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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are pleased to congratulate the Rockford Christian High School baseball team, the Royal Lions, on winning the 2015 Illinois High School Association (IHSA) Division 2A State Championship; and

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WHEREAS, This is the first-ever State championship in Rockford Christian High School history; and

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WHEREAS, The Royal Lions had a phenomenal regular season; between April 16th and May 12th, they completed a 16-game win streak, riding hot bats and stellar pitching toward the post-season; the team ended the regular season with a record of 29 wins and 6 losses; and

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WHEREAS, The first regional game was played in Pecatonica on May 20th against North Boone; the Royal Lions won the game 10-0 and advanced to the regional final where they faced Warren, winning 5-4 and clinching the team's first regional title in school history; and

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WHEREAS, The Royal Lions advanced to the sectionals in Byron where they faced Morrison, defeating them in 8 innings 2-0; in the sectional finals, they faced Forreston and beat

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1 them 6-3; and

2 WHEREAS, The Royal Lions continued their hot streak into  
3 the super-sectionals at Augustana College where they met  
4 Carthage (Illini West); Carthage proved to be a tough opponent  
5 for the Royal Lions but they prevailed, defeating Carthage 6-5;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, The Royal Lions made it to the school's first-ever  
8 State championship series; the semi-final game was June 5th in  
9 Peoria at Dozer Park against Peru St. Bede; pitcher, Alec  
10 Powell took the mound and the Royal Lions found themselves  
11 trailing early in the game, giving up 1 run in the top of the  
12 first with the aid of an error; the Royal Lions tied the game  
13 in the 3rd inning when Jake McClellin singled home Nick Frahm;  
14 Alec Powell pitched 6 innings, striking out 10 opposing batters  
15 before Nolan Gzsouski stepped in to pitch; the Royal Lions  
16 needed 2 extra-innings before Satchel Daleo hit a walk-off RBI,  
17 scoring Alec Powell and giving the Royal Lions a win, sending  
18 them to the State championship game; and

19 WHEREAS, The Royal Lions faced the Williamsville Bullets on  
20 June 6th; senior, Brandon Williams and Jake Kellerman led the  
21 Royal Lions in the championship game; Brandon Williams pitched  
22 6 2/3 innings while Jake Kellerman went 2 for 3 at the plate  
23 with 2 home-runs and 4 RBI; Nolan Gzsouski came in to record

1 the final out of the game and the Royal Lions defeated the  
2 Bullets 6-2, winning the first State championship title for  
3 Rockford Christian High School; and

4 WHEREAS, The Royal Lions finished the season with a record  
5 of 36 wins and 6 losses; 6 seniors will graduate this summer,  
6 but the Royal Lions look to return next season and defend their  
7 IHSA Division 2A State Baseball Title; and

8 WHEREAS, The Royal Lions are, Jake McClellan, Luke Joiner,  
9 Nick Frahm, Alec Nicoll, Bryan Truitt, Nolan Gzsouski, Jake  
10 Kellerman, Brandon Williams, Jacob Gogle, Caleb Bubnack,  
11 Payton Gustafson, Alex Powell, David Prisby, Cameron  
12 Santolino, Satchel Daleo, and Neil Thomas; and

13 WHEREAS, The Royal Lions are led by Head Coach Mike  
14 McClellan and Assistant Coach Dan Bogdonas; therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
16 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
17 congratulate the Rockford Christian High School Royal Lions on  
18 their 2015 Illinois High School Association Division 2A State  
19 Baseball Championship; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
21 presented to the Royal Lions as a symbol of our respect and

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1 esteem.