

1 State of Arkansas
2 87th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2009
4
5 By: Representative Nix
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HR 1010

8 **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

9 TO HONOR THE OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS OF CLIFF
10 LEE, MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL'S 2008 AMERICAN LEAGUE
11 CY YOUNG AWARD WINNER.
12

13 **Subtitle**

14 TO HONOR THE OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS OF
15 CLIFF LEE, MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL'S 2008
16 AMERICAN LEAGUE CY YOUNG AWARD WINNER.
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19 WHEREAS, the 2008 major league baseball season began with Benton
20 native Clifton Pfifer Lee competing for the fifth and final starting spot in
21 the pitching rotation of the Cleveland Indians and ended with Lee being
22 nearly unanimously voted the winner of the American League Cy Young Award,
23 the highest honor a major league pitcher can receive; and
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25 WHEREAS, Cliff Lee is the only Arkansan to receive the Cy Young Award
26 since it was first introduced in 1956, and became the first Cleveland Indian
27 since 1974 to win 20 games, compiling a 2008 record of 22 – 3 with a 2.54
28 earned run average and 170 strikeouts in 31 starts; and
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30 WHEREAS, Cliff Lee was selected to start the 2008 All-Star game for
31 the American League, pitching two (2) scoreless innings with three (3)
32 strikeouts in his first All-Star game appearance; and
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34 WHEREAS, Cliff Lee earned several awards following his 2008 season,
35 including the Major League Baseball Players Association's Players Choice
36 Awards (voted by the players themselves) as the American League Comeback



1 Player of the Year Award and the American League Outstanding Pitcher of the
2 Year, the American League Pitcher of the Month for April, The Sporting News
3 Pitcher of the Year Award, and The Sporting News Comeback Player of the Year
4 Award; and

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6 WHEREAS, Cliff Lee played baseball for the University of Arkansas in
7 2000, Meridian (Mississippi) Community College from 1998 to 1999, and was
8 named the 2002 Hog Nation Minor League Player of the Year by hognation.net;
9 and

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11 WHEREAS, Cliff Lee is the son of Steve and Sharon (Benton) Lee, is
12 married to his loving wife, Kristen, and has two children, a son, Jaxon, and
13 a daughter, Maci; and

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15 WHEREAS, Cliff Lee has been very active in the Cleveland community as
16 a member of the Cleveland Indians and was the club's 2005 John Hancock
17 Roberto Clemente Award nominee for his community service; and

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19 WHEREAS, Cliff Lee's contributions in the Cleveland community include
20 working at a free baseball clinic with Cleveland State University for kids
21 from the Reviving Baseball in Inner Cities Program and the Cleveland Baseball
22 Federation; and

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24 WHEREAS, Cliff Lee dedicates time helping Providence House, the Grand
25 Slam Literacy Program, the Major League Lunch Program, Dick's Sporting Goods
26 "Shop with a Pro" Program, and the CIC Golf Outing and Parent-Child Clinics;
27 and

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29 WHEREAS, Cliff Lee and his wife, Kristen, were Honorary Chairs for the
30 Light the Night Walk held in Jacobs Field on September 17, 2006, to raise
31 funds for cancer research and patient services for The Leukemia and Lymphoma
32 Society, their son, Jaxon, being a children's leukemia survivor; and

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34 WHEREAS, upon his return to the State of Arkansas after the 2008
35 season, Cliff Lee immediately went back to doing charitable work in his home
36 state; and

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WHEREAS, Cliff Lee is an active member of the Ralph Bunche Community Action Committee, providing backpacks and school supplies to underprivileged children in Saline County; and

WHEREAS, Cliff Lee is also actively involved with the Arkansas Children’s Hospital, generously donating a grant from the Major League Baseball Association’s Players Trust in connection with the Players Choice American League Comeback Player of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, Cliff Lee is a primary fundraiser and volunteer for the Miracle League of Arkansas at Junior Deputy Park, which brings a special happiness to children with disabilities who enjoy the thrill of playing baseball, and pledged to the Miracle League of Arkansas the prize money he won for being named the American League Pitcher of the Year,

NOW THEREFORE,
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT Cliff Lee be honored not only for his stellar 2008 season and achievement of the 2008 American League Cy Young Award, but also for his charitable work and contributions to his community and the State of Arkansas, and his example as an outstanding role model for public figures and young adults everywhere.