

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1861

To award a Congressional Gold Medal in honor of Lawrence Eugene “Larry” Doby in recognition of his achievements and contributions to American major league athletics, civil rights, and the Armed Forces during World War II.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 3, 2017

Mr. RENACCI (for himself, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. ALLEN, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. KIND, Mr. MACARTHUR, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. ROTHFUS, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. LANCE, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mrs. COMSTOCK, Mr. KNIGHT, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mrs. BLACK, Mr. SIRES, Mr. VALADAO, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. SOTO, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. KILMER, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. WELCH, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. SCHRADER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. RICHMOND, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. NADLER, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. MENG, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California, Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, Mr. BYRNE, Mr. LATTA, Mr. TURNER, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. CLAY, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. STEWART, Mr. ROHRBACHER, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. WOODALL, Mr. LONG, Mr. OLSON, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. HOLDING, Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. ISSA, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. PETERS, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. WALKER, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. MARINO, Mr. PITTEGER, Mr. HUNTER, Mr.

COOK, Mr. YODER, and Mr. BRAT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To award a Congressional Gold Medal in honor of Lawrence Eugene “Larry” Doby in recognition of his achievements and contributions to American major league athletics, civil rights, and the Armed Forces during World War II.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “The Larry Doby Con-
 5 gressional Gold Medal Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

8 (1) Larry Doby was born in Camden, South
 9 Carolina, on December 13, 1923, and moved to
 10 Paterson, New Jersey, in 1938, where he became a
 11 standout 4 sport athlete at Paterson Eastside High
 12 School;

13 (2) Larry Doby attended Long Island Univer-
 14 sity on a basketball scholarship before enlisting in
 15 the United States Navy during World War II;

1 (3) upon his honorable discharge from the Navy
2 in 1946, Larry Doby played baseball in the Negro
3 National League for the Newark Eagles;

4 (4) after playing the 1946 season, Larry Doby's
5 contract was purchased by the Cleveland Indians of
6 the American League on July 3, 1947;

7 (5) on July 5, 1947, Larry Doby became the
8 first African-American to play in the American
9 League;

10 (6) Larry Doby played in the American League
11 for 13 years, appearing in 1,533 games and batting
12 .283, with 253 home runs and 970 runs batted in;

13 (7) Larry Doby was voted to 7 All-Star teams,
14 led the American League in home runs twice, and
15 played in 2 World Series;

16 (8) in 1948, Larry Doby helped lead the Cleve-
17 land Indians to a World Series Championship over
18 the Boston Braves and became the first African-
19 American player to hit a home run in a World Series
20 game;

21 (9) after his stellar playing career ended, Larry
22 Doby continued to make a significant contribution to
23 his community;

24 (10) Larry Doby was a pioneer in the cause of
25 civil rights and received honorary doctorate degrees

1 from Long Island University, Princeton University,
2 and Fairfield University;

3 (11) in 1978, Larry Doby became the manager
4 of the Chicago White Sox, only the second African-
5 American manager of a Major League Baseball
6 team;

7 (12) Larry Doby was the Director of Commu-
8 nity Relations for the New Jersey Nets of the Na-
9 tional Basketball Association, where he was deeply
10 involved in a number of inner-city youth programs;
11 and

12 (13) Larry Doby was inducted to the National
13 Baseball Hall of Fame in 1998.

14 **SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.**

15 (a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of
16 the House of Representatives and the President pro tem-
17 pore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements
18 for the presentation, on behalf of Congress, of a gold
19 medal of appropriate design, in honor of Larry Doby and
20 in recognition of his achievements and contributions to
21 American major league athletics, civil rights, and the
22 Armed Forces during World War II.

23 (b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purpose of the
24 presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary
25 of the Treasury (referred to in this Act as the “Sec-

1 retary”) shall strike a gold medal with suitable emblems,
 2 devices, and inscriptions to be determined by the Sec-
 3 retary.

4 (c) TRANSFER OF MEDAL AFTER PRESENTATION.—

5 Following the presentation of the gold medal in honor of
 6 Larry Doby pursuant to subsection (a), the gold medal
 7 shall be given to his son, Larry Doby, Jr.

8 **SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

9 The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in
 10 bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to section 2
 11 under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, at
 12 a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor,
 13 materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses,
 14 and the cost of the gold medal.

15 **SEC. 5. STATUS OF MEDALS.**

16 (a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medals struck under
 17 this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51
 18 of title 31, United States Code.

19 (b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections
 20 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all medals
 21 struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic
 22 items.

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