



HR0997

LRB096 21542 GRL 38412 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, The members of 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; and

3

4

5

6

WHEREAS, The Jesse White Tumbling Team has thrilled audiences since 1959, when Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White, the team's founder and coach, created the team to serve as a positive alternative for children residing in and around the Chicago area; the team makes over 1,000 appearances each year; and

7

8

9

10

11

12

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 has appeared on Late Night with David Letterman, The Tonight Show starring Jay Leno, Good Morning America, The Jenny Jones Show, Disney Channel's Mickey Mouse Club, CBS' How'd They Do That, and several performances on Nippon Television in Tokyo; the team has been featured in commercials for Coca-Cola, Jewel Food Store, the Chicago White Sox, and Blue Cross/Blue Shield; the team has appeared in the movies Heaven is a Playground, Ferris Buehler's Day Off, and The Meteor Man; the team also performed

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

1 during the 52nd and 53rd Presidential Inaugural Parades; and

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

5 WHEREAS, The members of the Jesse White Tumblers are  
6 residents from 10 communities within the Chicago metropolitan  
7 area; some are as young as 6 years old; and

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

14 WHEREAS, Due to Jesse White's "tough love" approach and his  
15 active involvement as coach, teacher, friend, mentor,  
16 confidant, and surrogate father to the members, over 11,500  
17 young men and women have benefited from the program since the  
18 team's inception; therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
20 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
21 congratulate the members of the Jesse White Tumbling Team on

1 the occasion of the team's 50th anniversary and wish them  
2 continued success and happiness in the future; and be it  
3 further

4 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
5 presented to the Jesse White Tumbling Team as a symbol of our  
6 esteem and respect.