

**SUBSTITUTE FOR  
HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 216**

1           A resolution to urge Major League Baseball to continue its  
2 support for minor-league baseball teams.

3           Whereas, Major League Baseball is currently considering a plan  
4 that would include the elimination of 42 minor-league teams; and

5           Whereas, Minor-league baseball teams are major economic  
6 drivers in their communities, providing jobs and tax revenue while  
7 benefiting local business by drawing people into commercial areas.  
8 The elimination of these teams would have a pronounced negative  
9 effect on local businesses and residents whose jobs depend on  
10 gameday activities; and

11           Whereas, Minor-league baseball teams are a source of community  
12 pride and promote local investment and economic development. Some  
13 teams have been a part of their communities for decades. These  
14 communities have invested in their teams, including in stadium



1 infrastructure projects that will be wasted if local teams lose  
2 support; and

3       Whereas, Minor-league baseball teams provide community  
4 benefits beyond economic impact. Minor-league games are affordable  
5 family fun that create untold memories while attending games and  
6 foster a connection to the national pastime. The elimination of  
7 minor-league baseball teams could take these experiences away from  
8 families for which Major League Baseball games are either too  
9 expensive or too far away; and

10       Whereas, Failure to reach a new agreement between Major League  
11 Baseball (MLB) and Minor League Baseball (MiLB) could lead to the  
12 elimination of the affiliations of all minor league teams including  
13 Michigan's three minor league teams: the West Michigan WhiteCaps,  
14 the Lansing Lugnuts, and the Great Lakes Loons; now, therefore, be  
15 it

16       Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we urge Major  
17 League Baseball to continue to negotiate in good faith with Minor  
18 League Baseball to reach a solution that achieves Major League  
19 Baseball's goals without having to eliminate any minor league  
20 affiliations; and be it further

21       Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the  
22 Commissioner of Major League Baseball and the President of Minor  
23 League Baseball.

