



PRESERVATION ALLIANCE

for greater philadelphia

Action Center for Bill No. 251030

[Bill No. 251030](#), legislation that would significantly alter Philadelphia's historic preservation ordinance, has been scheduled for a [hearing](#) before City Council's Rules Committee on Wednesday, June 3, at 2 PM

The Preservation Alliance remains [opposed](#) to this bill. While the legislation has been [revised](#) since its introduction in November 2025, it still includes substantial changes that would weaken the City's ability to protect historic buildings, neighborhoods, and cultural landscapes.

The June 3 Rules Committee hearing will determine whether the bill advances to the full City Council for a vote. We need your help!

Take Action:

1. Testify at [Rules Committee](#)

- Members of the public are able to testify in person at the Rules Committee hearing on June 3 at 2 PM in City Hall, room 400
- To register, email sean.mcmonagle@phila.gov and whitney.brown@phila.gov with your name and organization (if applicable), and state that you would like to provide public comment in opposition to Bill No. 251030.
- Reference our [bill analysis](#) and [talking points](#)

2. Contact Councilmembers

- Email your Councilmember, at-large Councilmembers, and members of the Rules Committee to express your opposition to Bill No. 251030. Ask them to oppose advancing the bill and to support further review and public input.
 - Find your district councilmember [here](#)
 - Rules Members: Cindy Bass, Jamie Gauthier, Katherine Gilmore Richardson, Curtis Jones, Brian J. O'Neill, Mark Squilla, Isaiah Thomas
 - brian.o'neill@phila.gov, cindy.bass@phila.gov, curtis.jones.jr@phila.gov, jamie.gauthier@phila.gov, mark.squilla@phila.gov, isaiah.thomas@phila.gov, katherine.gilmore.richardson@phila.gov
 - At Large Members: Katherine Gilmore Richardson, Isaiah Thomas, Jim Harrity, Nina Ahmad, Rue Landau, Kendra Brooks, Nicolas O'Rourke
 - jim.harrity@phila.gov, rue.landau@phila.gov, nicolas.orourke@phila.gov, isaiah.thomas@phila.gov, katherine.gilmore.richardson@phila.gov, kendra.brooks@phila.gov, nina.ahmad@phila.gov



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- [Councilmember Contact Info](#)
- Use our boilerplate email template

Subject Line: Oppose Bill No. 251030

Dear Councilmember [NAME],

I am writing on behalf of [ORG] OR as a concerned Philadelphia resident to urge you to oppose Bill No. 251030, which is scheduled for a hearing before the Rules Committee on June 3.

Philadelphia's historic preservation ordinance exists to protect buildings, neighborhoods, and cultural resources that contribute to the character and identity of our city. I am concerned that this legislation would weaken those protections in several significant ways.

Among other changes, the bill would create new barriers to historic designation, weaken review standards, and reduce transparency in preservation decisions. I am particularly troubled by provisions that would allow property owners to alter historic features after a nomination has been filed but before the review process is completed. The bill also appears to limit the City's ability to evaluate how projects affect surrounding historic contexts and neighborhoods.

These changes are not simply technical revisions. Taken together, they would shift the balance of the preservation process away from public accountability and long-term stewardship of Philadelphia's historic resources.

Historic preservation is an important planning tool that supports neighborhood stability, community identity, sustainable development, and economic vitality. Any substantial changes to the ordinance deserve careful study, broad public engagement, and a transparent stakeholder process.

I respectfully urge you to oppose Bill No. 251030 in its current form and support further discussion before advancing legislation that could have lasting consequences for Philadelphia's historic places and communities.

Thank you for your consideration and public service.

Sincerely,

[NAME]



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Resources:

- [One-pager](#) (May 2026)
- [Analysis of revised legislation language](#) (May 2026)
- [Original analysis](#) (November 2025)
- [Proposed Revised Bill Text](#) (May 2026)
- [June 3 Rules Committee Agenda](#)