

Legislation Text

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Recognizing, Honoring, and Celebrating William Randolph “Sonny” Hill, on the occasion of his being named a 2008 co-recipient of Mannie Jackson - Basketball’s Human Spirit Award of the National Basketball Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, Mr. William Randolph “Sonny” Hill graduated in 1955 from Northeast High School and received an Honorary Doctorate of Public Service from Temple University in 1998; and

WHEREAS, He has dedicated his life to youth basketball, serving as an outlet for inner city basketball where he also serves as an influential leader within the community of Philadelphia; and

WHEREAS, He is the co-founder of the Charles Baker Memorial Summer League established in 1960, and the founder in 1968 of the “Sonny Hill Community Involvement League,” which continues to provide youth with discipline, guidance, and direction; and

WHEREAS, Professionally Hill has served in many interesting high level positions for the 76ers including; Executive Advisor to the Chief Operating Officer of the Wachovia Complex and as a commentator on there television broadcasts in the 1970’s; and

WHEREAS, Through his work and commitment in basketball as a player, coach, and owner of various teams he was named Who’s Who in Black America, Northeaster of the Year, and one of the 100 Most Influential Minorities by Sports Illustrated; and

WHEREAS, The Mannie Jackson - Basketball Human Spirit Award is given annually to an individual who has incorporated basketball into their efforts to contribute to the greater good of society; and

WHEREAS, Sonny Hill is still active in visiting, mentoring, and spending time with not only NBA players but on the streets of Philadelphia with young inspired basketball players; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent, that from this resolution Philadelphia will have undoubtedly acknowledged Mr. Sonny Hill has provided thousands of children an opportunity through his dedication and tireless efforts which has led to Philadelphia becoming one of the best basketball cities in the country; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF PHILADELPHIA, That we hereby recognize, honor, and celebrate William Randolph “Sonny” Hill, on the occasion of his being named a 2008 co-recipient of Mannie Jackson - Basketball’s Human Spirit Award of the National Basketball Hall of Fame.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That an Engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to Mr. William Randolph “Sonny” Hill as evidence of the sincere sentiments of this legislative body.