Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 156

BY REPRESENTATIVE JEFFERSON

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Grambling State University Head Coach Doug Williams upon the twenty-fifth anniversary of his selection as the first black quarterback to be named Most Valuable Player of a Super Bowl game

1	A RESOLUTION
2	To commend Head Coach Doug Williams upon the twenty-fifth anniversary of his selection
3	as the first black quarterback to be named Most Valuable Player of a Super Bowl
4	game and to recognize his many contributions to the Grambling State University
5	football program.
6	WHEREAS, Doug Williams graduated from Grambling State University in 1978 and
7	first became the head coach of the football team in 1997; and
8	WHEREAS, his accomplishments and contributions in the realm of football began
9	in the early 1970s, as a star quarterback for Cheneyville High School in his native town of
10	Zachary, Louisiana; and
11	WHEREAS, Mr. Williams was named Black College Player of the Year twice and
12	was once fourth in the Heisman Trophy voting during his undergraduate career at Grambling
13	State; and
14	WHEREAS, in 1977, Mr. Williams led the nation in touchdown passes with thirty-
15	eight and in passing yards with 3,286; and
16	WHEREAS, Doug Williams' career at Grambling was marked by many firsts: he was
17	the first player from a predominantly black school to be chosen as a First Team
18	All-American, the first player from a predominantly black school ever to be selected as a
19	consensus All-American quarterback, and the first quarterback from a predominantly black

HLS 13RS-3751

1	school ever to be selected in the first round of the National Football League draft, going to
2	the Tampa Bay Buccaneers as the seventeenth selection overall; and
3	WHEREAS, in Coach Williams' professional football career, he played for the
4	Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the Washington Redskins of the National Football League and
5	for the Oklahoma Outlaws of the United States Football League; and
6	WHEREAS, one of the most notable achievements of Coach Williams' career was
7	becoming the first black quarterback to start in and win a Super Bowl; in Super Bowl XXII,
8	he led his Washington Redskins to a 42-10 victory over the Denver Broncos; and
9	WHEREAS, Coach Williams became the first black quarterback to ever be named
10	the Most Valuable Player of a Super Bowl game; and
11	WHEREAS, in 1997, Coach Williams returned to Grambling as head football coach,
12	succeeding the legendary Eddie Robinson; his team went 10-2 in 2000 and 11-1 in 2001 and
13	won the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) Championship both years; and
14	WHEREAS, Coach Williams rejoined the Buccaneers as a personnel executive, and
15	in 2009, he was promoted to the director of professional scouting; on June 21, 2010, it was
16	announced that he would become General Manager of the Norfolk expansion franchise in
17	the United Football League; and
18	WHEREAS, in 2011, Coach Williams returned for his second stint as the head
19	football coach at Grambling, and under his leadership, the Tigers won the State Farm Bayou
20	Classic, the SWAC Western Division, and the SWAC Championship for the 2011 season;
21	and
22	WHEREAS, though Coach Williams is perhaps best known for his accomplishments
23	on the field, his contributions off the field also are notable, including his work in providing
24	scholarships for high school students through the Doug Williams Foundation, service on the
25	Louisiana governor's council to combat drug and alcohol abuse, and his active work with
26	youth and charitable groups; and
27	WHEREAS, his charitable work has earned him numerous awards, including being
28	named Washingtonian of the Year and receiving the Generous Hearts Award and the Boys

29 Club Congressional Award; and

HLS 13RS-3751

1	WHEREAS, Doug Williams, a champion, a natural leader, a trailblazer, and the head
2	football coach of his beloved Grambling State Tigers, has defied the odds and has fulfilled
3	not only his dreams but those of many others; and
4	WHEREAS, Coach Williams is being honored by the Grambling University National
5	Alumni Association (GUNNA) Ruston Chapter at its annual gala on June 8, 2013.
6	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
7	Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Doug Williams for his many contributions
8	to the Grambling State University football program, to his fellow citizens, and to the state
9	of Louisiana, does hereby recognize and record for posterity the special place he has in the
10	annals of Louisiana history, and does hereby commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of
11	his selection as the first black quarterback to be named Most Valuable Player of a Super
12	Bowl game.
13	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
14	to Doug Williams.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Jefferson

HR No. 156

Commends Grambling State University Head Coach Doug Williams upon the twenty-fifth anniversary of his selection as the first black quarterback to be named Most Valuable Player of a Super Bowl game.