

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 153

BY SENATOR MARIONNEAUX

A RESOLUTION

To commend Detroit Tigers pitcher, Armando Galarraga, for his extraordinary talent in pitching a perfect game and his incredible style and grace when a referee's blown call cost him a Major League Baseball perfect game.

WHEREAS, Armando Galarraga and his strong right arm sat down twenty-six Cleveland Indian players in a row that June day in 2010, and was one out from accomplishing a feat that has happened only twenty times in American baseball history; and

WHEREAS, Cleveland Indian Jason Donald connected with a Galarraga pitch at the bottom of the ninth inning, grounding the ball to first baseman Miguel Cabrera, but Cabrera fielded the ball flawlessly and threw it to Galarraga who was covering first for a routine out at first base; and

WHEREAS, umpire Jim Joyce watched the play unfold, studied it for a split second, paused, and called the runner safe at first, much to the amazement of everyone in the stands or watching on television; and

WHEREAS, video replays of the tag by Galarraga clearly show that he caught the ball and touched the base before the runner reached first base, thereby sealing his perfect game performance; and

WHEREAS, baseball fans across America have decried the call as a major mistake by an official in a Major League Baseball contest and have voiced great support for a higher authority to reverse the mistaken ruling; and

WHEREAS, the umpire himself agreed that his on-field ruling was in error after watching video playback; and

WHEREAS, Detroit Tigers pitcher Armando Galarraga accomplished one of the truly remarkable sporting feats only to have a poor ruling rob him of the great distinction he so justly deserved; and

WHEREAS, Armando Galarraga accepted the umpire's call, knowing it was wrong, and carried himself with a professional demeanor and calm dignity that brought great praise and recognition to him and his team for their grace in knowing what happened, accepting the results and preparing for the next contest; and

WHEREAS, perhaps Major League Baseball will benefit from this event and look at and consider the possibility of using instant replay technology to insure that a ruling is beyond doubt.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend its highest commendations to Detroit Tigers pitcher, Armando Galarraga, for his truly remarkable performance in a Major League Baseball contest by pitching a perfect game.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Detroit Tigers pitcher, Armando Galarraga, and to his team in recognition of their great contribution to professional sports.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE