



HR0516

LRB103 35374 LAW 65439 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate Charles Randall "Chuck"
4 Melton II on the occasion of his serving as a member of Team
5 USA Wheelchair Rugby for a decade and being team captain for
6 six years; and

7 WHEREAS, Chuck Melton moved to Hoyleton in May 2001 and
8 worked at Nascote Industries, providing industrial cleaning
9 services within the automotive plant; and

10 WHEREAS, Chuck Melton suffered a life-altering accident in
11 2002, severing his spinal cord and losing the use of his legs
12 and partial use of his hands, while a father of two young
13 children with a third on the way; and

14 WHEREAS, Chuck Melton attended Kaskaskia College and
15 became involved in many organizations that promote physical
16 activity for individuals with physical limitations, including
17 Paraquad, which champions equity and independence for people
18 with disabilities through services, partnerships, education,
19 and advocacy, and the Disabled Athlete Sports Association,
20 which empowers individuals with physical disabilities to find
21 their inner athlete through adaptive sports and fitness; his
22 early experiences with these groups provided him with

1 structure and strength after his accident, teaching him many
2 life lessons; and

3 WHEREAS, After being introduced to the sport of wheelchair
4 rugby, Chuck Melton spent many years and many long hours
5 training with his family by his side; he played for the St.
6 Louis wheelchair rugby team, the Spartans, for five years
7 before deciding to advance to the national level; and

8 WHEREAS, Chuck Melton served on the developmental team in
9 2011 before being invited to try out for the US National
10 Wheelchair Rugby team, defying all odds when he was named to
11 the team after his first attempt in 2012; and

12 WHEREAS, Chuck Melton made the 16-player roster on Team
13 USA in 2012 but was not selected for the 12-person roster for
14 the London 2012 Paralympic Games; and

15 WHEREAS, Chuck Melton continued to diligently train and
16 hone his skills while dedicating his attention to leading
17 others who had suffered life-altering injuries; through great
18 determination and a positive attitude, he strove to represent
19 his nation as a member of Team USA, and he proceeded to be
20 selected by his peers to serve as captain from 2017 through
21 2023; and

1 WHEREAS, While representing Team USA for a decade, Chuck
2 Melton has accumulated many medals and honors over the course
3 his athletic career; and

4 WHEREAS, Chuck Melton played in both the Rio 2016
5 Paralympic Games and Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games, earning a
6 silver medal in both tournaments; and

7 WHEREAS, Chuck Melton also earned a gold medal in the 2019
8 Parapan American Games in Lima, Peru, and he has played in
9 three World Championship tournaments, Denmark 2014, Australia
10 2018, and Denmark 2022, where he earned two bronze medals and a
11 silver medal for the US National team, respectively; and

12 WHEREAS, Chuck Melton works and trains at CrossFit
13 Centralia, working with both adaptive and able-bodied athletes
14 to push themselves to transform their bodies and their lives
15 through exercise and the camaraderie of others; he has
16 obtained a Level 1 CrossFit credential and works to inspire
17 and coach others; and

18 WHEREAS, Chuck Melton is also a member of the Screen
19 Actors Guild and can be seen on the NCIS New Orleans episode
20 "In Plain Sight" that frequently airs on CBS; and

21 WHEREAS, Chuck Melton is the husband of Kelly and the

1 father of Blake, Bailey, and Addison; therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
3 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
4 we congratulate Charles Randall "Chuck" Melton II on
5 representing our great nation as a member of Team USA
6 Wheelchair Rugby for a decade and serving as captain of the
7 team for six years, and we thank him for all the hard work he
8 has done for those living with disabilities; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
10 presented to Chuck Melton as a symbol of our respect and
11 esteem.