
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 84 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY BOYLE, MURT, BISHOP, McNEILL, KIRKLAND, VEREB,
HENNESSEY, D. COSTA, C. PARKER, COHEN, GINGRICH, HELM, KORTZ,
READSHAW, KIM, ROZZI, DRISCOLL, MACKENZIE, DIGIROLAMO,
BROWNLEE, THOMAS, SABATINA, MILLARD, WHEELAND, CALTAGIRONE,
FARINA, MARSICO AND DONATUCCI, FEBRUARY 10, 2015

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
FEBRUARY 10, 2015

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring Ron Cohen, legendary head coach of the George
2 Washington High School football team located in Northeast
3 Philadelphia, who is retiring after a distinguished career of
4 coaching and teaching.

5 WHEREAS, On February 17, 2015, Coach Ron Cohen is retiring as
6 head coach of the George Washington High School football team
7 after a remarkable coaching career spanning 30 years during
8 which his teams were dominant in the City of Philadelphia's
9 Public League; and

10 WHEREAS, Over the course of 30 seasons as head coach, Coach
11 Cohen compiled an impressive overall record of 261 wins, 84
12 losses and 2 ties, which is a .757 winning percentage, and his
13 teams won 12 Public League championships; and

14 WHEREAS, Coach Cohen graduated from Germantown High School in
15 Philadelphia in 1961, having lettered in football, baseball and
16 track; and

17 WHEREAS, Coach Cohen played football for the Temple

1 University Owls; and

2 WHEREAS, In 1966, Coach Cohen earned a degree in health and
3 physical education from Temple University; and

4 WHEREAS, In 1985, Coach Cohen became head coach of the George
5 Washington High School football team after having served as an
6 assistant coach at Simon Gratz High School, Roxborough High
7 School and Lincoln High School; and

8 WHEREAS, In Coach Cohen's first season as head coach for the
9 George Washington High School Eagles, his football team earned a
10 berth in the Public League Championship Game; and

11 WHEREAS, Under Coach Cohen's capable guidance, the Eagles won
12 league titles in 12 seasons, including the years 1989, 1991,
13 1992, 1994, 1995, 2000, 2001, 2004, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2011;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Coach Cohen was a three-time winner of the
16 Philadelphia Eagles Coach of the Month Award; and

17 WHEREAS, Coach Cohen is the first coach in the history of
18 George Washington High School's football program to win 10
19 consecutive games; and

20 WHEREAS, Coach Cohen has been named "Coach of the Year" on
21 nine different occasions; and

22 WHEREAS, Coach Cohen holds the City of Philadelphia record
23 for most high school football playoff wins, with 55; and

24 WHEREAS, Coach Cohen has coached seven football players who
25 were named to play in the annual Big 33 Football Classic all-
26 star game, including four players who have gone on to play in
27 the National Football League; and

28 WHEREAS, Coach Cohen was named as the "Coach of the Decade"
29 by the Philadelphia Daily News; and

30 WHEREAS, In 2001, Coach Cohen was elected to the City All-

1 Star Chapter of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame; and
2 WHEREAS, Coach Cohen created the concept of building four
3 athletic Supersites, artificial turf fields and all-weather
4 tracks that can be utilized by all student athletes in the City
5 of Philadelphia; and

6 WHEREAS, From 2004 through 2005, Coach Cohen served on the
7 District 12 steering committee that paved the way for the Public
8 League's entrance into the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic
9 Association and the development of the four Supersites; and

10 WHEREAS, In 2007, in Hershey, Pennsylvania, Coach Cohen was
11 elected to the Pennsylvania Scholastic Football Coaches Football
12 Hall of Fame; and

13 WHEREAS, In 2013, Coach Cohen was inducted into the
14 Philadelphia Jewish Sports Hall of Fame for his accomplishments
15 during his coaching and teaching career; and

16 WHEREAS, Although Coach Cohen's on-field success is
17 considerable, he counts as his greatest achievement and
18 privilege the positive influence he has had on his students in
19 his capacity as a coach and teacher for more than 48 years; and

20 WHEREAS, Despite the challenges inherent in growing up in an
21 inner-city environment, some of Coach Cohen's students have
22 earned college degrees and, with numerous others, have become
23 responsible adults leading positive lives; therefore be it

24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor
25 distinguished coach and teacher Ron Cohen for his outstanding
26 leadership as head coach of the George Washington High School
27 football team located in Northeast Philadelphia and note his
28 dedication to serving as a mentor, counselor and friend and
29 positively influencing countless young lives during his
30 distinguished career.