



May 19, 2022

The Honorable Jim Kenney
Mayor of Philadelphia

Dear Mayor Kenney:

Greetings! I'm writing on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals U.S.—PETA entities have more than 9 million members and supporters globally, including over 7,000 in Philadelphia—to ask that you implement a citywide tax on meat to curb the looming climate catastrophe and public health threat that consuming meat contributes to. By doing so, the City of Brotherly Love can prove that it cares about animals and the environment as well as its residents and visitors.

Public support for a tax on meat is at an all-time high. Even though the price of animal flesh has increased, [a recent poll](#) found that more than a third of Americans would support a 10% meat tax to slash consumption. And Gen Z showed interest in additional government measures to decrease meat eating, with 62% supporting a meat tax.

According to the United Nations, a global shift toward vegan eating is vital to combat the worst effects of the climate catastrophe because raising and killing animals for food is a significant contributor to greenhouse gas emissions as well as water and air pollution. Pennsylvania taxes the sale of cigarettes, alcohol, and gasoline due to their adverse health and environmental consequences. Many of Pennsylvania's top killers—including heart disease and cancer—may be prevented by eating healthy vegan foods instead of animal-based ones. Your office championed the tax on soda in Philadelphia, and it's time to do the same for meat.

If Philadelphia enacts a meat tax, PETA U.S. would be glad to help its residents learn more about healthy vegan options. We will supply *free* vegan starter kits that could be placed in City Hall, post offices, libraries, schools, and other public buildings around the city.

I hope to hear that Philadelphia will take this important step toward reducing its climate footprint. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Danielle Katz
Senior Director

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