

H. Res. 536

In the House of Representatives, U.S.,

September 15, 1998.

Whereas Sammy Sosa of the Chicago Cubs hit two home runs on Sunday, September 13 against the Milwaukee Brewers at Wrigley Field in Chicago;

Whereas these home runs were his 61st and 62nd of the 1998 season, tying Mark McGwire of the St. Louis Cardinals for the current major league record for home runs in one season and moving him past Roger Maris' previous single season home run record, which had stood unsurpassed, and barely threatened, for 37 years;

Whereas Sammy Sosa's achievement is one of the most impressive and difficult to accomplish in the history of baseball, placing him in the very exclusive company of the national pastime's greatest home run hitters, including legends such as Babe Ruth, Hank Aaron, Roger Maris, Mickey Mantle and Willie Mays;

Whereas Sammy Sosa's drive toward the historic home run record is part of one of the best overall performances in baseball history, which will likely include more than 150 RBIs, a batting average of over .300, nearly 20 stolen bases, exceptional defensive play in right field and providing leadership to the Chicago Cubs in a close race for the playoffs;

Whereas throughout the intense media scrutiny and public attention that has accompanied his historic home run chase, Sammy Sosa has consistently conducted himself with dignity, modesty and selflessness that has been an inspiration to all Americans;

Whereas as a native of the Dominican Republic, Sammy Sosa has proven to be an outstanding role model and source of pride for all residents of his native country, as well as all Latin Americans and all immigrants to the U.S. from across the globe;

Whereas throughout his record-breaking accomplishments and thrilling head-to-head race with Mark McGwire to surpass the home run milestone Sammy Sosa has embodied the talent, exuberance, team-spirit and determination that Americans associate with the very best qualities of sports and athletic competition;

Whereas while Sammy Sosa is almost certainly not done hitting home runs in 1998, and has two more weeks to amaze all of America with tape-measure shots that delight Chicago's bleacher bums and send Cub fans scattering on Waveland Avenue in pursuit of a piece of history, and Sammy Sosa will continue to enhance a proud legacy of Chicago Cub sluggers in the tradition of Hack Wilson, Ernie Banks, Billy Williams and Andre Dawson;

Whereas on September 13, 1998, Sammy Sosa of the Chicago Cubs hit his 62nd home run of the 1998 Major League Baseball season and tied the current single-season home run record: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives congratulates and commends Sammy Sosa of the Chicago Cubs for his

amazing accomplishments and thanks him for a summer of unsurpassed baseball excitement.

Attest:

Clerk.