



HR0872

LRB104 21743 MST 37401 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate the University of
4 Illinois women's and men's wheelchair basketball teams on
5 their performance at the 2026 National Wheelchair Basketball
6 Association (NWBA) Intercollegiate Wheelchair Basketball
7 National Championships; and

8 WHEREAS, The women's and men's wheelchair basketball teams
9 both achieved third-place finishes at the 2026 NWBA National
10 Championships, which were held in Tucson, Arizona and brought
11 together elite collegiate wheelchair basketball programs from
12 across the United States to compete at the highest level of
13 adaptive intercollegiate athletics; and

14 WHEREAS, Both teams represent the University of Illinois
15 Division of Disability Resources and Educational Services, the
16 oldest and original collegiate wheelchair basketball program
17 in the world, with a proud 77-year history of leadership,
18 excellence, and innovation in the sport; and

19 WHEREAS, The University of Illinois wheelchair basketball
20 program is widely recognized as the birthplace of collegiate
21 wheelchair basketball and played a foundational role in the
22 development and growth of the National Wheelchair Basketball

1 Association; and

2 WHEREAS, The University of Illinois women's wheelchair
3 basketball team made history in 1970 as the first all-women's
4 wheelchair basketball team in the world, further advancing
5 opportunities for women in adaptive athletics; and

6 WHEREAS, The members of the University of Illinois women's
7 wheelchair basketball team include Head Coach Stephanie
8 Wheeler; assistant coaches, Matt Poland, Marlee Wagstaff, and
9 Eubin Ham; athletic trainer, Jan Wenke; players, Amelia
10 Stotts, Mary Wagstaff, Kylee Koenig, Ava Finger, Bethany
11 Johnson, Morgan McCammon, Kendall Speaks, Josie Portell, Maya
12 Campbell, Abbie Counts, and Ritvika Kondakrindi; and managers,
13 Rachel Divan, O'Tice Lewis, James Shafer, Mia Lozada, VazQues
14 Johnson, Larry Parker, and Cavaurion Vinson; and

15 WHEREAS, The members of the University of Illinois men's
16 wheelchair basketball team include Head Coach Jacob Tyree;
17 assistant coaches, Matt Poland and Eubin Ham; athletic
18 trainer, Jan Wenke; players, Sebastian Milan, Grant Pierce,
19 Jack Binsfeld, Alessandro Pintor, Tanner Adkins, Ryan
20 Fitzpatrick, Gavin Ford, Martrell Stevens, John Matthew Davis,
21 Mohamed Moalim, Noah Eckelberg, Joshua Pierce, and Michael
22 Guiney; and managers, Rachel Divan, O'Tice Lewis, James
23 Shafer, Mia Lozada, VazQues Johnson, Larry Parker, and

1 Cavaurion Vinson; and

2 WHEREAS, The achievements of both the men's and women's
3 teams reflect the dedication, perseverance, sportsmanship, and
4 excellence of the student-athletes, coaches, and support staff
5 who represent the University of Illinois; and

6 WHEREAS, The accomplishments of these teams bring great
7 pride to the State of Illinois and exemplify the strength and
8 impact of inclusive collegiate athletics; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
10 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
11 we congratulate the University of Illinois women's and men's
12 wheelchair basketball teams on their performance at the 2026
13 National Wheelchair Basketball Association Intercollegiate
14 Wheelchair Basketball National Championships; and be it
15 further

16 RESOLVED, That we commend the student-athletes, coaches,
17 staff, and the University of Illinois Division of Disability
18 Resources and Educational Services in the University of
19 Illinois Urbana-Champaign's College of Applied Health Sciences
20 for their continued leadership and historic contributions to
21 the sport of wheelchair basketball; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
2 presented to the University of Illinois women's wheelchair
3 basketball team, the University of Illinois men's wheelchair
4 basketball team, and the Division of Disability Resources and
5 Educational Services as a symbol of our respect and esteem.