

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 11

Relating to Eddie Gaedel Day.

Whereas, Edward "Eddie" Carl Gaedel made major league baseball history at Sportsman's Park in St. Louis, Missouri as a member of the St. Louis Browns on August 19, 1951; and

Whereas, in the bottom of the first inning, during the second game of a Sunday afternoon doubleheader against the Detroit Tigers, the St. Louis Browns sent a pinch hitter to the plate, 3'7" Eddie Gaedel, whose 65-pound weight made him the shortest and lightest player in Major League Baseball history; and

Whereas, Eddie Gaedel's historic plate appearance and base on balls following four straight pitches from Bob Cain of the Detroit Tigers remains one of the most legendary events in the history of our national pastime; and

Whereas, Eddie Gaedel's one day professional baseball career came to an abrupt halt several days later when American League president Will Harridge voided Eddie Gaedel's contract; and

Whereas, Eddie Gaedel has a perfect 1.000 on base percentage for his entire career; and

Whereas, on August 19, 2011, the Eddie Gaedel Society was founded in Spokane, Washington to work tirelessly to ensure Eddie Gaedel achieves the immortality he was promised by Bill Veeck, then owner of the St. Louis Browns and current member of the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York; and

Whereas, local chapters of the Eddie Gaedel Society are found in the states of Missouri, California, Illinois, Michigan, Washington, Texas, Rhode Island and in Dublin, Ireland; and

Whereas, these chapters of the Eddie Gaedel Society do noble work and good deeds within their communities; and

Whereas, on August 19, 2018, the eleventh chapter of the Eddie Gaedel Society was founded in Jefferson City, Missouri with the mission of "doing little things to make a big difference"; and

Whereas, the Eddie Gaedel Society - Jefferson City Chapter #10 engages in community service and philanthropic activities to bring joy, spread kindness, and celebrate baseball history in the state of Missouri; and

Whereas, the Eddie Gaedel Society - Jefferson City Chapter #10 has called for the induction of Eddie Gaedel into the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame due to his legendary status in both Missouri baseball history and the history of Major League Baseball:

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the members of the Missouri Senate, One Hundred-Second General Assembly, First Regular Session, the House of Representatives concurring therein, hereby designate January 8th of each year, as "Eddie Gaedel Day" in Missouri; and

Be It Further Resolved that the General Assembly encourages all residents of this state to recognize the lasting legacy that Eddie Gaedel of the St. Louis Browns left on baseball history in our great state and across the nation.

Be It Further Resolved that this resolution be sent to the Governor for his approval or rejection pursuant to the Missouri Constitution.