
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 362 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY KILLION, ARGALL, BARTOLOTTA, BLAKE, BROWNE,
DINNIMAN, MARTIN, PHILLIPS-HILL, STEFANO AND TARTAGLIONE,
SEPTEMBER 18, 2020

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, SEPTEMBER 18, 2020

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring Billy "White Shoes" Johnson.

2 WHEREAS, Billy "White Shoes" Johnson is a Marcus Hook native
3 and a graduate of Chichester High School in Boothwyn; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson began an All-American football career at
5 Division III Widener University and was a 15th-round draft pick
6 in 1974, No. 365 overall; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson, named the Daily Times Football Player
8 of the Millennium, went on to play 14 seasons in the National
9 Football League with the Houston Oilers, Atlanta Falcons and
10 Washington Redskins; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson earned Pro Bowl honors three times and
12 was the Pro Bowl's Most Valuable Player in 1975; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson is credited as being one of the first
14 players in NFL history to do an end-zone celebration, his
15 version of his "Funky Chicken" dance, long before it was cool or
16 customary; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson ranks third all-time in average yards

1 per return (11.8) and tied for ninth with six career punt
2 returns for touchdowns; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson amassed 10,785 all-purpose yards and
4 averaged 13.5 yards per touch in his career; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson caught 337 passes for 4,211 yards, had
6 123 kickoffs for 2,941 yards and ran the ball 56 times for 316
7 yards; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson scored 8 touchdowns as a return
9 specialist and 25 touchdowns as a wide receiver; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson was a three time first-team All-Pro
11 selection and won the Comeback Player of the Year award from the
12 Associated Press in 1983; and

13 WHEREAS, At the time of his retirement in 1988 and after 14
14 years in the NFL and one year in the Canadian Football League,
15 Johnson ranked first in NFL history in career punt return
16 yardage (3,317) and currently ranks seventh; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson was named to the NFL's all-decade team
18 for the 1970s (second team) and 1980s (first team) and was the
19 punt returner on the league's 75th anniversary team in 1994; and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson was inducted into the College Football
21 Hall of Fame in 1996 and the Philadelphia Sports Hall of Fame in
22 2018; and

23 WHEREAS, In a pre-game ceremony before Super Bowl LIV, Mr.
24 Johnson was honored as one of the top all-time 100 players for
25 the NFL's 100th anniversary celebration in 2019; and

26 WHEREAS, Johnson, widely viewed as a return specialist, is
27 the only member of the 75th NFL anniversary team and the only
28 eligible member of the 100th NFL anniversary team not inducted
29 into the Hall of Fame; therefore be it

30 RESOLVED, That the Senate honor Billy "White Shoes" Johnson

1 for his athletic achievements; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize Billy "White Shoes"
3 Johnson as one of National Football League's All-Time 100 Team;
4 and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That the Senate urge the National Football League
6 to induct Mr. Johnson into the Pro Football Hall of Fame.