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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The 3-day National Football League Player  
3 Selection Meeting, commonly known as the "NFL Draft", is one of  
4 the most widely-viewed sports events on worldwide television  
5 that does not involve an athletic contest; and

6           WHEREAS, The signing by the Chicago Bears of University of  
7 Illinois great, "Red" Grange, in 1925 was the first significant  
8 transition of a college football superstar to the National  
9 Football League, setting the stage for the coming century of  
10 "America's game"; and

11           WHEREAS, The owner and founder of the Chicago Bears, George  
12 Halas, is a key figure in the history of the National Football  
13 League, recognized as such through the George Halas Trophy,  
14 awarded annually to the champion of the National Football  
15 Conference within the National Football League; and

16           WHEREAS, Twenty-nine of the 500 firms listed in the Fortune  
17 500 list are headquartered in the greater Chicago area,  
18 including many firms that partner with the National Football  
19 League and its 32 teams in a variety of ways; and

20           WHEREAS, The 2015 Draft will be hosted at the Auditorium  
21 Theater of the Roosevelt University in Chicago, the first time

1 the draft has returned to Chicago since it was held in the  
2 Sheraton Chicago Hotel in 1964; and

3 WHEREAS, The Chicago area will continue to be a superb  
4 location and headquarters for the annual NFL Draft; therefore,  
5 be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
7 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
8 invite the National Football League to continue to hold the  
9 National Football League Player Selection Meeting in the  
10 Chicago area as a gesture to the heritage of the NFL and a  
11 gesture toward the future; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
13 delivered to Roger Goodell, Commissioner of the National  
14 Football League, George Mccaskey, Chairman of the Chicago  
15 Bears, and the 31 other teams of the National Football League.