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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, Frank Thomas is widely regarded as one of the  
3 greatest players in the history of Major League Baseball and  
4 one of the most iconic athletes ever to represent the City of  
5 Chicago; and

6           WHEREAS, Frank Thomas spent the majority of his  
7 illustrious career with the Chicago White Sox, where he became  
8 a cornerstone of the franchise and a defining figure in the  
9 modern era of the sport; and

10           WHEREAS, Frank Thomas was among the most dominant  
11 offensive players of his generation, combining elite power,  
12 plate discipline, and consistency at a level rarely seen in  
13 Major League Baseball history; and

14           WHEREAS, Frank Thomas posted a lifetime batting average  
15 above .300, recorded over 500 doubles and nearly 450 home  
16 runs, and reached base at an exceptional rate during his  
17 career, ranking him among the all-time leaders in on-base  
18 percentage; and

19           WHEREAS, Frank Thomas achieved the rare distinction of  
20 winning back-to-back American League Most Valuable Player  
21 awards, reflecting not only statistical excellence but

1 sustained impact on winning at the highest level of  
2 competition; and

3 WHEREAS, Frank Thomas was widely respected for his  
4 approach to the game and was known for controlling the strike  
5 zone, punishing mistakes, and serving as a constant presence  
6 in the heart of the lineup for more than a decade; and

7 WHEREAS, Frank Thomas's offensive production and  
8 durability placed him among the most feared hitters of his  
9 era, and his performance helped define the competitive  
10 identity of the Chicago White Sox during the 1990s and early  
11 2000s; and

12 WHEREAS, Frank Thomas's body of work on the field earned  
13 him election to the National Baseball Hall of Fame on the first  
14 ballot, an honor reserved for the most exceptional players in  
15 the history of the sport; and

16 WHEREAS, Frank Thomas distinguished himself throughout his  
17 career through extraordinary athletic achievement, including  
18 election to the National Baseball Hall of Fame, earning two  
19 American League Most Valuable Player awards, multiple All-Star  
20 selections, and establishing himself as a franchise leader in  
21 numerous offensive categories; and

1           WHEREAS, Frank Thomas exemplified excellence, consistency,  
2           and professionalism over a sustained career, earning the  
3           respect of teammates, opponents, fans, and the broader  
4           baseball community; and

5           WHEREAS, Frank Thomas is a trailblazing Black athlete who  
6           helped shape the legacy of Black excellence in professional  
7           sports and served as a role model whose impact extended beyond  
8           the playing field; and

9           WHEREAS, Frank Thomas's leadership, integrity, and  
10          commitment to excellence have left an enduring mark on  
11          Chicago's sports history and continue to inspire future  
12          generations of athletes and fans across Illinois and the  
13          nation; therefore, be it

14          RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
15          HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
16          we congratulate Frank Thomas for his extraordinary career, his  
17          lasting contributions to the game of baseball, and his  
18          profound impact on the City of Chicago and the State of  
19          Illinois; and be it further

20          RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
21          presented to Frank Thomas as an expression of our respect,  
22          admiration, and appreciation.