



HR0546

LRB103 36299 MST 66396 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Heisman Trophy is awarded annually by the
3 Heisman Trophy Trust to recognize the best college football
4 player in the United States and was first awarded to Jay
5 Berwanger, representing the University of Chicago Maroons; and

6 WHEREAS, Reggie Bush, representing the University of
7 Southern California (USC) Trojans, was awarded the Heisman
8 Trophy in 2005 amidst consecutive National Championship Game
9 appearances for the Trojans and after having what is regarded
10 as one of the greatest seasons by a player in college football
11 history; and

12 WHEREAS, In 2006, the National Collegiate Athletic
13 Association (NCAA) began investigating the Trojans' football
14 program for alleged violations of NCAA rules and regulations,
15 culminating in a report alleging that Reggie Bush's family
16 received impermissible benefits related to a potential future
17 marketing agreement but not that Reggie Bush himself had
18 received benefits for participating in athletics; and

19 WHEREAS, In 2010, the NCAA declared that Reggie Bush's
20 statistics and the wins of the Trojans' football program would
21 be vacated for the 2005 season, leading to the revocation of
22 his Heisman Trophy award; and

1 WHEREAS, California courts at the trial and appellate
2 level later found that the NCAA's report was false,
3 misleading, and unreliable; and

4 WHEREAS, Laws across the country, including in Illinois,
5 and updated NCAA rules now allow the type of marketing
6 agreements that were previously at question in alleged rules
7 violations by Reggie Bush and USC; and

8 WHEREAS, Under the rules of the Heisman Trophy Trust,
9 Reggie Bush's Heisman Trophy award cannot be restored until
10 the NCAA reinstates his statistics for the 2005 season;
11 therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
13 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
14 we urge the NCAA to admit the flaws in its investigation of
15 Reggie Bush and restore his statistics for the 2005 season;
16 and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That we urge the Heisman Trophy Trust to restore
18 Reggie Bush's Heisman Trophy award; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
20 presented to NCAA President Charlie Baker, Heisman Trophy

1 Trust President Michael Comerford, and Reggie Bush.