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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate the Saint Xavier
4 University football team, the Cougars, on winning the 2011 NAIA
5 National Championship; and

6 WHEREAS, The Cougars won the championship on December 17,
7 2011 in Rome, Georgia; it was their first national championship
8 in the 41-year history of Saint Xavier University Athletics and
9 the first college football national title for a Chicago team
10 since 1913; and

11 WHEREAS, The Cougars are also the first college football
12 team in the State of Illinois to win a national championship
13 since Augustana College won a title in 1986; and

14 WHEREAS, The Saint Xavier University football team is
15 fairly new, starting in 1993; from those humble beginnings,
16 Coach Mike Feminis has built a solid program with many Chicago
17 area players; the team has made it to the playoffs in 2006,
18 2009, and 2010; and

19 WHEREAS, The Cougars finished the 2011 season with a 14-1
20 overall record and the NAIA's No. 1 ranking in the 2011 NAIA
21 Football Coaches' Postseason Top 25 Poll; and

1 WHEREAS, The Cougars held the No. 1 ranking for 8 weeks
2 during the regular season, marking the first time a varsity
3 team has received the top spot in school history; and

4 WHEREAS, A special assembly was held to honor the football
5 team on January 17, 2012 at the Shannon Center; therefore, be
6 it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
8 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
9 we congratulate the Saint Xavier Football team on their
10 national victory and wish them the best in their future
11 endeavors; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
13 presented to Head Coach Mike Feminis as a symbol of our respect
14 and esteem.