



Committee: Directly to Council
Committee Review: N/A
Staff: Lisa Mandel-Trupp, Chief of Staff
Purpose: To introduce agenda item – no vote expected
Keywords:

AGENDA ITEM #2F
July 21, 2020
Action

SUBJECT

Resolution to support the renaming of the Washington football team

EXPECTED ATTENDEES

None

COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

- To introduce resolution: no vote expected

DESCRIPTION/ISSUE

The Council will consider a resolution urging the owner of the Washington football team to change the name of the team so that it reflects and respects everyone.

This report contains:

Resolution

Pages 1-2

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Resolution No.: _____
Introduced: July 14, 2020
Adopted: _____

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

Lead Sponsor: County Council

SUBJECT: Resolution to Support the Renaming of the Washington Football Team

WHEREAS, the professional football team in our region has been a source of pride and joy for area residents and its wide popularity influences attitudes and values, particularly for the youth of our region; and

WHEREAS, the name of the football team is a dictionary defined racial slur; and

WHEREAS, the Council of Governments, the Council of the District of Columbia (2013) and the Arlington County Board (2015) all have issued resolutions asking Mr. Daniel Snyder, the current owner of the Washington Redskins, to change the name of the professional football team; and

WHEREAS, the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) will not allow teams with offensive racial stereotypes to participate in championship games; and

WHEREAS, George Preston Marshall, the first owner of the team, was an unrepentant bigot whose name for the team had nothing to do with honoring Native Americans, but rather pandered to the prejudices of a white fan base; and

WHEREAS, in 1996, the late Abe Pollin, the former owner of the Washington Bullets changed the team's name to the Washington Wizards because the word "bullets" was associated with violence in a city that was afflicted with a high number of homicides; and

WHEREAS, in 2005, the American Psychological Association (APA) passed a resolution calling for the immediate retirement of Native American mascots in schools and athletics; and

WHEREAS, several Native American and non-Native American civil rights organizations and religious institutions have called for the elimination of Native American names, logos and mascots.

THEREFORE, let it be resolved that out of respect for the multi-racial, ethnic, and religious diversity in our country and region, the owner of the Washington Redskins is urged to changed the name of the team so that the team can succeed in its relocation efforts with a new name and logo that respects all residents of the area, Native and non-Native alike.

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Selena Mendy Singleton, Esq.
Clerk of the Council