

KENYATTA JOHNSON, MEMBER  
186TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

116B EAST WING  
P.O. BOX 202186  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2186  
(717) 783-1792  
FAX: (717) 787-7172

1610 SOUTH BROAD STREET  
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19145  
(215) 952-3378  
(215) 952-1006  
FAX: (215) 952-1141

SOUTHWEST OFFICE:  
5015 WOODLAND AVENUE  
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19143  
(215) 726-4613  
FAX: (215) 726-4614

SATELLITE OFFICE:  
2103 SNYDER AVENUE  
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19145  
(215) 755-9185  
FAX: (215) 952-3375



House of Representatives  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

AGING & OLDER ADULT SERVICES  
CHILDREN & YOUTH  
COMMERCE  
URBAN AFFAIRS, MAJORITY SECRETARY  
POLICY

CAUCUSES

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS  
SECRETARY  
PHILADELPHIA DELEGATION  
PEACE NOT GUNS LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS

## Memorandum

**DATE:** December 20, 2010  
**TO:** All House Members  
**FROM:** Representative Kenyatta Johnson  
**SUBJECT:** Co-sponsorship: Sonny Hill Resolution

In the near future, I intend to introduce a resolution recognizing the tremendous impact and trailblazing accomplishments of Mr. William Randolph "Sonny" Hill, appreciating the significant contributions he has made to the lives of tens of thousands of Delaware Valley youth, and designating March 21, 2011 as William Randolph "Sonny" Hill Day in Pennsylvania.

Sonny Hill was born and raised in Philadelphia. He graduated from Northeast High School and later attended college before joining the semi-professional Eastern Basketball League – a league where many gifted African-American basketball players were welcomed. In 1960, he enlisted the assistance of fellow Philadelphia athletes Guy Rodgers, Ray Scott, Hal Lear, and Wilt Chamberlain to establish the Charles Baker Memorial Basketball League – an off-season confederation of professional basketball players who converge on Philadelphia from all over the country to display their talent and skill set.

In 1968, Sonny Hill was inspired to found the Sonny Hill Community Involvement League during a time when Philadelphia was plagued by turbulent gang warfare and hundreds of youth succumbed to the violent streets. The league served as a safe haven for Delaware Valley youth and continues to breed great athletes while offering them refuge from the pervasive urban street culture. Additionally, the league closely tracks the academic progress of its players, provides tutorial services & career counseling, and boasts a college admission rate of 85% amongst its players. Sonny Hill was honored by the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame with the 2008 Mannie Jackson Human Spirit Award – an award designated to honor those who have incorporated basketball into their effort to contribute to the greater good of society. Breaking down barriers on and off the basketball court, Sonny Hill was CBS's first African-American commentator for NBA games. Today, Sonny Hill hosts his own radio show every Sunday on WIP AM Sport Radio and serves as executive advisor to the Philadelphia 76ers.

Please join me in co-sponsoring this resolution. You may contact Ms. Deborah R. Brady at (717) 783-1792 or via e-mail at [drbrady@pahouse.net](mailto:drbrady@pahouse.net). Thank you!