

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 92 Session of 2009

INTRODUCED BY THOMAS, FEBRUARY 23, 2009

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
FEBRUARY 23, 2009

## A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring Mike Tomlin, head coach of the Pittsburgh Steelers, for  
2 his accomplishments as the youngest and only the second  
3 African-American head coach to lead a team to a Super Bowl  
4 victory.

5 WHEREAS, Mike Tomlin was born in Hampton, Virginia, on March  
6 15, 1972; and

7 WHEREAS, Between 1990 and 1994, Mr. Tomlin began his football  
8 career as a three-year starter as a wide receiver at William and  
9 Mary College and finished his career with 101 receptions for  
10 2,046 yards and a school-record 20 touchdown catches; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Tomlin began his coaching career in 1995 as the  
12 wide receivers coach at Virginia Military Institute; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Tomlin served two seasons, during 1999 and 2000,  
14 as the defensive back coach for the University of Cincinnati  
15 Bearcats; and

16 WHEREAS, In 2000, under the direction of Mr. Tomlin, the  
17 Bearcats ranked eighth in the nation in interceptions as well as  
18 fourth nationally in total turnovers; and

19 WHEREAS, In 2002, Mr. Tomlin led one of the most productive

defensive backfields in the National Football League (NFL) at Tampa Bay; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tomlin coached Tampa Bay's secondary, which recorded four of the team's five interceptions and returned two for touchdowns to capture that franchise's first Super Bowl title in Super Bowl XXXVII; and

WHEREAS, On January 22, 2007, Mr. Tomlin was named the 16th head coach in Pittsburgh Steelers history; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tomlin became only the third head coach hired by the Steelers since 1969; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tomlin is the tenth African-American head coach in NFL history and the first in Pittsburgh Steelers franchise history; and

WHEREAS, Hired at the age of 34, Mr. Tomlin is the third youngest head coach in any of the major North American professional sports and the youngest head coach in the NFL to win a Super Bowl championship; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tomlin finished his first year as the Steelers head coach with a 10-6 record in the regular season and became just the second coach in team history to post a winning record, win a division title and earn a playoff berth in his inaugural season; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tomlin became only the second Steelers head coach to win his first three games, and in 2007 the Steelers became just the fifth team in NFL history to win their first four home games by at least 20 points; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tomlin guided the Steelers to the NFL's top-ranked defense in 2007, yielding only 266.4 yards per game, and the Steelers defense ranked third in the NFL against both the run and pass and also finished third in the league in total

1 yards allowed per play; and

2 WHEREAS, The 2007 Steelers defense led the NFL in passing  
3 yards per play and first downs allowed per game and finished  
4 second in the league in points allowed per game; and

5 WHEREAS, On January 29, 2009, Mr. Tomlin was named the 2008  
6 Motorola NFL Coach of the Year; and

7 WHEREAS, On February 1, 2009, Mr. Tomlin became the youngest  
8 and only the second African-American head coach to lead a team  
9 to the Super Bowl, as he led the Pittsburgh Steelers to their  
10 sixth victory in Super Bowl XLIII; therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor Mike  
12 Tomlin, head coach of the Pittsburgh Steelers, for his  
13 accomplishments as the youngest and only the second African-  
14 American head coach to lead a team to a Super Bowl victory.