

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 277

Designating the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in Kansas City, Missouri,
as America's National Negro Leagues Baseball Museum.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 26, 2005

Mr. CLEAVER submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was
referred to the Committee on Resources

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Designating the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in Kansas
City, Missouri, as America's National Negro Leagues
Baseball Museum.

Whereas the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in Kansas
City, Missouri, was founded in 1990, in honor of those
individuals who played in the Negro Baseball Leagues as
a result of segregation in America;

Whereas the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum is the only
public museum in the Nation that exists for the exclusive
purpose of interpreting the experiences of the players in
the Negro Leagues from 1920 through 1970;

Whereas the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum project began
in the 1980s, through a large scale, grass roots, civic and
fundraising effort by citizens and baseball fans in the
Kansas City metropolitan area;

Whereas the first Negro Leagues Baseball Museum was located at 1615 East 18th Street in the historic “18th and Vine District”, which was designated by the city of Kansas City, Missouri, in 1988, as historic in nature and the birthplace of the Negro Leagues;

Whereas the current Negro Leagues Baseball Museum was opened at 1616 East 18th Street in 1997, with a dramatic expansion of core exhibition and gallery space and over 10,000 square feet of new interpretive and educational exhibits;

Whereas the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum continues to receive strong support from the residents of the Kansas City metropolitan area and annually entertains over 60,000 visitors from all 50 States, and numerous foreign countries;

Whereas there remains a need to preserve the evidence of honor, courage, sacrifice, and triumph in the face of segregation of those African Americans who played in the Negro Leagues;

Whereas the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum seeks to educate a diverse audience through its comprehensive collection of historical materials, important artifacts, and oral histories of the participants in the Negro Leagues and the impact that segregation played in the lives of these individuals and their fans; and

Whereas a great opportunity exists to use the invaluable resources of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum to teach the Nation’s school children, through on-site visits, traveling exhibits, classroom curriculum, distance learning, and other educational initiatives: Now, therefore, be it

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

3 (1) designates the Negro Leagues Baseball Mu-
4 seum in Kansas City, Missouri, including the muse-
5 ums future and expanded exhibits, collections li-
6 brary, archives, artifacts and education programs as
7 “America’s National Negro Leagues Baseball Mu-
8 seum”;

9 (2) supports the Negro Leagues Baseball Mu-
10 seum in their efforts to recognize and preserve the
11 history of the Negro Leagues and the impact of seg-
12 regation on our Nation;

13 (3) recognizes that the continued collection,
14 preservation, and interpretation of the historical ob-
15 jects and other historical materials held by the
16 Negro Leagues Baseball Museum enhances our
17 knowledge and understanding of the experience of
18 African Americans during legal segregation;

19 (4) commends the ongoing development and vis-
20 ibility of the “Power Alley” educational outreach
21 program for teachers and students throughout the
22 Nation sponsored by the Negro Leagues Baseball
23 Museum;

24 (5) asks all Americans to join in celebrating the
25 Negro Leagues Baseball Museum and its mission of

1 preserving and interpreting the legacy of the Negro
2 Leagues; and

3 (6) encourages present and future generations
4 to understand the sensitive issues surrounding the
5 Negro Leagues, how they helped shape our Nation
6 and Major League Baseball, and how the sacrifices
7 made by Negro League players helped make baseball
8 America's national pastime.

○