
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 946 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY WHEATLEY, KINSEY, MILLARD, THOMAS, COHEN, LUCAS,
MIRANDA, MIRABITO, NEILSON, KIRKLAND, HENNESSEY, V. BROWN,
DIGIROLAMO, BROWNLEE, O'NEILL, SONNEY, VEREB, CLAY, MURT,
YOUNGBLOOD, CALTAGIRONE, MAHONEY, READSHAW, P. COSTA,
D. COSTA, KORTZ, HELM, McNEILL, GINGRICH AND ROSS,
JULY 9, 2014

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
JULY 9, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and public service contributions of William
2 Russell Blakey and extending condolences to his family.

3 WHEREAS, William "Bill" Blakey, a lifelong resident of the
4 City of Pittsburgh and a widely recognized community advocate,
5 died on June 24, 2014, at 86 years of age; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Blakey generously dedicated his energies to the
7 betterment of Pittsburgh's Hill District, considered by many to
8 be the city's cultural center of African-American life; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Blakey's efforts on behalf of the Hill House
10 Association and its predecessor agency, SoHo Community House,
11 trace back to the early 1950s; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Blakey dedicated nearly 60 years to supporting
13 its work as the first agency to comprehensively address health,
14 welfare, recreation and community programs for the benefit of
15 Pittsburgh's African-American community; and

1 WHEREAS, At the time of his retirement, Mr. Blakey was the
2 longest tenured employee of the Hill House Association; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Blakey was named a recipient of the 2013 Thelma
4 Lovette Community Service Award in recognition of his positive
5 community leadership in keeping with Mrs. Lovette's principles;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, A humble man who never sought recognition, Mr.
8 Blakey was a neighborhood fixture who was also known for
9 assisting people outside of his workplace and sharing his
10 knowledge of the Hill District's history; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Blakey was a true pillar of the community who
12 earned the love and admiration of the residents of the Hill
13 District and the City of Pittsburgh; therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor the life
15 and public service contributions of William Russell Blakey and
16 extend condolences to his family; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
18 the family of William Russell Blakey.