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Councilmember Anita Bonds

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To honor and recognize Roy Leon Price as a leader, legend, role model, and exceptional Washingtonian.

WHEREAS, Roy Leon Price was educated in the District of Columbia Public Schools and graduated from Dunbar High School, one of the nation's historic African American educational institutions and a source of generations of distinguished Washingtonians;

WHEREAS, as a talented young athlete, Roy Leon Price earned recognition for his accomplishments on the football field and was selected for the Washington Afro-American All-High Football Team in 1951, an honor that placed him among the outstanding Black high school athletes of Washington DC during the era of segregation;

WHEREAS, Mr. Price's athletic accomplishments and place in Washington's history are documented in Earl Telfair's *The Black Athletes of the District of Columbia During the Segregated Years*, preserving the important story of the Black athletes who excelled despite the barriers imposed on them by segregation;

WHEREAS, following his high school years, Roy Leon Price answered the call to serve his country by joining the United States Air Force, where he served four years before receiving an honorable discharge;

WHEREAS, Roy Leon Price has shared his life with his beloved wife, the late Eloise Simpkins, and together they built a family and a legacy rooted in love, commitment, and community;

WHEREAS, throughout his life, Roy Leon Price has demonstrated the qualities of discipline, perseverance, leadership, and service that characterized both his athletic achievements and his military service;

47
48 WHEREAS, Roy Leon Price's life represents an important chapter in the history of
49 Washington, DC, from the segregated schools and athletic fields of his youth to military service
50 to his nation, to the many ways in which he has contributed to the life and legacy of the District;
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52 WHEREAS, Roy Leon Price was employed as the first Black air traffic controller at
53 Washington National Airport (now Reagan National Airport);
54

55 WHEREAS, Roy Leon Price was promoted to the position as the first Black air traffic
56 controller supervisor at Friendship Airport (now Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood
57 Marshall Airport);
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59 WHEREAS, Mr. Price has been a member of good standing of the Greater New Hope
60 Baptist Church since the age of three and has served on many ministries, including over 30 years
61 as an usher and church treasurer;
62

63 WHEREAS, in 1965, Mr. Price was instrumental in the creation and development of his
64 home on a new street in Ward 7, where he remains one of two original residents and where he
65 continues to be very active with the Penn Branch Community Association;
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67 WHEREAS, Roy Leon Price is a 33rd degree mason, currently holds the title of sovereign
68 grand commander emeritus, and is highly respected nationally for his governing leadership and
69 community outreach;
70

71 WHEREAS, Roy Leon Price is an avid, longstanding, and loyal Washington
72 Redskins/Commanders fan and has been a season ticket holder since the first Black player,
73 Bobby Mitchell, joined the team in 1962;
74

75 WHEREAS, at his current age of 93, Mr. Price remains an enthusiastic fan, arriving at
76 home games two hours before kick-off and staying until the end of the last play regardless of the
77 score or weather conditions;
78

79 WHEREAS, Mr. Price has reserved his season tickets for the first game at the new
80 Commander's stadium and was present for the first and last Commander games played at R.F.K.
81 Stadium;
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83 WHEREAS, Mr. Price retired from the Federal Aviation Administration after serving for
84 39 years;
85

86 WHEREAS, today you can find Mr. Price at the Planet Fitness gym at 6:00 a.m., 6 days
87 of the week, inspiring and motivating all with his vigorous workout routine;
88

89 WHEREAS, his story is a reminder that the achievements of African American
90 Washingtonians who excelled during segregation deserve to be remembered, celebrated, and
91 passed on to future generations; and
92

93 WHEREAS, Roy Leon Price has earned the distinction of being recognized as a leader, a
94 legend, a role model, and an exceptional Washingtonian whose life and accomplishments honor
95 his family, his community, and the District of Columbia.
96

97 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, that the
98 Council of the District of Columbia recognize and honor Mr. Roy Leon Price for his
99 extraordinary life, accomplishments, military service, athletic achievement, and enduring
100 contributions to the Washington, DC community.
101

102 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF
103 COLUMBIA, that I extend my deepest appreciation to Roy Leon Price for the example he has
104 set and for the legacy he represents as a leader, legend, role model, and exceptional
105 Washingtonian.
106

107 Sec. 2. The resolution may be cited as the “Roy Leon Price Recognition Resolution of
108 2026.”
109

110 Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in
111 the District of Columbia Register.