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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of 3 Representatives wish to congratulate the Kankakee High School 4 girls track and field team, the Lady Kays, on the occasion of 5 winning the IHSA Class 2A Finals; and

WHEREAS, The Lady Kays scored 74 points, earning 23 more than the runner-up, University High School; the team won six events, with seven athletes earning a combined 17 medals across seven events; and

WHEREAS, The Lady Kays are comprised of many talented kids; the breakout star was freshman Naomi Bey-Osborne, who won four titles, including individually in the 200-meter dash with a time of 25.22 seconds and the 400-meter dash with a time of 56.53 and as the anchor of the 4x100-meter relay with a time of 48.35 seconds and the 4x400-meter relay with a time of 3 minutes and 57.93 seconds; the team's other individual champion was sophomore long jumper Na'Kyrah Cooks, who won first place in long jump with a distance of 5.44 meters; also earning points individually was junior Nevaeh Lowe, who took third in both the 100-meter dash with a time of 12.68 seconds and the 200-meter dash with a time of 25.75 seconds, and she also anchored the winning 4x200-meter relay with a time of one minute and 41.65 seconds and ran the second leg on the

- 1 first-place 4x400-meter relay; sophomore Aniya Lewis was
- 2 disqualified after an apparent third-place finish in the
- 3 400-meter dash but returned to run the second leg of the
- 4 4x400-meter relay; seniors Sydney Ramsey, Saniah Stewart, and
- 5 Jakia Autman also contributed to the relays; and
- 6 WHEREAS, The Lady Kays were also joined in celebrations
- 7 with the Kankakee High School boys track team, the Chief Kays,
- 8 as they too won the IHSA Class 2A Finals, marking the first
- 9 team state championships ever won by Kankakee High School; and
- 10 WHEREAS, The Lady Kays and Chief Kays are not only special
- but also inspirational; the teams were sadly hit with the loss
- 12 of two assistant coaches, Jemiya Bates and Chwan Wilson, with
- 13 Coach Bates dying of brain cancer and Coach Wilson passing due
- 14 to COVID-19 complications; these teams took their late
- 15 coaches' passion and love to heart, making them both proud by
- 16 working together to overcome their competition; and
- 17 WHEREAS, The Lady Kays were led by Head Coach Marques
- 18 Lowe, Assistant Coaches Erica Baptist, the late Jemiya Bates,
- 19 Sarah Ganster, Rich Olmstead, and the late Chwan Wilson, and
- 20 Meet Director Kurt Weigt; and
- 21 WHEREAS, The Lady Kays' achievement and the memories made
- in the process will be celebrated for years to come; the team,

- 1 together with those that love them dearly, will always cherish
- 2 this moment; therefore, be it
- 3 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
- 4 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
- 5 we congratulate the Kankakee High School girls track and field
- 6 team, the Lady Kays, on winning the IHSA Class 2A Finals; and
- 7 be it further
- 8 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
- 9 presented to the Lady Kays as an expression of our esteem and
- 10 respect.