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1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 627 2 AMENDMENT NO. . Amend House Resolution 627 by deleting 3 everything after the heading and replacing it with the following: 4 "WHEREAS, Professional sports franchises often relocate to 5 6 address seating capacity limits, restructure debt, modernize 7 the stadium experience, or to gain full authority over a new stadium; and 8 9 WHEREAS, The Chicago Bears professional football team has 10 expressed a willingness to consider property in the Village of Arlington Heights; and 11 12 WHEREAS, Chicago Bears fans have also expressed an openness towards the team moving, with a recent informal 13

survey of 6,000 people by Patch.com indicating that over 70

percent of correspondents said they would like to see the team

1 move; and

WHEREAS, The former Arlington Park presents itself as a fresh development opportunity for the Village of Arlington Heights and the Chicago Bears team; it is conveniently situated off a major highway, just a 20-minute drive from O'Hare International Airport, and, crucially, it has its own dedicated stop on the Metra commuter rail line; and

WHEREAS, The economics of major professional sport leagues have been changing dramatically in recent years; from television and streaming rights to team-sanctioned legalized sports betting, worldwide merchandising deals, and massive media empires, teams have become huge corporate conglomerates with wide-ranging interests far beyond the stadium; and

WHEREAS, The location of the Chicago Bears team matters much less than their name, which implies that the team is one with Chicago so long as the team keeps its namesake; and

WHEREAS, Moving to a stadium in Arlington Heights presents an economic opportunity for a top-of-the-line stadium featuring a higher capacity and burgeoning entertainment, restaurant, and retail industry; the Arlington Heights location also provides easier access via the State's roadways and Metra commuter rail lines; therefore, be it

- 1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
- 2 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
- 3 we urge the owners of the Chicago Bears to move the team to
- 4 Arlington Park; and be it further
- 5 RESOLVED, That the Chicago Bears organization should move
- 6 to the Arlington Heights location without requesting
- 7 incentives from local or state government that would go toward
- 8 stadium construction; and be it further
- 9 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
- 10 delivered to the Chicago Bears organization, Chicago Mayor
- 11 Lori Lightfoot, and Arlington Heights Mayor Tom Hayes."