

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

23-30

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

March 5, 2019

To honor and recognize Vernon Davis for his many athletic and civic accomplishments.

WHEREAS, Vernon Davis was born on January 31, 1984 in Washington, D.C., where he attended Truesdell Elementary, Paul Public Charter School, and Dunbar High School;

WHEREAS, while attending Dunbar High School, Vernon Davis was a team leader and a first-team All-Met selection in 2002 under the tutelage of football coach Craig Jefferies;

WHEREAS, Vernon Davis' decorated career at Dunbar High School included being selected to play in the U.S. Army All-American Bowl and being named the Gatorade Player of the Year for the District of Columbia;

WHEREAS, upon choosing to attend the University of Maryland, Vernon Davis continued to excel on and off the field, attaining increasing levels of success and national recognition;

WHEREAS, Vernon Davis played 3 seasons at the University of Maryland and in 2005 he was named a First Team All-American by the Associated Press, the American Football Coaches Association, and College Football News, in addition to earning All-ACC first-team honors and being named a finalist for the John Mackey Award;

WHEREAS, Vernon Davis was selected sixth overall by the San Francisco 49ers in the first round of the 2006 NFL Draft;

WHEREAS, Vernon Davis was selected to the Pro Bowl in 2009 and 2013, and named a second-team All-Pro in 2013;

WHEREAS, in 2016, Vernon Davis won his first Super Bowl championship after the Denver Broncos defeated the Carolina Panthers by a score of 24–10 in Super Bowl 50;

WHEREAS, in March 2016, Vernon Davis signed a one-year contract with Washington's NFL team, and in 2017 he signed a new 3-year contract with the franchise;

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WHEREAS, during his career, Vernon Davis has twice logged at least 10 touchdowns in a season, tied an NFL record by a tight end for touchdown catches, is currently ranked in the top 10 all-time among NFL tight ends with 62 career touchdowns, and is considered amongst the best tight ends in NFL history;

WHEREAS, Vernon Davis is known for his dedication and commitment to the children and families in the Washington, D.C. area through the Vernon Davis Foundation for the Arts, which he created in 2012 to promote art education and art appreciation among youth from disadvantaged backgrounds;

WHEREAS, in 2017, Vernon Davis won the Stewart B. McKinney Award for his efforts to raise awareness for and influence others to join the fight against homelessness;

WHEREAS, in 2018, Vernon Davis initiated the Read 85 reading campaign where he visited 6 underserved public schools in the Washington, D.C. area to speak to students and encourage them to use reading as a tool to succeed;

WHEREAS, over the course of the Read 85 tour, the campaign donated over 500 books and impacted over 3,000 students;

WHEREAS, Vernon Davis was a finalist in 2017 and 2018 for the Art Rooney Sportsmanship Award, an award presented each year to an NFL player who best demonstrates the qualities of on-field sportsmanship, including fair play, respect for the game and opponents, and integrity in competition;

WHEREAS, Vernon Davis is also active with various charitable organizations such as the National Center for Law and Homelessness, the Boys and Girls Club, and the Covenant House; and

WHEREAS, Vernon Davis' success and accomplishments on and off the field make him a positive role model for young adults in the District of Columbia and across the country.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Vernon Davis Recognition Resolution of 2019".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia congratulates and recognizes Vernon Davis for his professional and personal successes as a citizen, an athlete, an NFL player, an entrepreneur, a philanthropist, and a native Washingtonian.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.