



# Allegheny County Council

County of Allegheny  
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## Legislation Text

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Proclamation recognizing *Dr. Frances Arnold* for being awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

**WHEREAS**, a Pittsburgh native and 1974 Taylor Allderdice High School graduate, *Dr. Frances Arnold* was recently awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences for pioneering the use of directed evolution to engineer enzymes; and

**WHEREAS**, *Dr. Frances Arnold* has an extensive and impressive educational background. In 1979, Dr. Arnold obtained her Bachelor of Science Degree in mechanical and aerospace engineering from Princeton University, where she focused on solar energy research. In 1985, she enrolled at the University of California, Berkeley, where she earned her Ph.D. in chemical engineering; and

**WHEREAS**, after earning her Ph.D., *Dr. Frances Arnold* became a fulltime professor at California Institute of Technology in 1996. In 2000, she was named the Dick and Barbara Dickinson Professor of Chemical Engineering, Bioengineering and Biochemistry, and in 2017 *Dr. Arnold* became the Linus Pauling Professor of Chemical Engineering, Bioengineering and Biochemistry; and

**WHEREAS**, *Dr. Arnold* is a member of the Advisory Board of the JointBioEnergy Institute and the Packard Fellowships in Science and Engineering, and serves on the President's Advisory Council of the King Abdullah University of Science and Technology. She currently serves as judge for The Queen Elizabeth Prize for Engineering and has worked with the National Academy of Science - Sciences & Entertainment Exchange to help Hollywood screenwriters accurately portray science topics; and

**WHEREAS**, as a pioneer for the sciences, *Dr. Arnold* is co-inventor of over 40 US patents. In 2005, she co-founded Gevo, Inc., a company that makes fuel and gases from renewable resources, and in 2013 she co-founded Provivi, an alternative pesticide crop protection; and

**WHEREAS**, *Dr. Arnold*, only the fifth woman to be awarded the Nobel Prize, won for her work conducting the directed evolution of enzymes, proteins that catalyze chemical reactions. Her enzymes have been used to make basic biofuels, medicines, laundry detergent, and several other items.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that I, Allegheny County Council Member Sue Means, do hereby recognize *Dr. Frances Arnold* for being awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry, and we congratulate her for pioneering the way for the use of directed evolution to engineer enzymes.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto caused the Seal of the County of Allegheny to be affixed this 20<sup>th</sup> day of November 2018.