

REPRESENTATIVES WEDDINGTON - GROSSMAN

*Honoring the Columbus Crew as the winner of the 2009 Supporters' Shield.*

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Ohio:*

*WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the 128th General Assembly of Ohio are pleased to congratulate the Columbus Crew on winning the 2009 Supporters' Shield as the best team in Major League Soccer throughout the regular season; and*

*WHEREAS, A remarkable group of athletes, the members of the Columbus Crew have combined talent and competitive spirit with the highest ideals of good sportsmanship to establish themselves as a truly exceptional squad. With admirable dedication, they have worked diligently toward attaining ultimate proficiency in soccer, and as a result, they compiled an impressive 13-7-10 record to win the Supporters' Shield for the second consecutive season and the third time overall. In addition, they have drawn international attention for qualifying for and participating in the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 CONCACAF Champions League tournaments; and*

*WHEREAS, The Crew's achievements and leadership are a justifiable source of pride and an excellent reflection on the players, their families, their coaches, and their city. The success of any athletic endeavor depends largely on the ability of the coaches to provide both guidance and inspiration, and in leading the team to victory, Coach Robert Warzycha and his assistants have not only helped each athlete develop his talents to the fullest but also instilled in each a valuable sense of determination, perseverance, and camaraderie; and*

*WHEREAS, The Columbus Crew has become a respected institution in the community. Ohio's representative in Major League Soccer since the inception of the MLS, this franchise has been a vital instrument for economic growth in the Central Ohio area, attracting thousands of visitors each year to the City of Columbus, and 2010 marks the fifteenth season for the team; therefore be it*

*RESOLVED, That we, the members of the House of Representatives of the 128th General Assembly of Ohio, in adopting this Resolution, commend the Columbus Crew on its tremendous 2009 season and extend best wishes for an outstanding 2010 season; and be it further*

*RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit a duly authenticated copy of this Resolution to the Columbus Crew.*