



HR0259

LRB096 12217 GRL 24787 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, State Representative Monique D. Davis and the Illinois House of Representatives are pleased to congratulate the members of the Jesse White Tumbling Team on the occasion of the team's 50th anniversary in 2009; and

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WHEREAS, The internationally-known Jesse White Tumbling Team has thrilled audiences since September 26, 1959, when Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White, the team's founder and coach, created the team to provide a recreational, athletic, educational, and cultural enrichment experience for the team members; the team makes over 1,000 appearances each year; and

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WHEREAS, The Jesse White Tumbling Team's acrobatic performances can frequently be seen during half-time shows for the National Basketball Association, the National Football League, and Major League Baseball games; the team entertains at business and sporting events year-round, including colleges and universities nationwide; the team also performed during the 52nd and 53rd Presidential Inaugural Parades; and

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WHEREAS, The Jesse White Tumbling Team has an international following as well; the team's fans can be found from Tokyo, Japan, to Hong Kong, China, Bermuda, Jamaica, and Canada; and

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1 WHEREAS, A number of the Jesse White Tumblers, some of
2 which are as young as 6 years old, are residents of Chicago's
3 Cabrini Green and Henry Horner housing developments, with other
4 members being residents from 10 communities within the Chicago
5 metropolitan area; and

6 WHEREAS, The Jesse White Tumbling Team was designed to be a
7 juvenile delinquency prevention program that helps youngsters
8 "grow tall and straight"; the members are required to abide by
9 Jesse White's strict rules, which include staying in school,
10 maintaining a "C" average in academic coursework, and staying
11 away from gangs and drugs; and

12 WHEREAS, Due to Jesse White's "tough love" approach and his
13 active involvement as coach, teacher, friend, mentor,
14 confidant, and surrogate father to the members, over 10,000
15 young men and women have benefited from the program since the
16 team's inception; therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
18 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
19 congratulate the members of the Jesse White Tumbling Team on
20 the occasion of the team's 50th anniversary and wish them
21 continued success and happiness in their future endeavors; and
22 be it further

1 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
2 presented to Secretary of State Jesse White as a symbol of our
3 esteem and respect.