

House Resolution 410

By: Representatives Glanton of the 75th, Roberts of the 155th, Williams of the 168th, Clark of the 101st, Dawkins-Haigler of the 91st, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Requesting that the International Olympic Committee keep wrestling in the Olympic Games
2 after the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the executive board of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) reviewed
4 26 sports on its summer program and decided to cut wrestling, stunning the world's wrestlers,
5 who see their sport as popular and steeped in history as old as the Olympics themselves; and

6 WHEREAS, while wrestling will be included at the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, it will
7 not be included in the 2020 Olympic Games; and

8 WHEREAS, the executive board of the IOC voted after reviewing an IOC program
9 commission report that analyzed 39 criteria, including TV ratings, ticket sales, global
10 participation, and popularity; and

11 WHEREAS, according to IOC documents, wrestling ranked "low" in several of the technical
12 criteria; and

13 WHEREAS, however, the decision to phase out wrestling will have a detrimental impact on
14 many teams around the world, including the United States, whose wrestling medals are only
15 outnumbered by swimming and track and field; and

16 WHEREAS, wrestling is also one of the most popular youth sports in the United States, with
17 nearly 275,000 competitors from 2010 to 2011; and

18 WHEREAS, wrestling is a diverse, popular, and historic sport, and it is fitting and proper that
19 the International Olympic Committee keep wrestling in the Olympic Games after the 2016
20 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
22 the members of this body request that the International Olympic Committee keep wrestling
23 in the Olympic Games after the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
25 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the executive committee of
26 the International Olympic Committee.