

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 168

Congratulating and honoring Cal Ripken, Jr. for his amazing and storybook career as a player for the Baltimore Orioles and thanking him for his contributions to baseball, the State of Maryland, and the United States.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 4, 2001

Mr. SARBANES (for himself, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HUTCHINSON, and Mr. REID) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Congratulating and honoring Cal Ripken, Jr. for his amazing and storybook career as a player for the Baltimore Orioles and thanking him for his contributions to baseball, the State of Maryland, and the United States.

Whereas Calvin (Cal) Edwin Ripken, Jr. was born in Havre de Grace, Maryland on August 24th, 1960;

Whereas Cal Ripken, Jr. was raised in Aberdeen, Maryland and taught baseball by his father, Cal Ripken Sr., who spent his career with the Baltimore Orioles where he developed the Ripken Way;

Whereas Cal Ripken, Jr. entered the major leagues in 1981 as a Baltimore Oriole and played his entire 21 year career for the Orioles, ranking third all-time in Major

League Baseball for years played with 1 team and first during the period of free agency;

Whereas Cal Ripken, Jr. redefined the shortstop position, both offensively by hitting the most home runs as a shortstop in major league history and receiving the most Silver Slugger Awards by a shortstop, and defensively by setting 11 different fielding records;

Whereas on May 30th, 1982, Cal Ripken, Jr. played in the first game of his Iron Man Streak;

Whereas Cal Ripken, Jr. was named the American League (AL) Rookie of the Year in 1982;

Whereas Cal Ripken, Jr. led the Baltimore Orioles to a World Championship Season in 1983, winning the AL Most Valuable Player (MVP) award, becoming the first and only player to win the Rookie of the Year and MVP awards in back-to-back seasons;

Whereas in 1987, Cal Ripken, Jr. ended his consecutive innings played streak with a record 8,243;

Whereas in 1987, Cal Ripken, Jr., playing with brother Billy Ripken at second base and father Cal Ripken, Sr. as manager, became a part of the first pair of brothers to play together for their father in the history of Major League Baseball, making the name Ripken synonymous with the Baltimore Orioles;

Whereas Cal Ripken, Jr. was the first recipient of the Bart Giamatti Caring Award in 1989;

Whereas in 1990, Cal Ripken, Jr. had the greatest defensive single season of any shortstop, setting major league records in fielding percentage (.996), fewest errors committed (3), and consecutive games without an error (95);

Whereas in 1991, Cal Ripken, Jr. won his second AL MVP award, becoming 1 of only 22 major leaguers to win multiple MVP awards, won the first of 2 Golden Glove awards, and became the first player in baseball history to win the All-Star MVP and Home Run Contest in the same season as winning the MVP award;

Whereas in 1992, Cal Ripken, Jr. was awarded the Roberto Clemente Award, presented annually to the player who best exemplifies the game of baseball both on and off the field;

Whereas on September 6th, 1995, Cal Ripken, Jr. played in his 2131st consecutive game, breaking the record of the great and honorable Lou Gehrig;

Whereas in Cal Ripken Jr.'s 14 seasons of pursuit of Lou Gehrig's record, Cal Ripken, Jr. conducted himself with complete dignity, humility, and honor that attracted the attention of both baseball fans and all Americans and played a crucial role in bringing baseball back as America's national pastime after the labor problems of baseball in 1994;

Whereas in 1995, Cal Ripken, Jr. earned the following awards: the Associated Press and United Press International Male Athlete of the Year; The Sporting News Award Major League Player of the Year; and the Sports Illustrated Sportsman of the Year;

Whereas on September 20th, 1998, Cal Ripken, Jr. voluntarily ended his consecutive games streak at 2632;

Whereas in 1999, Cal Ripken, Jr. became 1 of 32 players to hit over 400 home runs;

Whereas in 2000, Cal Ripken, Jr. became 1 of 24 players with 3,000 hits, joining only 6 other players with over

400 home runs and 3,000 hits and becoming only the second infielder and first shortstop or third baseman to be in this club, along with fellow Baltimore Oriole first baseman and good friend Eddie Murray;

Whereas Cal Ripken, Jr. was named to Major League Baseball's All-Century Team in 2000;

Whereas Cal Ripken, Jr. won his second All-Star Game MVP award in 2001, becoming the first American League player to win 2 such MVP awards, and setting baseball records for most All-Star appearances at 19, All-Star starts at 17, All-star starts at shortstop at 14, and consecutive starts at 16;

Whereas Cal Ripken, Jr. is retiring from the game that he loves to continue his other passions, the teaching of baseball to children and charitable work through the "Reading, Runs, and Ripken" program, the Cal Ripken Little League Division which has over 700,000 children, the Kelly and Cal Ripken, Jr. Foundation, and the Cal Ripken, Jr./Lou Gehrig ALS Research Fund;

Whereas Cal Ripken, Jr. has pledged \$9,000,000 for the construction of a baseball facility in Harford County, Maryland; and

Whereas Cal Ripken, Jr. transcended the game of baseball and became a symbol of excellence, reliability, consistency, and served as a role model for the children of his hometown of Aberdeen, Maryland, the city of Baltimore, Maryland, all Maryland residents, and all Americans: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved,*

2 **SECTION 1. HONORING CAL RIPKEN, JR.**

3 The Senate—

1 (1) honors and congratulates Cal Ripken, Jr.
2 for—

3 (A) his contributions to both baseball and
4 America as an exemplar of endurance, profes-
5 sionalism, and the American work ethic;

6 (B) his entire career as a Baltimore Oriole,
7 a major league baseball player, and for his con-
8 duct both on and off the field;

9 (C) his excellent treatment of all baseball
10 fans in all stadiums and his community service
11 both in the State of Maryland and throughout
12 America; and

13 (D) all of his qualities and traits that
14 helped him serve as a role model for all Ameri-
15 cans; and

16 (2) wishes Cal Ripken, Jr. the best for what
17 will undoubtedly be a productive and giving retire-
18 ment.

19 **SEC. 2. TRANSMISSION**

20 The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit an en-
21 rolled copy of this resolution to—

22 (1) the legendary Baltimore Oriole Cal Ripken,
23 Jr.; and

1 (2) the Baltimore Orioles' owner, Peter
2 Angelos.

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