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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives would like to congratulate Jake Arrieta of the Chicago Cubs for being awarded the 2015 National League Cy Young Award; and

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WHEREAS, Jacob Joseph "Jake" Arrieta was born in Farmington, Missouri on March 6, 1986; and

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WHEREAS, Jake Arrieta showed tremendous potential from a young age, having been selected in the 31st round of the 2004 Major League Baseball draft by the Cincinnati Reds as a senior attending Plano East Senior High School in Plano, Texas; and

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WHEREAS, Jake Arrieta attended Weatherford Junior College in Weatherford, Texas instead of joining the Reds organization; after playing a successful season, he was again selected in the draft, this time by the Milwaukee Brewers, however, he continued playing at the college level, transferring to Texas Christian University (TCU) in Fort Worth, Texas; during his time at TCU, he won the Mountain West Conference Pitcher of the Year award; and

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WHEREAS, Jake Arrieta patiently timed his entrance to Major League Baseball; he was picked in the 5th round of the 2007 MLB

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1 draft by the Baltimore Orioles; he made his major league debut  
2 with the Orioles in 2010 and played with the team (and their  
3 minor league affiliates) until 2013 when he was traded to the  
4 Chicago Cubs; and

5 WHEREAS, Jake Arrieta did not have a particularly stellar  
6 introduction to the majors during his time in Baltimore; but  
7 after joining the Cubs, his fortunes began to change; by the  
8 end of the 2014 season, the young right-hander had demonstrated  
9 that he could pitch impressively in the big leagues; he had a  
10 win, 5 loss season, with 1 complete game shut-out, 167  
11 strikeouts, and an earned-run-average of 2.53 in 156.2 innings  
12 of play; and

13 WHEREAS, Jake Arrieta did not lose any of his momentum  
14 going into 2015, where he compiled an extraordinary regular  
15 season marked by many feats; he started 33 games, completing 4  
16 of them, including 3 complete game shutouts; he pitched a total  
17 of 229 innings, allowing only 150 hits, 45 earned runs, 10 home  
18 runs, and 48 walks; he led the majors with 22 wins and only 6  
19 losses, and registered a 1.77 earned run average - second only  
20 to Zack Greinke of the Los Angeles Dodgers; and

21 WHEREAS, Perhaps there was no better example of Jake  
22 Arrieta's prowess than on August 20, 2015 when he pitched a  
23 no-hitter against the Dodgers, the 14th no-hitter in Chicago

1 Cubs history; and

2 WHEREAS, As a result of this and many other sensational  
3 performances in August, Jake Arrieta was named the National  
4 League Pitcher of the Month after having gone 6 and 0, with a  
5 0.43 earned run average and one no-hitter; after the 2015  
6 All-Star break, he posted a 0.75 earned run average in 15  
7 starts, which now stands as the lowest in Major League Baseball  
8 history; and

9 WHEREAS, Jake Arrieta continued dominating batters in  
10 September, for which he was named National League Pitcher of  
11 the Month once again after going 4-0 with a cumulative earned  
12 run average of just 0.45; and

13 WHEREAS, On November 18, 2015, Jake Arrieta was named the  
14 National League Cy Young Award winner, becoming only the fifth  
15 Chicago Cubs ace to earn the prominent honor and the first  
16 since Greg Maddux in 1992; and

17 WHEREAS, The success that Jake Arrieta commanded this  
18 season played a major role in leading the Cubs to their first  
19 playoff appearance since 2008, and the first Cubs appearance in  
20 the National League Championship Series since 2003; and

21 WHEREAS, Jake Arrieta, along with Rookie of the Year, Kris

1 Bryant, Manager of the Year, Joe Maddon, and fellow teammates,  
2 brought a new sense of pride and joy to the North Side; and

3 WHEREAS, The victories of Jake Arrieta and the Chicago Cubs  
4 this season have fans across the country looking forward to  
5 continued success and excitement coming from the Friendly  
6 Confines; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
8 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
9 congratulate Jake Arrieta of the Chicago Cubs on being named  
10 the National League Cy Young Award winner and wish him repeated  
11 success in the future; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
13 delivered to Jake Arrieta as a symbol of our appreciation.