



HR0523

LRB102 21055 ECR 30005 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Soon after World War I, many returning troops in Irving were interested in sports and were looking for a place to play and a clubhouse in which they could gather; and

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WHEREAS, A vacant two room school house, Irving School, caught the soldiers' attention; after approaching the local school board to inquire about the building, the school board asked for a list of club officers; the list of officers presented to the school board included President Roy Anderson, Vice President Isaac Berro, Treasurer Anton Bombassano, Financial Secretary Henry Bertagnoli, Corresponding Secretary Val Broadwell, and Trustees Louis Schorrie, Charles Berro, Lester Peterson, Howard Lapping, and Charles Fallinske; and

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WHEREAS, The local school board was satisfied and drafted a lease for the empty school; on November 14, 1921, the building became the Irving Athletic Club (The Club); and

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WHEREAS, Later, the Irving Athletic Club members discovered that the building was to be auctioned; with the help of Frank J. "Cookie" Gospodaric, who supplied the \$7,500 needed, the group was able to keep the building; and

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WHEREAS, To repay the debt, the Irving Athletic Club held

1 a number of competitive sports, including basketball, soccer,
2 baseball, football, track and field, wrestling, and boxing,
3 which drew a large number of paying spectators; the Club also
4 hosted a 10 mile marathon in the 1920s; and

5 WHEREAS, In 1931, the Irving Athletic Club held a banquet
6 to honor the burning of the mortgage, and the Club has been
7 members owned ever since; therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
9 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
10 we recognize the 100th anniversary of the Irving Athletic
11 Club; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
13 presented to the Irving Athletic Club as a symbol of our esteem
14 and respect.