



HR0180

LRB104 12702 LAW 23582 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2        WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3        Representatives wish to congratulate Olivia Smoliga on her  
4        accomplishments as a two-time Olympian and on the creation of  
5        In Depth Swim Academy; and

6        WHEREAS, Olivia Smoliga was born to Tom and Ela Smoliga on  
7        October 12, 1994; in her youth, she swam for the Glenview Titan  
8        Aquatic Club; she attended Glenbrook South High School; during  
9        her senior year at the Illinois High School Association State  
10       Championships in November 2012, she broke the national high  
11       school records in the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 51.43  
12       and the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 21.99, becoming the  
13       first high school female to break 22 seconds; she then  
14       attended the University of Georgia, where she swam on the  
15       Georgia Bulldogs swimming and diving team for coach Jack  
16       Bauerle and played an integral role in the team achieving two  
17       NCAA titles; and

18       WHEREAS, Olivia Smoliga's success continued at the 2012  
19       FINA Short Course World Championships, where she won a total  
20       of four medals, which included two gold, one silver, and one  
21       bronze; she proceeded to win gold in the 50-yard freestyle and  
22       bronze in the 400-yard medley relay at the 2013 NCAA Women's  
23       Division I Swimming and Diving Championships; despite battling

1 mononucleosis, she qualified for the 2015 Pan American Games,  
2 where she won the silver in the 100-meter backstroke with a  
3 time of 1:00.06, her third fastest time ever; and

4 WHEREAS, Olivia Smoliga qualified for the Olympics by  
5 winning the 100-meter backstroke with a time of 59.02, beating  
6 the prior two gold medalists and securing her spot on Team USA  
7 for the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; while  
8 there, she finished sixth in the individual 100-meter  
9 backstroke with a time of 58.95, a personal best; she also swam  
10 on the prelims relay of the 4×100-meter medley relay, and she  
11 won a gold medal when the finals lineup of Kathleen Baker,  
12 Lilly King, Dana Vollmer, and Simone Manuel achieved first,  
13 securing her first of many Olympic medals; and

14 WHEREAS, Olivia Smoliga won a record eight gold medals  
15 while competing at the 2018 World Championships in Hangzhou,  
16 China, setting a new Guinness World Record for the "most  
17 number of gold medals won at a single FINA World  
18 Championships" and going eight-for-eight at the championships,  
19 winning the gold medal in every event she raced; she then won  
20 her first individual long course world medal at the 2019 World  
21 Aquatics Championships in Gwangju, South Korea, achieving  
22 third in a very tight 100 back field with a time of 58.91; she  
23 followed this achievement by winning her first long course  
24 title in the 50 back, touching the wall first in a time of

1 27.33, which also broke her own American record; and

2 WHEREAS, Olivia Smoliga, after qualifying for the 2020  
3 Summer Olympics in Tokyo, Japan, once again attended as a  
4 member of Team USA, where she swam as the lead-off leg during  
5 the prelims of the 4x100 Freestyle Relay, splitting a time of a  
6 54.06 and securing a bronze medal in the finals; that same  
7 year, she was also a member of the championship-winning Cali  
8 Condors team, previously part of the inaugural International  
9 Swimming League, and she broke her own American records in the  
10 50-meter backstroke and 100-meter backstroke; and

11 WHEREAS, Olivia Smoliga, to help raise the next generation  
12 of American swimmers and help them achieve their own Olympic  
13 dreams, has started In Depth Swim Academy; through this new  
14 venture, she is determined not only to help young swimmers  
15 attain athletic greatness but also personal growth and  
16 empowerment by leading swimming clinics and classroom sessions  
17 designed to encompass every aspect of the athlete's journey;  
18 through the academy, she guides students in workshops to help  
19 them visualize and accomplish their goals while providing  
20 high-level training, filming, and stroke evaluation; she hopes  
21 to create a community of athletes determined to pursue their  
22 dreams in a setting that encourages their growth; therefore,  
23 be it

1           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
2 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
3 we congratulate Olivia Smoliga on her accomplishments as a  
4 two-time Olympian and on establishing In Depth Swim Academy to  
5 assist other Americans in achieving their Olympic dreams, and  
6 we wish her continued success in her future endeavors; and be  
7 it further

8           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
9 presented to Olivia Smoliga as an expression of our esteem and  
10 respect.