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**Thomas Co-Introduces Resolution Calling for Taxation of
District's Nonresident, Professional Athletes**

Washington, DC—Ward 5 Councilmember Harry Thomas, Jr. today co-introduced a resolution at the Council's legislative session calling upon Congress to amend the Home Rule Act to allow the District to collect income taxes from nonresident, professional athletes for work performed in the District. The resolution was introduced along with Ward 2 Councilmember Jack Evans.

The "Sense of the Council in Support of Tax Parity for Nonresident, Professional Athletes Resolution of 2011" notes that the Supreme Court ruled it permissible in 1920 for a state to tax the income earned by nonresidents within its borders, provided that the tax is "not more onerous in its effect" than that assessed on residents. Since then, a number of states and other governmental entities have crafted tax codes that equitably tax incomes of nonresident athletes for work performed within the relevant jurisdiction. California is one such state, and has received more than \$100 million annually from taxing nonresident athletes.

Currently, the Home Rule Act prohibits the District from enacting these types of laws. "This provision unfairly penalizes the District," said Councilmember Thomas. "It is in our best interest that we have the ability to collect income taxes from nonresident, professional athletes for work performed in the District."

The loss to the District is twofold. The District loses income tax revenue from nonresident athletes who visit, but also from the District's own athletes whose incomes are taxed by other states, and thus have their District liabilities reduced due to prohibitions on double taxation.

"It is my hope that Congress will amend the Home Rule Act so that the District can collect income taxes from its nonresident, professional athletes," stated Thomas. "During tight budget times like these, it behooves us to eliminate tax loopholes that diminish our revenue stream."

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