

MEMORANDUM

To: All House Members
From: Representative Cherelle Parker
Date: July 27, 2012
Re: **Condolence Resolution: Joseph “Butter” Tamburro**

In the near future, I plan to introduce a condolence resolution honoring the life and career of WDAS radio personality, civil rights leader, and Philadelphia icon Joseph “Butter” Tamburro.

An Italian-American from South Philadelphia, Joseph Tamburro began his career as an advertising salesman with WDAS radio in 1964. He was given the nickname "Butterball" by WDAS Program Director Jimmy Bishop, but would become more commonly known as “Butter.” Both an avid radio listener and admirer of rhythm and blues, Butter would quickly realize his dream and become a part-time disc jockey at WDAS. He would go on to become the Program Director at WDAS for over 30 years. While at WDAS, Mr. Tamburro would host his infamous dance parties at various venues in Philadelphia. Throughout his career, he received several awards and honors from entities such as the March of Dimes, the Philadelphia Music Alliance, the Black Music Association, and trade magazines such as R&R, Billboard Monitor, Black Radio Exclusive, and Gavin.

In addition to an illustrious career, Joe Tamburro is also renowned for his involvement in the Civil Rights Movement. Specifically, he aided in spreading the message of equality by offering the airwaves to civil rights leaders such as the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. and Cecil B. Moore.

Sadly, on July 27, 2012, Mr. Tamburro passed away leaving behind his beloved family, celebrated career, and devoted fans. However, the music he loved and the life he lived will always be remembered.

Please join me in honoring the life and legacy of the man so lovingly known as Butter. If you are interested in co-sponsoring this legislation, please contact Hilary Emerson in my District office via email at HEmerson@pahouse.net or at 215-242-7300.