



HR0698

LRB104 21005 RMO 34889 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, Wendell Edward Young was born on August 1, 1963  
3           in Halifax, Nova Scotia; as a young Haligonian, he was  
4           naturally thrown into the world of Halifax hockey, where  
5           excellence is nurtured, and began playing defense at five  
6           years of age; and

7           WHEREAS, In his second year of play at age six, the team  
8           faced a crisis when a snowstorm blocked their usual goalie  
9           from making a playoff game; the coach needed to find a  
10          substitute on short notice and asked for a volunteer to step  
11          forward; Wendell Young was the only boy on the team who did not  
12          volunteer, but the coach, knowing that Wendell's older brother  
13          was a goalie, drafted him anyway to guard the net; and

14          WHEREAS, As a scratch goalie, Wendell Young decided to  
15          switch roles and was able to start exercising his growing  
16          skill set at age seven; he admired Gilles Meloche of the  
17          Chicago Blackhawks and also followed the careers of the  
18          Bruins' Gerry Cheevers and Eddie Johnston; and

19          WHEREAS, In the Nova Scotia U18 Major Hockey League, known  
20          at the time as the Major Midget Hockey League, and then the  
21          Ontario Hockey League, Wendell Young was a hard worker who was  
22          always willing to play goalie for any position player needing

1 practice time; and

2 WHEREAS, Wendell Young was called up to the National  
3 Hockey League (NHL) to play as a goalie in the 1985-1986  
4 season, continuing in that league with several teams through  
5 the 1993-1994 season; and

6 WHEREAS, Wendell Young was with the Pittsburgh Penguins as  
7 a goalie for their 1990-1991 and 1991-1992 seasons, helping  
8 the team with their winning, back-to-back Stanley Cup efforts;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Wendell Young was one of the final players able  
11 to enjoy the past tradition of players on the winning team  
12 rotating possession of the Stanley Cup trophy; he brought the  
13 Cup to his childhood home, which was still his mother and  
14 father's house, where it was placed on the back porch for  
15 pictures; and

16 WHEREAS, Continuing what would become an 18-season playing  
17 career in professional hockey, Wendell Young played for the  
18 Chicago Wolves from the 1994-1995 season through the 2000-2001  
19 season, finding himself amongst dedicated Illinois hockey fans  
20 at the Allstate Arena in Rosemont; and

21 WHEREAS, As a Chicago-based player in the International

1 Hockey League (IHL), Wendell Young found his teammates were  
2 also friends who enjoyed experiencing the flow of the game  
3 together; and

4 WHEREAS, During his time playing with the Chicago Wolves,  
5 the team won four division titles, three conference titles,  
6 one regular-season title, and two Turner Cups; in the  
7 2000-2001 season, Wendell Young was honored as the IHL Man of  
8 the Year; and

9 WHEREAS, When the Chicago Wolves joined the American  
10 Hockey League (AHL) during the 2001-2002 season, the club  
11 chose Wendell Young's number 1 jersey as the first retired  
12 number in franchise history; in the number retirement ceremony  
13 held December 1, 2001, the jersey was raised to the rafters of  
14 the Allstate Arena, where it remains almost a quarter century  
15 later; and

16 WHEREAS, This jersey number retirement reflects Wendell  
17 Young's Chicago Wolves record of 322 games, 169 wins with 16  
18 shutouts, 8,467 saves, and 17,912 minutes between the pipes;  
19 and

20 WHEREAS, After hanging up his skates, Wendell Young turned  
21 first to goaltender coaching, then team coaching, and then to  
22 sports management, returning to the Chicago Wolves and

1 becoming their assistant coach and then their general manager;  
2 as the Wolves' general manager from 2009 until the end of the  
3 2024 season, he organizationally led the Calder Cup Finals  
4 seasons of 2018-2019 and 2021-2022, with his Chicago Wolves  
5 winning the Cup in 2022; and

6 WHEREAS, On May 3, 2024, the Chicago Wolves named Wendell  
7 Young as their Vice Chairman/Governor; and

8 WHEREAS, Wendell Young is the only individual in hockey  
9 history to have won the Memorial Cup, the Calder Cup, the  
10 Stanley Cup, and the Turner Cup, representing four facets of  
11 an all-time career in the most beautiful game played on ice;  
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Wendell Young was inducted into the Class of 2026  
14 of the AHL Hall of Fame, along with Chris Bourque, Alexandre  
15 Giroux, and Jim Wiemer, in a ceremony held in Rockford on  
16 February 11, 2026; and

17 WHEREAS, Athletic feats, whether blazing and unforgettable  
18 or durable and team-consistent, bring all of us together to  
19 see things that will not fade; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
21 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that

1 we congratulate Wendell Edward Young on his exceptional career  
2 as a player, coach, manager, and executive; and be it further

3       RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be presented to  
4 Wendell Young, Vice Chairman/Governor of the Chicago Wolves.