

House Resolution 1060

By: Representative Hawkins of the 27th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Mr. Phil Niekro and inviting him to be recognized by the House of
2 Representatives; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Niekro is the husband of Nancy Niekro and father of three sons and a
4 record-setting Major League Baseball (MLB) star and humanitarian; and

5 WHEREAS, in 1997, Mr. Niekro received baseball's highest honor by being inducted into
6 the MLB Hall of Fame; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Niekro serves as the 14th best pitcher in the history of MLB wins and he
8 is most known for his infamous knuckleball that he relentlessly used to strike out batters; and

9 WHEREAS, during his professional baseball career, he signed with the Milwaukee Braves
10 in 1958, then with the Atlanta Braves for 18 years; in 1984 and 1985 he played with the New
11 York Yankees and the Cleveland Indians in 1986 and 1987; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Niekro was honored as a New York Yankee All-Star and three-time Atlanta
13 Brave All-Star and his career record includes 864 games pitched, 318 wins, 45 shutouts,
14 3,342 strikeouts, and a 3.35 ERA; and he earned five gold glove awards; and

15 WHEREAS, on September 27, 1987, Mr. Niekro retired from baseball, after pitching his
16 final game as an Atlanta Brave; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Niekro and his brother, Joe Niekro, won 539 games combined, making
18 them MLB's top contenders; and

19 WHEREAS, since retirement, Mr. Niekro has worked as a roving pitching instructor for the
20 Atlanta Braves and as Manager of the Richmond Braves, their AAA affiliate; between

21 1994-1996 he managed the Colorado Silver Bullets and in 1997 became their General
22 Manager; and

23 WHEREAS, along with being an exceptional baseball player, Mr. Niekro is also a
24 humanitarian who formed the Phil Niekro Roasts, Inc. to help raise funds for Spina Bifida
25 and the Edmondson-Telford Center for Children, raised over \$3 million in leukemia research,
26 and received the Lou Gehrig Memorial Award and Roberto Clemente Award for his
27 philanthropy.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
29 the members of this body commend and congratulate Mr. Phil Niekro for his exceptional
30 athletic talent and benevolent spirit of giving and invite him to be recognized by the House
31 of Representatives at a date and time designated by the Speaker of the House.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
33 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. Phil Niekro.