

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 806 Session of
2012

INTRODUCED BY PARKER, BISHOP, D. EVANS, JAMES, MICOZZIE,
MILLARD, V. BROWN, HANNA, KOTIK, PAYTON, READSHAW, DONATUCCI,
WATERS, CALTAGIRONE, SONNEY, GEORGE, GINGRICH, VEREB,
STABACK, MANN, YOUNGBLOOD, THOMAS, D. COSTA, DALEY, BRADFORD,
COHEN, DIGIROLAMO, HARPER, DeLUCA AND JOSEPHS, AUGUST 9, 2012

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, AUGUST
9, 2012

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life of Joseph "Butter" Tamburro, WDAS radio
2 personality, civil rights leader, and Philadelphia icon, and
3 extending condolences to his family.

4 WHEREAS, Joseph "Butter" Tamburro, a husband, father,
5 grandfather, friend and icon, passed away on July 27, 2012, at
6 70 years of age; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Tamburro, an Italian American from South
8 Philadelphia, was born in 1942, and he was an avid radio
9 listener and admirer of rhythm and blues; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Tamburro began his career as an advertising
11 salesman with WDAS radio in 1964 after a brief career as an auto
12 mechanic; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Tamburro was given the nickname "Butterball" by
14 WDAS Program Director Jimmy Bishop, but would become more
15 commonly known as "Butter"; and

16 WHEREAS, As an avid radio listener and admirer of rhythm and

1 blues, "Butter" would quickly realize his dream and become a
2 part-time disc jockey at WDAS, and he began hosting the first
3 oldies show on African-American radio; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Tamburro was the Program Director at WDAS for
5 more than 30 years and hosted his famous dance parties at
6 various venues in Philadelphia; and

7 WHEREAS, Throughout Mr. Tamburro's career, he received
8 several awards and honors from entities such as the March of
9 Dimes, the Philadelphia Music Alliance, the National Association
10 for the Advancement of Colored People, the Black Music
11 Association and trade publications such as *R&R*, *Billboard*
12 *Monitor*, *Black Radio Exclusive* and *Gavin Magazine*; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Tamburro was also renowned for his involvement
14 in the Civil Rights Movement, specifically in spreading the
15 message of equality by offering the airwaves to civil rights
16 leaders such as the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. and
17 Attorney Cecil B. Moore; therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives express its
19 sadness upon the passing of Joseph "Butter" Tamburro and offer
20 its most sincere condolences to his family and friends; and be
21 it further

22 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
23 the family of Joseph "Butter" Tamburro.