

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1335

To award a congressional gold medal to honor Jack Roosevelt Robinson.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 15, 1997

Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mr. OWENS, Mr. TOWNS, Ms. MOLINARI, Mr. NADLER, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, and Ms. Velázquez) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services

A BILL

To award a congressional gold medal to honor Jack Roosevelt Robinson.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds the following:

5 (1) On April 15, 1947, Jackie Robinson became
6 the first African-American to play Major League
7 Baseball, paving the way for others of all races to
8 compete on equal footing in baseball and every other
9 sport.

1 (2) Jackie Robinson's pioneering achievement
2 advanced the cause of racial equality in every area,
3 predating the integration of America's armed forces,
4 schools, political institutions, and public facilities.

5 (3) Jackie Robinson responded to threats, hos-
6 tility, and bigotry with dignity, strength, and cour-
7 age, allowing his performance on the field to elo-
8 quently silence his critics.

9 (4) In his 10-season career with the Brooklyn
10 Dodgers, Jackie Robinson proved to be one of the
11 greatest baseball players of all time; was inducted
12 into the Baseball Hall of Fame on the first ballot in
13 1962; won awards as Rookie of the Year in 1947
14 and Most Valuable Player in 1949; played for six
15 pennant-winning teams and one team that won the
16 World Series; compiled a lifetime batting average of
17 .311; led the National League in stolen bases twice;
18 and stole home plate 19 times.

19 (5) After his retirement from baseball, Jackie
20 Robinson became a businessman, philanthropist, and
21 activist, in particular promoting the causes of equal
22 opportunity, civil rights, and youth development, and
23 establishing the Jackie Robinson Foundation.

1 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.**

2 (a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The President is
3 authorized to present, on behalf of the Congress, to Rachel
4 Robinson and other family of the late Jack Roosevelt Rob-
5 inson, a gold medal of appropriate design in recognition
6 of Jack Roosevelt Robinson’s enduring contributions to ra-
7 cial equality, athletics, business, and charitable causes.

8 (b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For purposes of the
9 presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary
10 of the Treasury shall strike a gold medal with suitable em-
11 blems, devices, and inscriptions to be determined by the
12 Secretary.

13 (c) GIFTS AND DONATIONS.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treas-
15 ury may accept, use, and disburse gifts or donations
16 of property or money to carry out this section.

17 (2) APPROPRIATION AUTHORIZED.—Not more
18 than \$30,000 are authorized to be appropriated to
19 carry out this section.

20 **SEC. 3. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

21 The Secretary of the Treasury may strike and sell
22 duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant
23 to section 2 under such regulations as the Secretary may
24 prescribe, at a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof,
25 including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and
26 overhead expenses, and the cost of the gold medal.

1 **SEC. 4. STATUS OF MEDALS.**

2 The medals struck pursuant to this Act are—

3 (1) national medals, for purposes of chapter 51
4 of title 31, United States Code; and

5 (2) numismatic items, for purposes of section
6 5134 of such title.

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