

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Forty-fourth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2000

HOUSE RESOLUTION 2001

A RESOLUTION

HONORING THE ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS BASEBALL TEAM ON WINNING THE NATIONAL LEAGUE WESTERN DIVISION.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Whereas, during the 1999 season, the Arizona Diamondbacks baseball team
2 reached the playoffs in only its second season, marking the shortest time in
3 baseball history that an expansion team has qualified for the postseason
4 playoffs. Under the outstanding leadership and coaching of Buck Showalter,
5 the Diamondbacks finished the regular season with a franchise record one
6 hundred wins. In doing so, the team broke a ninety-six-year record by
7 completing the greatest turnaround in the modern era of Major League
8 Baseball. The team's record one hundred wins capped a remarkable
9 thirty-five-game reversal from its sixty-five wins and ninety-seven losses
10 during the 1998 season; and

11 Whereas, the Arizona Diamondbacks were honored with four team
12 representatives at the All-Star Game in Fenway Park. Matt Williams and Jay
13 Bell were elected to the starting lineup by fan balloting, and Randy Johnson
14 and Luis Gonzalez were each selected as team members by National League
15 All-Star Manager Bruce Bochy; and

16 Whereas, during the 1999 season, Arizona Diamondbacks players earned
17 numerous other awards for their accomplishments. Matt Williams and Randy
18 Johnson each were named National League player-of-the-week on two separate
19 occasions while Steve Finley and Jay Bell achieved the same honor once. In
20 April, Matt Williams won recognition as National League player-of-the-month
21 and Randy Johnson was named National League pitcher-of-the-month in July; and

22 Whereas, several Arizona Diamondbacks players led the National League
23 in statistical categories. Luis Gonzalez led the league with 206 hits and
24 was second in the league with 45 doubles and a .336 batting average. Steve
25 Finley and Tony Womack tied each other for second in the league with ten
26 triples. Tony Womack led the league with 72 stolen bases. Matt Williams was
27 second in the league with 142 runs batted in, while Jay Bell was second in
28 runs scored with 132. Randy Johnson led the league in four different
29 categories, with a 2.48 earned run average, twelve complete games, 271.2
30 innings pitched and an amazing 364 strikeouts; and

31 Whereas, the outstanding seasons of several Diamondbacks players have
32 led to postseason awards. Center fielder Steve Finley won a Rawlings Gold
33 Glove Award for defensive excellence. Randy Johnson won the 1999 National
34 League Cy Young Award. He is now one of only three players to win the Cy
35 Young Award in both the American League and National League; and

36 Whereas, countless individuals throughout Phoenix and Arizona have
37 distinguished themselves as loyal and steadfast Diamondbacks fans. For the
38 second consecutive year, the Diamondbacks broke the three million mark for
39 home game attendance with an average attendance of more than 37,000 at each
40 game. During the championship season, the Diamondbacks drew 3,017,927
41 faithful fans whose dedication and enthusiasm encouraged the team in
42 achieving unprecedented success; and

43 Whereas, the Arizona Diamondbacks players, through their accomplished
44 and inspiring style of play, have represented Arizona with skill and dignity
45 and have earned the respect and admiration of all who know them.

1 Therefore

2 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona:

3 1. That the members of the House of Representatives, on behalf of the
4 citizens of this state, congratulate the Arizona Diamondbacks players and
5 executive staff on their outstanding 1999 season and extend best wishes for
6 their continued success.

7 2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies
8 of this resolution to the Arizona Diamondbacks baseball team.