



HJ0090

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1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, James Howard "Jim" Thome played for 22 seasons
3 from 1991 to 2012 for Major League Baseball 6 teams, including
4 the Cleveland Indians, Philadelphia Phillies, Chicago White
5 Sox, Los Angeles Dodgers, Minnesota Twins, and Baltimore
6 Orioles; and

7 WHEREAS, Jim Thome was born to parents Joyce and Charles
8 Thome and raised in Peoria County; he began playing baseball
9 with the West Peoria Little League and then moved on to
10 Limestone Community High School in Bartonville, where he
11 achieved All-State honors as a baseball shortstop; following
12 his high school graduation, he played baseball at Illinois
13 Central College in East Peoria for one season before being
14 drafted by the Cleveland Indians in 1989; and

15 WHEREAS, Jim Thome officially retired from the Cleveland
16 Indians in 2014, accumulating a .276 batting average, 2,328
17 hits, 612 home runs, and 1,699 runs batted in; he is the 8th
18 player in baseball history to reach 612 home runs; and

19 WHEREAS, Jim Thome accumulated the following career
20 highlights: 5-time All Star in 1997, 1998, 1999, 2004, and
21 2006, the Silver Slugger Award in 1996, American League
22 Comeback Player of the Year in 2006, the Roberto Clemente Award

1 in 2002, and the National League home run champion in 2003; he
2 was inducted into the Greater Peoria Area Sports Hall of Fame
3 in 2015; and

4 WHEREAS, Jim Thome is known for his positive attitude and
5 outgoing personality as well as his philanthropic activities,
6 which have earned him 2 Marvin Miller Man of the Year Awards
7 and the Lou Gehrig Memorial Award; he was also known for his
8 willingness to sign autographs for fans; and

9 WHEREAS, Jim Thome now works in an executive position with
10 the Chicago White Sox; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
12 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
13 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we designate Illinois Route 24,
14 beginning at the intersection of South Adams Street and
15 Illinois Route 24 in Bartonville and ending at the intersection
16 of Griswold Street and Route 24 in Peoria, as the "Jim Thome
17 Highway"; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, The Illinois Department of Transportation is
19 requested to erect at suitable locations, as designated by the
20 James Howard Thome Committee and consistent with State and
21 Federal regulations, appropriate plaques or signs giving
22 notice of the name of the "Jim Thome Highway"; and be it

1 further

2 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
3 presented to the Secretary of the Illinois Department of
4 Transportation and James Howard "Jim" Thome.