

2019-J2836

Senate Resolution No. 2836

BY: Senator SKOUFIS

URGING Rob Manfred, Commissioner of Major League Baseball, to open an investigation into whether illegal sign stealing by the Houston Astros organization may have cheated the New York Yankees out of victories in the 2017 and 2019 American League Championship Series

WHEREAS, An investigation by Major League Baseball concluded in January 2020 that the Houston Astros had been illegally using a system of cameras to steal signs during the regular season and the postseason in 2017, and during parts of the regular season in 2018; and

WHEREAS, The cheating by the Astros organization was so pervasive that Major League Baseball took the unusual step of suspending the Manager and the General Manager of the Astros from baseball for a year; and

WHEREAS, Major League Baseball investigated, but could not determine the validity of, allegations that the Astros' sign stealing extended throughout the 2018 and 2019 regular and postseasons; and

WHEREAS, The Astros defeated the New York Yankees in the 2017 American League Championship Series (ALCS), winning all four games played in their home stadium, Minute Maid Park, and defeated the Yankees in the 2019 American League Championship Series; and

WHEREAS, Many players, sports journalists, and fans have questioned whether the Astros' narrow victory in the 2017 ALCS was made possible by their illegal system of sign stealing that was in use at the time, and

whether the Astros' victory in the 2019 ALCS was also made possible by continued use of illegal sign stealing; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to urge Rob Manfred, Commissioner of Major League Baseball, to open an investigation into whether illegal sign stealing by the Houston Astros organization may have cheated the New York Yankees out of victories in the 2017 and 2019 American League Championship Series; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Rob Manfred, Commissioner of Major League Baseball.