, maybe I'll run that --- that's the only reason why I was in a car.

MR. PALMIERE: I'm going to --- I'm going to take you up on that.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Mr. Kress, do you have any ---?

MR. KRESS: I want to say something. We had the Vietnam War Memorial Mobile Wall in Hampton and I'd just like to thank the community of Hampton for hosting the wall. It's a --- it was a very emotional thing for some people.

I was there with Trooper Kress who had served in Vietnam. He lost his arm in Vietnam. He's a Purple Heart recipient and he was shown the members he served with who had passed away, who were on the wall.

So --- so I would just like to say that --- I'd like to thank those who served in Vietnam for what they've done, and also that we should not forget their sacrifice, and especially considering the 4th of July, and everything surrounding these events, and all the people who've served in the past and everything we've lost. I just want people to consider that.

So thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Oh, Representative Walton?

MR. WALTON: Thank --- thank you, Mr. President. We will be --- after next week, we'll be on recess for --- for our summer recess. But during the period that we are recessed, I'd like to extend an invitation to my fellow council members and the community at large. On July 22nd, there is an organization called I Am So Hill that is doing a parade in the Hill District. I would like to extend an invitation to any of my fellow council members that would like to participate to let me know, and we'll make arrangements for them to participate.

On July --- on August 26th, the African American Heritage Day Parade will take place in the Hill District. And I again extend that similar invitation to my fellow council members and to the community at large.

Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thank you. Let's see.
10233-17.

MR. BARKER: An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania authorizing the grant of a temporary license to The Pittsburgh Three Rivers Regatta, Incorporated for the purpose of staging a craft and food vendor market on the Roberto Clemente Bridge, formerly 6th Street Bridge, as part of The Three Rivers Regatta between Friday, August the 4th, 2017 until Monday, August the 7th, 2017. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go to the Public Works Committee.

MR. FUTULES: Mr. --- Mr. President, would it be possible for us to actually waive that second reading and --- and do that? Because I'm looking at the date, it's Monday, August 7th. We're going to be on recess and if we hold a committee meeting ---.

MR. PALMIERE: We have a committee meeting tomorrow ---.

MR. FUTULES: On --- on what? Public Works? On this?

Oh, okay. Never mind. Sorry.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. That will go to the Public Works. 10234-17.

MR. BARKER: An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing Cinatit, LLC to use certain County-owned real and personal property in connection with filming a motion picture. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go to --- put that into Public Works, tomorrow, too, then. All right. 101235-17.

MR. BARKER: A Resolution of the Council of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, made pursuant to the Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance Act, as amended, providing for a program of temporary exemption from increases in Allegheny County Real Property Taxes, for specified time periods, resulting from improvements made by an owner of property located within the Second Ward of the City of Pittsburgh, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, generally known as the Strip District Neighborhood, previously determined to be a deteriorated area, establishing a schedule for exempting increases in Allegheny County property taxes resulting from such improvements; and prescribing the requirements and procedures by which an owner of property located within the deteriorated area can secure the temporary exemption resulting from such improvements. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go to the Economic Development Committee. 10236-17.

MR. BARKER: A resolution of the County Council of Allegheny authorizing the development of a Tax Increment Financing Plan for the Terminal Building for Smallman Street in the Strip District of the City of Pittsburgh. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go to Economic Development Committee. 10237-17.

MR. BARKER: A Resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2017, Submission #08-17. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Was that 10236?

MR. BARKER: That was 10237.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. That will go to Budget and Finance. Okay. 10238-17.

MR. BARKER: A Resolution ratifying certain year-end transfers pursuant to Section 805.03 of the Administrative Code. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go to Budget and Finance. 10240-17.

MR. BARKER: A motion of the Council of Allegheny County amending the Rules of Council for Allegheny County Council in order to convert references to

the former Budget Director position in the Office of County Council to references to the new Budget Manager title. Sponsored by Council Member Walton.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative DeWitt Walton?

MR. WALTON: I'd --- I'd like to ask if we could waive the second hearing and --- so that we can pass this ordinance and address the issue of the posting for a budget manager as we move forward.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Someone want to second?

(Chorus of seconds.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks? Seeing none, we're going to just vote on waiving the second reading. All those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it. Now, on the main motion --- 10240-17. Do you want to make the motion?

MR. WALTON: I move that --- I make the move --- motion that we adopt 10240-17.

(Chorus of seconds.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks? Seeing none, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it. 10241-17.

MR. BARKER: Motion of the Council of Allegheny County authorizing the Council of Allegheny County to conduct a public hearing, pursuant to Article II.G. of the Rules of Allegheny County Council on August 28th, 2017, beginning at 5:00 p.m. in the Allegheny County Courthouse Gold Room, located at 436 Grant Street in Pittsburgh, PA. Sponsored by Council Member Means.

MS. MEANS: Point of personal privilege?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: What's your ---?

MS. MEANS: I --- I think we should ---.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: What's your point?

MS. MEANS: I --- I think it's moot because ---

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah.

MS. MEANS: --- it's --- it's --- it's done.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay.

MS. MEANS: So I don't know the technical term to use, but ---.

MR. FUTULES: Withdrawing your ---.

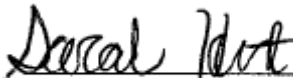
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: No, it's ---.

MS. MEANS: I'll withdraw it.
MR. FUTULES: Withdrawing your motion.
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah.
MS. MEANS: I'll withdraw it.
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Good. Thank you.
Notification of contracts?
MR. BARKER: We did not receive them for June at
the time ---.
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Do we have any public
comment?
MR. BARKER: We have none.
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: None. Someone want to make
a motion to adjourn?
MR. MACEY: So moved.
AUDIENCE MEMBER: Whoa --- whoa --- whoa --- whoa
--- whoa. I have one more comment.
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Whoa --- whoa --- whoa ---
whoa. Wait.
AUDIENCE MEMBER: It's not directed at the ---.
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Wait.
AUDIENCE MEMBER: It's a ---
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: All right. Wait.
AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay.
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: We're going to have to ---.
AUDIENCE MEMBER: Am I allowed to ---?
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Just wait a second. There's
a motion to adjourn, first.
AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. All right.
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Did someone second it?
AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes.
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: All those in favor signify
by saying aye.
(Chorus of ayes.)
Opposed? The ayes have it.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:52 P.M.

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify, as the stenographic reporter, that the foregoing proceedings were taken stenographically by me, and thereafter reduced to typewriting by me or under my direction; and that this transcript is a true and accurate record to the best of my ability.



Court Reporter

Sarah Hunt