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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 103 Session of  
2013

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INTRODUCED BY PARKER, CALTAGIRONE, V. BROWN, P. DALEY, ROZZI,  
K. BOYLE, HENNESSEY, MICOZZIE, COHEN, D. COSTA, KORTZ,  
MILLARD, PASHINSKI, YOUNGBLOOD, BROWNLEE, KIRKLAND, GINGRICH,  
MCCARTER, READSHAW, DAVIDSON, QUINN, FABRIZIO AND MURT,  
FEBRUARY 25, 2013

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
FEBRUARY 25, 2013

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## A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and career of Joseph "Butter" Tamburro, WDAS  
2 radio personality, civil rights leader and Philadelphia icon,  
3 and 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 70  
6 years of age; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Tamburro, an Italian American from South  
8 Philadelphia, was born in 1942; and

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

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

15 WHEREAS, An avid radio listener and admirer of rhythm and  
16 blues, "Butter" quickly realized his dream and became a part-

1 time disc jockey at WDAS, where he hosted the first oldies show  
2 on African-American radio; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Tamburro served as the Program Director at WDAS  
4 for more than 30 years; and

5 WHEREAS, "Butter" was well-known for the dance parties he  
6 hosted at various venues in Philadelphia; and

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

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Tamburro was also renowned for his involvement  
14 in the Civil Rights Movement; and

15 WHEREAS, He helped spread the message of equality by offering  
16 the airwaves to civil rights leaders such as the Reverend Martin  
17 Luther King, Jr., and 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.