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Committee: City Council

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WHEREAS, the Scottish Declaration of Independence, or the Declaration of Arbroath, was signed on April 6, 1320, declaring freedom and independence from Britain and serving as a model for our American founding fathers when they framed the Declaration of Independence in 1776; and

WHEREAS, almost half of the signers of the American Declaration of Independence were of Scottish descent and the governors of nine of the thirteen original states were of Scottish ancestry; and

WHEREAS, Scottish Americans have made valuable contributions in many fields, including law, government, sciences, and the arts which have resulted in the collective success of this nation; and

WHEREAS, the Scottish American population of the Pittsburgh region is proud to honor the contributions of Hugh Henry Brackenridge and Andrew Carnegie and so many other Scottish Americans throughout Pittsburgh history to the present day; and

WHEREAS, numerous individuals, clans, societies, clubs and fraternal organizations as well as the St. Andrews Society celebrates Scottish culture and traditions; and

WHEREAS, Robert Murdoch, Esq., a respected Pittsburgh attorney and also the proud son and successor of Pittsburgh's Scottish Tenor Tom Murdoch, of Motherwell, Scotland, has been instrumental in Scottish activities and organizations for more than 40 years, advancing awareness of Scottish heritage and contributions, including being a member of Clan Donald, of the Caledonian Foundation of USA, Inc., the Robert Burns Scottish Club of Erie, the St. Andrews Society of Pittsburgh, the Scottish Heritage Society of North Central West Virginia and the Scottish-American Military Society, and the honors of being elected as a Fellow in the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, and, of course, acting as (the first) National Chairman of Tartan Day;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby honor the accomplishments and contributions of Scottish Americans and recognizes Robert Murdoch as National Chairman Emeritus of Tartan Day; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare April 6, 2010, as "Tartan Day" in the City of Pittsburgh.