



HR0761

LRB103 40588 MST 73189 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate the Peoria Rivermen
4 hockey team on winning the 2023 - 2024 SPHL championship; and

5 WHEREAS, The SPHL (Southern Professional Hockey League) is
6 a professional ice hockey independent minor league based in
7 Huntersville, North Carolina, with teams located primarily in
8 the southeastern United States as well as in Illinois and
9 Indiana; and

10 WHEREAS, The Peoria Rivermen's championship win in 2024
11 marks its first championship win on home ice in 25 years; and

12 WHEREAS, The Peoria Rivermen beat the Huntsville Havoc 5
13 to 1 before a crowd of 5,902 at Carver Arena who witnessed a
14 once-in-a-generation moment unfold on the ice as Peoria won
15 the SPHL title for the second time in three years; and

16 WHEREAS, The 42-year old Peoria Rivermen franchise won the
17 title at Carver Arena on the 25th anniversary of the team's
18 ECHL Kelly Cup championship that marked its last cup win
19 secured on home ice; and

20 WHEREAS, The Peoria Rivermen became the first team in SPHL

1 history to lose Game 1 of a best-of-three championship series
2 and come back to win the title; and

3 WHEREAS, The Peoria Rivermen are also believed to be the
4 first team in pro hockey history to win a championship on home
5 ice at all three levels of the minors, having won once at
6 Carver Arena in the old International Hockey League (class
7 AAA), once in the ECHL (class AA), and now once in the SPHL
8 (class A+); and

9 WHEREAS, The Peoria Rivermen last won the SPHL
10 championship title in 2022; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
12 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
13 we congratulate the Peoria Rivermen hockey team on winning the
14 2023 - 2024 SPHL championship, marking its second championship
15 win in the SPHL; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
17 presented to the Peoria Rivermen as a symbol of our respect and
18 esteem.