



# Allegheny County Council

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## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 10150-17, **Version:** 1

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Title...

Proclamation honoring in memoriam the life and legacy of Pittsburgh Steelers Chairman and former U.S Ambassador to Ireland Daniel M. Rooney, Sr.

Body...

***WHEREAS, Daniel Milton “Dan” Rooney***, devoted husband, beloved father, dedicated Pittsburgher, former U.S. Ambassador to Ireland, Chairman of the Pittsburgh Steelers and member of the Pro Football Hall of Fame, author of the Rooney Rule that promoted diversity in hiring NFL coaches, and iconic sportsman, passed away on April 13, 2017 at the age of 84; and

***WHEREAS, Dan Rooney***, born on Pittsburgh’s North Side on July 20, 1932, a member of Saint Peter’s Church, graduated from North Catholic High School in 1950, where he quarterbacked the varsity football team. He went on to graduate from Duquesne University in 1955 with a Bachelor’s Degree in accounting. For nearly seven decades, Mr. Rooney has held numerous positions within the Steelers organization, having worked in every area of the franchise. Dan Rooney was named president of the Steelers in 1975. As his father before him, (Arthur Joseph Rooney, Sr.) he assumed the title of Chairman in May 2003. Mr. Rooney joined his father in August 2000, as only the second father-son tandem to be enshrined in the Pro Football Hall of Fame; and

***WHEREAS***, along with his love and dedication to the Steelers and the NFL, ***Dan Rooney*** also dedicated himself to the community. Among the charitable organizations he served were The United Way of America, The Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation, Duquesne University, the Extra Mile Foundation, and the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. Mr. Rooney, whose grandfather was from Newry, County Down, was named U.S. Ambassador to Ireland in 2009 by President Barack Obama and he held the position until his post concluded on December 14, 2012. Mr. Rooney is well-known in Ireland as one of the founders of the American Ireland Fund which are dedicated to building bridges of peace, culture, and charity in Ireland and Northern Ireland; and

***WHEREAS, Dan Rooney*** is survived by his wife of 65 years, Patricia; and seven of their nine children, twenty grandchildren and five great-grandchildren; four brothers and numerous nieces and nephews;

***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED*** that the Allegheny County Council does hereby honor in memoriam ***Daniel Milton “Dan” Rooney***, and we offer our heartfelt condolences to the entire Rooney family. As a treasured member of the Pittsburgh community, his legacy will live forever in the City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, and the Steeler nation.