

One Hundred Eighth Congress of the United States of America

AT THE FIRST SESSION

*Begun and held at the City of Washington on Tuesday,
the seventh day of January, two thousand and three*

Concurrent Resolution

Whereas on December 12, 1923, Larry Doby was born in Camden, South Carolina and moved to Paterson, New Jersey in 1938, where he became a standout 4 sport athlete at Paterson Eastside High School;

Whereas Larry Doby attended Long Island University on a basketball scholarship before enlisting in the United States Navy;

Whereas in 1943, Larry Doby was the first African American to play professional basketball for the Paterson Panthers, a member of the American Basketball League;

Whereas after playing baseball in the Negro League for the Newark Eagles, Larry Doby's contract was purchased by Bill Veeck of Major League Baseball's Cleveland Indians, a member of the American League, on July 3, 1947;

Whereas on July 5, 1947, Larry Doby became the first African American to play professional baseball in the American League;

Whereas Larry Doby played in the American League for 13 years, appearing in 1,533 games and batting .283, with 253 home runs and 969 runs batted in;

Whereas in 1948, Larry Doby was the first African American to win a World Series and the first African American to hit a home run in the World Series;

Whereas Larry Doby was voted to play in 7 All Star games and led the American League in home runs for two seasons;

Whereas in 1978, Larry Doby became the manager of the Chicago White Sox, only the second African American manager of a Major League team;

Whereas Larry Doby was the Director of Community Relations for the National Basketball Association's New Jersey Nets, where he was deeply involved in a number of inner-city youth programs;

Whereas Larry Doby resided, was active in the community, and raised his family in Montclair, New Jersey;

Whereas Larry Doby received honorary doctorate degrees from Princeton University, Long Island University and Fairfield University; and

Whereas Larry Doby was elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1998: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) expresses profound sorrow on the death of Lawrence Eugene "Larry" Doby, and extends condolences to his family;

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(2) expresses its deep appreciation to Larry Doby and his family for the impact that he made in pioneering civil rights by breaking down racial barriers in baseball and in America; and

(3) commends Larry Doby as a courageous leader, a role model, and a paradigm of the American Dream.

Attest:

Clerk of the House of Representatives.

Attest:

Secretary of the Senate.