


Councilmember Anita Bonds

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6 A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

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8 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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10 To recognize and honor the all-female softball team and the coaches who represented the
11 District of Columbia at the 2018 MLB Jenny Finch Classic during the MLB All-Star Game,
12 which was hosted by the Washington Nationals, the Major League Baseball association's Ripken
13 Collegiate Baseball League, and the Philadelphia Phillies baseball team.

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15 WHEREAS, a team of young women athletes, ages 17 and under, from the
16 District of Columbia where selected at open tryouts, alongside members of the DC Elite Senators
17 Softball team and DC Grays collegiate baseball league, to represent the District of Columbia in
18 the 2018 Jennie Finch Classic, the first ever competitive youth softball tournament of the Major
19 League Baseball's youth academies from across the United States;

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21 WHEREAS, the Jennie Finch Class comprises a series of games and activities
22 that take place during the MLB All-Star weekend and provides a platform on which players,
23 coaches, and fans of various academies have the opportunity to share their passions for sports;

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25 WHEREAS, the players of Team D.C. (Aseyah Alexander, Raye Thomas, Taylor
26 Harrison, Kennedy Thomas, Alexis Roberson, Ashleigh Fultz, Heaven Glass, Marakah Dennis,
27 Taylor Ivy, Haile Proctor, Benita Lukos, Samara Johnson, Kennedy Collins, and Courtney
28 Parker, coached by Leanne Cardwell, Gabriela Elvina, Sade Estes) are all participants of the DC
29 Elite Senators and DC Grays RBI Programs, and official community partners of the Washington
30 Nationals Youth Academy where they provide mentorship, skills development assistance, and
31 other support;

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33 WHEREAS, Team D.C. hosted and placed 2nd in the DC Elite Senators and DC Grays
34 RBI Program championship game ending the tournament with a 5-2 record;

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36 WHEREAS, Team D.C. also represented the DC Grays RBI program in the RBI Softball
37 regionals, placing 2nd with a 4-2 record in the 2018 RBI Mid-Atlantic Regionals;

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39 WHEREAS, the members of Team D.C., having all overcome challenges and triumphed

40 in the face of adversity, are role models for the residents of the District of Columbia and serve as
41 softball ambassadors, mentoring youth at the Washington Nationals Youth Academy, the
42 Community Services Foundation, Mammie Johnson Little League, USA Softball and various
43 other youth programs;

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45 WHEREAS, the 2018 DC Elite Senator and DC Grays RBI softball players, as members
46 of the Washington Nationals Academy Jenny Finch softball team, served as softball ambassadors
47 representing softball players from the Washington DC community during the 2018 MLB All-Star
48 weekend;

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50 WHEREAS, Team D.C. has publicly advocated for increased support of softball and
51 other women's sports programming generally in the Washington, D.C. area and believe that
52 these programs help players excel on the field and in the classroom;

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54 WHEREAS, the members of Team DC strive to be the most competitive team
55 representing the Washington, D.C. area on various stages and have gone on to attend and play
56 for the likes of Bowie State University, Brandeis University, Clark Atlanta University, Hampton
57 University, Howard University, Delaware State University, The George Washington University,
58 and Towson University;

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60 WHEREAS, the members of Team DC are registered as "USA Softball Players" and are
61 participants of the MLB Softball Breakthrough Series, a program which identifies next level
62 softball players, and The Elite Development Invitational, a joint effort on the part of Major
63 League Baseball (MLB), former United States National Team players and coaches, and USA
64 Softball to promote the development and exposure of the youth in the game of softball;

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66 WHEREAS, the members of Team D.C. promote Statehood at all events and continue to
67 bring honor to the District of Columbia and the entire nation on and off the field;

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69 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
70 resolution may be cited as the "DC Elite Senators Softball, DC Grays RBI, Washington
71 Nationals Youth Academy Jenny Finch Team Recognition Resolution of 2019".

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73 Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes and honors the team of young
74 women and their coaches, who honorably represented the District of Columbia at the regional
75 and national levels.

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77 Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in
78 the District of Columbia Register.