



HR0717

LRB099 13796 GRL 37769 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the passing of Walter
4 William Pierce, better known to White Sox fans and all who love
5 baseball as Billy Pierce; and

6 WHEREAS, Billy Pierce's 18-year career in Major League
7 baseball is best known for his 13 years as a pitcher for the
8 Chicago White Sox; and

9 WHEREAS, Billy Pierce was a 7-time All Star with the White
10 Sox, including seasons in which he led the American League in
11 complete games, wins, earned run average, and strikeouts; and

12 WHEREAS, The White Sox paid tribute to Billy Pierce in
13 1987, retiring his number 19 in recognition of his
14 accomplishments; and

15 WHEREAS, Billy Pierce and his wife Gloria settled in
16 Evergreen Park in 1962, where they raised their 3 children,
17 William, Patricia, and Robert; and

18 WHEREAS, Billy Pierce was also committed to the fight
19 against cancer, serving as a committee member of Chicago
20 Baseball Cancer Charities for 46 years and acting as president

1 of the group for 20 years following the death of teammate
2 Nellie Fox; and

3 WHEREAS, Billy Pierce was an active member of his
4 community, making frequent public appearances in the Chicago
5 area on behalf of the White Sox and earning the distinction of
6 33rd Degree Mason at his Evergreen Park Lodge; and

7 WHEREAS, Billy Pierce passed away on July 31, 2015 at the
8 age of 88 after a battle with gallbladder cancer; and

9 WHEREAS, Billy Pierce will be remembered throughout the
10 community he loved as a steadfast ambassador of the game of
11 baseball and a committed humanitarian; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
13 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
14 we, along with his family and friends, honor and mourn the
15 passing of Walter William "Billy" Pierce; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
17 presented to the family of Walter William "Billy" Pierce as a
18 symbol of our deep appreciation of his service to his country
19 and his community.