



State Senator Jay Hottinger
Senate Concurrent Resolution 4, Sponsor Testimony
Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee
October 2, 2019

Chairman Coley, Vice-Chairman Huffman, Ranking Member Craig and members of the Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on Senate Concurrent Resolution 4.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 4 would recognize February 11, 2020 as James “Buster” Douglas 42:1 Odds Day and would coincide with the 30th anniversary of Douglas’ heavyweight boxing championship upset of Mike Tyson, at 42:1 odds.

James Buster Douglas was born on April 7, 1960 and grew up in Columbus. He boxed professionally from 1981 until 1999, and retired with a record of thirty-eight wins, six losses, one draw and one no-contest. His most notable win though, was on February 11, 1990 when he challenged heavyweight champion Mike Tyson in Tokyo, Japan. At the time, Tyson had a record of 37-0 and was widely considered to be unbeatable. In fact, Tyson was so heavily favored that only one Las Vegas casino, the Mirage, made odds for the fight – Douglas was a 42 to 1 underdog. Despite the near-impossible odds, Douglas knocked out Tyson in the tenth round of the fight becoming the world heavyweight champion. His defeat of Tyson is regarded as one of the greatest upsets of all time.

This concurrent resolution will recognize the anniversary of the historic upset, but it’s also to celebrate the success of *all* who overcome incredible odds every day and to give hope to anyone who might be struggling.

For these reasons, I urge your favorable consideration on SCR 4.