

**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.

