

1 SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 55
2 INTRODUCED BY A. BLEWETT

3
4 A RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA URGING THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC
5 COMMITTEE TO KEEP WRESTLING AS PART OF THE SUMMER OLYMPICS PROGRAM; AND URGING THE
6 UNITED STATES OLYMPIC COMMITTEE TO CONTINUE SUPPORTING THE EFFORT.

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8 WHEREAS, the executive board of the International Olympic Committee has proposed eliminating the
9 sport of wrestling from the Summer Olympic Games beginning in 2020, a proposal that will be approved or
10 disapproved by the full International Olympic Committee at its September 2013 general assembly; and

11 WHEREAS, wrestling was one of the original sports of the ancient Greek Olympic Games and of the first
12 modern Olympic Games; and

13 WHEREAS, wrestling has been a traditional strength of the United States Olympic team, with 124 medals
14 having been awarded to the United States throughout history; and

15 WHEREAS, the State of Montana has a proud wrestling tradition that has produced Olympians and many
16 celebrated wrestlers, including Kendall Cross, gold medalist in the 1996 Olympics Games; Gene Davis, bronze
17 medalist in the 1976 Olympic Games; Mike Zadick, 2008 Olympic Games participant and 2006 World Silver
18 Medalist; Bill Zadick, 2006 World Champion and 1996 NCAA Champion; and Brandon Eggum, 2001 World Silver
19 Medalist; and

20 WHEREAS, the sport of wrestling builds great strength not only of body but also of character, including
21 the virtues of self-confidence, self-discipline, courage, and sportsmanship; and

22 WHEREAS, wrestling has produced many outstanding national leaders, including United States
23 presidents, United States Supreme Court justices, United States senators, members of the United States
24 Congress, and business and military leaders, as well as many outstanding leaders in the State of Montana; and

25 WHEREAS, there are thousands of student athletes in the State of Montana that participate in wrestling;
26 and

27 WHEREAS, the opportunity to win an Olympic gold medal is the motivation and drive for many wrestlers
28 at different levels of competition, and without that ultimate goal, the sport will suffer at all levels, including high
29 school.

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1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

2 That the Senate hereby urges the International Olympic Committee to keep wrestling as a core sport of
3 the Summer Olympic Games.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Senate thanks the United States Olympic Committee for its
5 continued support of wrestling and urges it to work actively toward retaining wrestling as an Olympic sport.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent by the Secretary of State to the
7 International Olympic Committee, the United States Olympic Committee, and Richard Bender, Executive Director
8 of USA Wrestling.

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