



HR1049

LRB097 21159 GRL 68643 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, In 1900, Charles "The Old Roman" Comiskey became
3 involved in the birth and development of the American League;
4 in January of 1900, Comiskey became the owner of the Chicago
5 White Stockings and moved the franchise to Chicago to be a part
6 of the newly formed League; and

7 WHEREAS, As the White Stockings, the team played the
8 first-ever game of the American League on April 21, 1900; and

9 WHEREAS, The people of Chicago soon shortened the team's
10 name to "White Sox"; the new name was accepted by the Comiskey
11 family and eventually became the team's official name; and

12 WHEREAS, In 1910, Charles Comiskey oversaw the building of
13 Comiskey Park, the home of the White Sox for more than 8
14 decades; Comiskey served as the owner of the team until his
15 death in 1931; and

16 WHEREAS, J. Louis Comiskey, Charles' only child, inherited
17 and owned the team until his death in 1939; ownership of the
18 Chicago White Sox was then passed onto his wife, Grace; and

19 WHEREAS, Grace Comiskey served as the owner of the Chicago
20 White Sox from 1939 to 1956; she was baseball's second female

1 executive and the first in the American League; and

2 WHEREAS, Under the ownership of Grace Comiskey, the White
3 Sox signed Minnie Minoso, the team's first African-American
4 player, and Luis Aparicio, the league's first Hispanic American
5 Rookie of the Year winner; and

6 WHEREAS, Grace Comiskey passed away in 1956, leaving the
7 controlling share of the team to her first child, Dorothy
8 Comiskey Rigney, the wife of former White Sox pitcher John
9 Rigney; and

10 WHEREAS, Dorothy Comiskey Rigney, along with her mother,
11 was a sports pioneer, being one of the few women to have served
12 as principal owner of a Major League Baseball team; and

13 WHEREAS, After the 1958 season, Dorothy Comiskey Rigney
14 sold the White Sox to Bill Veeck, ending the Comiskey family's
15 58-year control of the franchise; and

16 WHEREAS, John and Dorothy are the parents of Illinois State
17 Representative Patti Bellock; therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
19 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
20 we recognize the legacy of the Comiskey family and the family's

1 contribution to the City of Chicago and the State of Illinois;
2 and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That we honor the history made by Grace and
4 Dorothy Comiskey as two of the first women to have served as
5 owners of a Major League Baseball team; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
7 presented to Illinois State Representative Patti Bellock as a
8 symbol of our great esteem and respect.