ORDINANCE NO.

<u>FILE OF CITY COUNCIL</u>

BILL NO. 66 - 2019

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OCTOBER 16, 2019

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AN ORDINANCE

Establishing Article 180B, Council of Youth, to advise the Mayor and Council on issues impacting youth.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN:

SECTION ONE: That Article 180B be added to Part I of the Administrative Code and read as follows:

ARTICLE 180B
COUNCIL OF YOUTH

180B.01	Purpose
180B.02	Establishment and Composition of the Board
180B.03	Powers and Duties
180B.04	Annual Report

180B.01 Purpose
The purpose of the Council of Youth to advise the Mayor and Council on any relating to youth issues. To promote youth issues, the Task Force will make recommendations to the Administration, the city's bureaus, and city council on policies and legislation on youth issues. The purpose of this committee is to foster strong relationships with our youth, parents and the community at large to ensure a safe, nurturing, caring and learning environment and giving value and a defined meaning of obtaining a sound and well-rounded education that will yield sustainable employment.

180B.02 ESTABLISHMENT AND COMPOSITION
The Council of Youth shall consist of seven members (7), appointed by the Mayor and approved by Council. In addition, there shall be five students representing the city's high schools on the board, appointed by their respective schools. The Mayor shall appoint the Chairperson of the board with the approval of council. One member of council shall serve on the board as an ex officio member.

Duly appointed members shall serve a term of four (4) years, except that initial appointments shall be so staggered that the terms of the membership shall expire each year. On the initial appointments two members shall serve for four years, two for three years, two for two years and one member for one year. Students shall serve for one-year terms.

Members of the Board must represent a youth advocacy organization or be current students in the city school system.

The board must contain members from the east side, south side, center city, and west end of the city as so determined by Council in the approval process.

Council and the Mayor shall make every effort to ensure the board reflects the cultural diversity of the city.

The board shall meet bi-monthly or on an as needed basis – having at least four meetings a year - with additional meetings as determined by the board. All meetings shall be advertised and open to the public.

The Board Members shall have the appropriate clearances needed for dealing with youth.

The Board shall develop and approve their by-laws which shall be approved by Council by resolution.

180B.03 POWERS AND DUTIES
The Board shall serve as an advisory body. It shall be tasked with offering suggestions on the following:

Identifying issues of concern of youth. It shall, research, discuss and propose solutions to the concerns it identifies. The Board shall provide these recommendations to Allentown City Council and the Administration on a regular basis, at least annually as part of the annual report and presentation (see below, Section 177,05);

Consider and opine on the impact on youth of potential city actions when Council or the Administration requests such input. Examples of such inclusive of items such as special events, recreation programs, etc.

Facilitate communications, networking and referrals within the community advocating youth interests.

Promote youth activities.

Provide a representation or a "voice" for youth in the community.

180B.04 ANNUAL REPORT AND PRESENTATION
The Board shall prepare a written report of the year's activities, a (1) one-year plan and long-term goals and scenarios. The report shall be given to the Mayor and shall be presented to Allentown City Council at an appropriate committee meeting no later than the second meeting in March.

SECTION TWO: That this Ordinance will take effect ten (10) days after final passage.

SECTION THREE: That all Ordinances inconsistent with the above provisions are repealed to the extent of their inconsistency.