

Reps. Richardville, Accavitti, Acciavatti, Adamini, Anderson, Bieda, Bisbee, Brandenburg, Brown, Caswell, Caul, Cheeks, Condino, Dennis, DeRoche, DeRossett, Ehardt, Elkins, Emmons, Farhat, Farrah, Gaffney, Garfield, Gieleghem, Gillard, Gleason, Hardman, Hoogendyk, Hopgood, Hummel, Jamnick, Koetje, Kolb, Kooiman, LaJoy, Lipsey, McConico, Meyer, Milosch, Mortimer, Newell, O'Neil, Paletko, Palmer, Pastor, Plakas, Reeves, Rivet, Robertson, Rocca, Sak, Shackleton, Shaffer, Sheltroun, Shulman, Spade, Stakoe, Stallworth, Stewart, Taub, Tobocman, Van Regenmorter, Vander Veen, Voorhees, Waters, Wojno, Woodward, Woronchak and Zelenko offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 154.

A resolution honoring the 1968 Detroit Tigers on the 35th anniversary of their World Championship.

Whereas, The Detroit Tigers of 1968 were the champions of Major League Baseball and this year marks the 35th anniversary of that World Series title. The players on that victorious team were Gates Brown, Les Cain, Dave Campbell, Norm Cash, Bob Christian, Wayne Comer, Pat Dobson, Roy Face, Bill Freehan, Lenny Green, John Hiller, Willie Horton, Al Kaline, Fred Lasher, Mickey Lolich, Tom Matchick, Eddie Mathews, Dick McAuliffe, Denny McLain, Don McMahon, Jim Northrup, Ray Oyler, Daryl Patterson, Jim Price, Dennis Ribant, Jim Rooker, Joe Sparma, Mickey Stanley, Dick Tracewski, Jon Warden, Don Wert, Earl Wilson and John Wyatt. The manager of the ball club was Mayo Smith and his coaches were Tony Cuccinello, Wally Moses, Hal Naragon, Johnny Sain and trainer Bill Behm. The general manager was Jim Campbell. The owner of the team was John Fetzer; and

Whereas, In the course of the 1968 season, the Detroit Tigers compiled a record of 103 wins and 59 losses and were crowned champions of the American League. Their win total was the highest that year in Major League Baseball and they played the St. Louis Cardinals, champions of the National League, for the world championship. The Tigers split the first two games of the series in St. Louis and traveled back to Detroit where they lost games three and four. Facing elimination, they battled back to win game five in Detroit and were victorious in St. Louis in game six. In the deciding seventh game, the Tigers, behind their starting pitcher and World Series MVP Mickey Lolich, defeated Hall of Fame pitcher Bob Gibson and the Cardinals to complete their remarkable comeback and capture the first World Series title for the city of Detroit since 1945; and

Whereas, The city of Detroit suffered terrible turmoil as a result of the 1967 riots. The unrest in the streets consumed entire city blocks, thousands of people were arrested, thousands of businesses were destroyed, and 43 individuals lost their lives. In that chaos and agony, several members of the Detroit Tigers volunteered to help put an end to lawlessness and bring peace to a city on fire; and

Whereas, The Detroit Tigers' incredible season in 1968 provided a much needed boost to morale and helped restore civic pride to the city's inhabitants. The continued success of the Tigers that year held back the flames that many believed were sure to rise again in response to the tumultuous events of 1968, punctuated by the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; and

Whereas, The character, courage and fortitude of the athletes comprising the Detroit Tigers served as positive role models to the people of Detroit. The Tigers resiliency in battling back from the brink of elimination to capture the 1968 World Championship had an immeasurable effect on millions in this state and fans of the Tigers around the world; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body honor the players, coaching staff and management of the 1968 Detroit Tigers baseball team in recognition of not only their outstanding accomplishments on the playing field, but their tremendous contribution to racial reconciliation and harmony to the city of Detroit.