

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 5

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By: **Delegates Wilson and Branch**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2014

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A House Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Changing the Name of the Washington, D.C., Professional Football Team**

3 FOR the purpose of urging the owners of the Washington, D.C., professional football
4 franchise to change the name of the football team.

5 WHEREAS, The Washington, D.C., professional football team has had a proud
6 and storied heritage in the Washington metropolitan area since 1937, bringing tens of
7 millions of friends, families, and communities together for more than 7 decades; and

8 WHEREAS, The term “redskins” has been associated with gruesome acts of
9 genocide, is disparaging to those of Native American heritage, and is not befitting a
10 professional football team with such a proud, honorable, and uplifting tradition,
11 especially a team representing the nation’s capital and playing in Maryland, a State
12 grounded in respect for the dignity of all individuals; and

13 WHEREAS, The unifying force of pride for our Washington, D.C., professional
14 football team should not be undermined by the divisive nature of its name; now,
15 therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That, out of
17 respect for the diverse heritage of this nation, the Washington metropolitan area, and
18 the team’s passionate fans, the Maryland General Assembly urges the owners of the
19 Washington, D.C., professional football franchise to change the name of the football
20 team to a name that is not offensive to Native Americans or any other group; and be it
21 further

22 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
23 Legislative Services to the Honorable Martin O’Malley, Governor of Maryland; the
24 Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; the
25 Honorable Michael E. Busch, Speaker of the House of Delegates; and Daniel Snyder,
26 Majority Owner, Washington Redskins at Redskins Park, 21300 Redskin Park Drive,
27 Ashburn, Virginia 20147.

