

106TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. RES. 362

Recognizing and honoring Roberto Clemente as a great humanitarian and an athlete of unfathomable skill.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 28 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 22), 2000

Mr. SANTORUM (for himself and Mr. SPECTER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## RESOLUTION

Recognizing and honoring Roberto Clemente as a great humanitarian and an athlete of unfathomable skill.

Whereas Roberto Clemente's athletic legacy has been honored by the city of Pittsburgh with a 14-foot bronze statue and the naming of a bridge over the Allegheny River located just outside the centerfield gate of the new baseball stadium in Pittsburgh;

Whereas Roberto Clemente led the Pittsburgh Pirates to World Championship titles in 1960 and 1971, winning the Series Most Valuable Player Award in 1971 when he batted .414 with two home runs against Baltimore;

Whereas during his 18-year career with the Pittsburgh Pirates, Roberto Clemente won four National League batting crowns, the 1966 National League Most Valuable

Player award, and ended his career with a .317 lifetime average, 240 homers, and 1,305 runs batted in;

Whereas on September 30, 1972, Roberto Clemente became the 11th Major League Baseball player to record 3,000 hits with a 4th inning double off New York Mets left-hander Jon Matlack;

Whereas Roberto Clemente was one of the first Latin American baseball players in the Major Leagues, and as such he faced language barriers and racial segregation throughout his career;

Whereas Roberto Clemente worked tirelessly to improve professional baseball's understanding of the unique challenges faced by young Latin American baseball players thrust into a new culture and language;

Whereas in August of 1973, Roberto Clemente became just the second player to have the mandatory five-year waiting period waived as he was inducted posthumously into the National Baseball Hall of Fame;

Whereas in 1984, Roberto Clemente became the second baseball player to be honored for his athletic and philanthropic achievements with an appearance on a United States postage stamp;

Whereas Roberto Clemente devoted himself to improving the lives of inner city youth in Puerto Rico and throughout the United States, putting into action his belief that sport could be a stepping stone to a better life for underprivileged youth;

Whereas Roberto Clemente tragically died in an airplane crash on December 31, 1972 as he accompanied relief supplies to Nicaragua to aid the victims of the devastating 1972 Managua earthquake;

Whereas Roberto Clemente's humanitarian legacy continues to this day, embodied by the Roberto Clemente Sports City in Puerto Rico, which creates an environment for the development of the human spirit through sport, and promotes community, education, and awareness of human rights: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

2               (1) Roberto Clemente was a great humanitarian  
3               and an athlete of unfathomable skill;

4               (2) Roberto Clemente should be honored for his  
5               contributions to the betterment of society; and,

6               (3) all Americans should honor Roberto  
7               Clemente's legacy every day through humanitarian  
8               and philanthropic efforts toward their fellow man.

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