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Committee: City Council

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Whereas, since it's founding in December of 1980 by Mr. Bernard H. Jones, the POSIE foundation has served as the first public foundation in the state of Pennsylvania organized and managed by African Americans. Created as a community foundation, POISE has focused on developing and enhancing the participation of African American philanthropists in the economic and social development of the Black community of the City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County; and

Whereas, for years the funding provided by the POISE foundation has focused on improving the conditions of aging, arts and culture, children and youth, education, health and human services, and urban affairs / economic development; and

Whereas, in 2008, the HOPE Fund was established in partnership with the POISE foundation as a funding resource for non-profit organizations that provide services to residents of the 9th Council District in the City of Pittsburgh. This fund was created to leverage discretionary funds by attracting additional financial investment from other government, business, and philanthropic sources.

Whereas, on December 9, 2010, the POISE Foundation will celebrate 30 years of existence. The theme of the anniversary celebration is Looking Back. Moving Forward. The foundation will celebrate its rich history of philanthropy within the Greater Pittsburgh Region's Black Community, and rededicate its commitment to carry on the founder's vision and passion for promoting self-sustaining practices within the community.

Now, Therefore, be it resolved, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby recognize the POISE Foundation and all of its members assisting the Pittsburgh Region's Black community, its passion for humanity and dedication to improving the overall quality of life; and

Be It Further Resolved, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby proclaim Thursday, December 9, 2010 as the "POISE Foundation 30th Anniversary" day in the City of Pittsburgh.