WHEREAS, Dr. Rory A. Cooper, Distinguished Professor of the Department of Rehabilitation Science and Technology and professor of Bioengineering, Mechanical Engineering, Physical Medicine & Rehab and Orthopedic Surgery at the University of Pittsburgh, has spent his career applying his knowledge of robotics and technology to helping the disabled, veterans, and older Americans become more independent; and,

WHEREAS, as a United States Army veteran who suffered a spinal cord injury during his service to our country and now as Director of the Paralyzed Veterans of America Research Foundation, Dr. Cooper knows firsthand the benefits that technological advancements in robotics can have on daily lives; and,

WHEREAS, through his work in partnership with the VA Hospital, Dr. Cooper has made great gains in improving self-direction for America's returning veterans; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Cooper has received numerous awards for his accomplishments, including the International Paralympic Scientific Achievement Award and two Rehabilitative Engineering and Assistive Technology Society Distinguished Service Awards; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Cooper's achievements in rehabilitative robotics were featured in Popular Science magazine and even on nationally distributed boxes of Cheerios cereal; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Cooper's accomplishments transcend the laboratory: he earned a bronze medal at the 1988 Seoul Paralympic Games and has accumulated over 150 medals at the National Veterans Wheelchair Games; and,

WHEREAS, on June 2, 2014 in Munich, Germany, Dr. Cooper received the prestigious **2014 Engelberger Award for Application**, the robotics industry's highest honor, for his success in assistive and personal applications of robotics.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby pay tribute to Dr. Cooper's unparalleled achievements applying robotics technologies to help improve the lives of people with spinal cord injuries.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare June 17th, 2014, "Dr. Rory A. Cooper Day" in the City of Pittsburgh.

Sponsored by Councilman Dan Gilman

Co-sponsored by Council President Bruce Kraus, Councilmembers Deb Gross, Darlene M. Harris, Theresa Kail-Smith, Natalia Rudiak, Corey O'Connor, R. Daniel Lavelle, and Rev. Ricky V. Burgess

Bruce Kraus
President of Council

Attest: Mary Beth Doheny
Clerk of Council

In Council, June 17th, 2014