



Bill number: 250888

Introduced by Thomas

Cosponsor(s): Phillips, Lozada, and Brooks

Assigned committee: Commerce & Economic Development

Date introduced: 10/16/2025

Fiscal Note

Overview

This bill would address unauthorized restaurant reservations made by third-party reservation services. It is anticipated that there would be no fiscal impact resulting from the enactment of this legislation.

Legislative Summary

Prohibitions

This bill would prohibit any third-party reservation service from listing, advertising, promoting, or selling reservations for a full-service restaurant without prior written permission from that restaurant. If a restaurant uses its own reservation service, it would be exempt from this restriction.

Enforcement and Penalties

If enacted, the Department of Licenses and Inspections would have the authority to create regulations on the implementation of this legislation. The Department would also have the authority to enforce this legislation, investigate suspected violations, issue citations for such violations, and issue fines.

If enacted, the Department could issue civil penalties of up to \$1,000 per violation to any third-party reservation service. Violations would accrue for each day and for each restaurant in which there has been a violation.

Proposed Effective Date

This legislation would be effective 90 days after enactment.

Fiscal Impact Analysis

No fiscal impact would result from the enactment of this legislation since any associated costs could be absorbed within existing budgets. This legislation would create civil penalties for non-compliance; therefore, the revenue impact of this legislation would depend on the level of non-compliance and enforcement instances.

The Department of Commerce

The Department anticipates absorbing any costs resulting from the enactment of this legislation within its existing resources. Implementation would require educational components for both internal and external stakeholders. Commerce has partnerships with local chambers of commerce, business improvements districts and business associations. Any modification to business requirements in the City of Philadelphia would prompt Commerce to educate and train their current staff about the regulation and create plans for best practices to assist businesses with compliance.

The Department of Licenses & Inspections

The Department anticipates absorbing any cost resulting from the enactment of this resolution within its existing resources. Implementation would require the creation of a website landing page hosted on phila.gov to receive complaints of any violations. The website would include an intake form for such complaints. An update to the eCLIPSE system would be required to comply with this legislation. The update would include new violation language and notification letters for violators. Implementation would also require educational components for inspectors and research staff to be included and implemented in a work instruction.

Legislative History

Not applicable.

Prepared by: Policy and Fiscal Analyst Unit, Mayor's Office of Legislative Affairs

Date: 11/05/2025

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