Wilmington, Delaware June 2, 2016

WHEREAS, the serious health and development risks associated with lead exposure have made national headlines in recent months due to the crisis in Flint, Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the threat posed by lead poisoning has been well known to government officials and health professionals for years; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, high lead levels in children can lead to severe neurologic problems – including coma, convulsion and even death – as well as adverse effects on the central nervous system and kidney, not to mention decreased stature or growth; and

WHEREAS, according to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, an estimated 22-percent of homes have one or more lead-based paint hazards; and

WHEREAS, some health officials have asserted that the extent of lead-based hazards in Delaware are comparable to cities like Flint; and

WHEREAS, while the City of Wilmington's De-Lead program grant has expired, it is still critical that potential lead hazards in the City are addressed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON, that the Council respectfully encourages the Administration to consider partnerships with governmental organizations at the county, state and federal levels, as well as with non-profit entities, to ensure that lead abatement services remain available and in operation throughout the City of Wilmington for the health and welfare of its residents.

Approved as to form this ______day of June, 2016.

Assistant City Solicitor

Passed by City Council, June 2, 2016

Attest: Maribel Sugar City Clerk

#4224

Sponsor:

Council Member Shabazz

Co-Sponsors:

Council Members Williams Dorsey Walker Cabrera