

2017 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 725

Offered January 11, 2017

Commending Justin Scott Grimm.

Patrons—O'Quinn, Bell, John J., Bell, Richard P., Boysko, Byron, Campbell, Carr, Cole, Heretick, Hester, Hope, Kilgore, Krizek, Lindsey, Mullin, Pillion, Plum, Rasoul, Simon, Stolle, Torian, Ware, Watts and Webert; Senators: Carrico, Deeds, McPike, Spruill and Wagner

WHEREAS, Justin Scott Grimm, an alumnus of Virginia High School in Bristol, helped lead the Chicago Cubs to their historic 2016 Major League Baseball World Series victory and break the longest championship drought in American sports history; and

WHEREAS, Justin Grimm played baseball for the Virginia High School Bearcats and the University of Georgia Bulldogs before he was drafted by the Texas Rangers in the fifth round of the 2010 Major League Baseball draft; and

WHEREAS, Justin Grimm joined the Chicago Cubs in 2013 when the team was in the midst of a rebuilding process after it had finished in last place in the National League Central division in 2011; he thrived with the team, becoming the 68th pitcher in league history to strike out four batters in a single inning; and

WHEREAS, the Chicago Cubs had famously not won a World Series since 1908 thanks to the so-called Curse of the Billy Goat, which began when William Sianis, the owner of the Billy Goat Tavern, and the restaurant's billy goat mascot were ejected from Wrigley Field for disturbing other spectators during the 1945 World Series, which the Cubs lost; and

WHEREAS, during the 2016 postseason, Justin Grimm made six appearances for the Chicago Cubs, including in games one, three, and four of the World Series; and

WHEREAS, in the decisive game seven of the World Series, Justin Grimm came on as a relief pitcher and closed out the 8 - 7 victory over the Cleveland Indians; the game stretched to 10 innings after a rain delay, a suitably dramatic end to the 108-year championship drought; and

WHEREAS, Justin Grimm and the Chicago Cubs' victory united Chicago fans young and old, many of whom had waited their entire lives to see their team earn a World Series pennant; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Justin Scott Grimm on winning the 2016 Major League Baseball World Series with the Chicago Cubs; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Justin Scott Grimm as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his historic achievement.

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