

Legislation Text

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Honoring the life and memory of the late Leroy “Sweets” Alexander who was one of the first African American Referees in the National Basketball Association.

WHEREAS, Leroy Alexander affectionately known as “Sweets” was an inspiration and served as a positive role model for the youth and citizens of Philadelphia. As one of the first African American referees in the National Basketball Association, Leroy Alexander officiated at basketball games for forty years, working in professional leagues, as well as in middle and high schools throughout his career; and

WHEREAS, Leroy Alexander was a man of distinction and willing to offer words of wisdom with a calm, cool and collected nature to anyone in need, especially those beginning their officiating careers; and

WHEREAS, Leroy Alexander during his career worked in various independent leagues and tournaments for boys and girls, including the 2002 Public league Girls’ Championship, the Sonny Hill League, the Philadelphia School District, YMCA, Global Basketball Association, Baker League and the Tri-State League; and

WHEREAS, Leroy “Sweets” Alexander was a life long resident of Philadelphia and educated in the Philadelphia Public Schools, a loving husband to his wife, Patricia Alexander whom he married on October 1, 1966, a devoted father of ten children and kind and generous son to his mother, Rosalie Edwards; and

WHEREAS, Leroy Alexander devoted his life and career to enriching and improving the lives of his family and the citizens of Philadelphia; now therefore

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, That we hereby honor the life and memory of the late Leroy “Sweets” Alexander for his work and impact on the lives of those whom he met. Young people who were able to always walk away with something that would carry them through the game of life.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That an Engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Leroy “Sweets” Alexander, as evidence of the gratitude and respect of this legislative body.