I look forward to working with my Senate and House colleagues towards enactment of the FSC/ETI tax legislation and to ensure that these critical maritime provisions are included in the final version of the bill.

ROBERTO CLEMENTE DAY

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, today I rise to speak about a topic that holds a special place in my life and the lives of millions of Pennsylvanians—baseball. Like our Nation’s democracy, baseball is a part of our country’s collective definition of community, history, and heroism.

The Pittsburgh Pirates and Philadelphia Phillies are recognized by fans for their hometown affiliation but more for their heroes. In Pennsylvania, we have plenty of players to boast about, but one in particular comes to mind. Roberto Clemente. Clemente is Pittsburgh’s own. He was the first Latin-American to be inducted into the Hall of Fame and the first player for whom the Hall’s required 5-year waiting period was waived. In honor of the humanitarian work in which he was so involved, the Roberto Clemente Foundation operates Pittsburgh’s inner-city through programs to instill responsible community behavior in disadvantaged youth, and to provide them with organized recreation. Clemente’s example is an amazing illustration of how powerful professional sports heroes can be as role models.

Roberto Clemente Day was established in 2002 to increase awareness of the Roberto Clemente Award and the amount of time and effort its recipients dedicate towards community and charitable endeavors. Since 1971, Major League Baseball has annually presented an award that recognizes a player who best exemplifies the game of baseball through sportsmanship, community involvement, and charitable contributions to his team. The award was named in honor of Clemente in 1973. The national recipient of the 2004 Roberto Clemente Award will be announced during the 2004 World Series. This Year, September 22 has been designated as 2004 Roberto Clemente Day. PNC Park in Pittsburgh will be among the many ballparks around the country that will hold a ceremony commemorating Roberto Clemente Day.

PNC Park in Pittsburgh will be among the many ballparks around the country that will hold a ceremony commemorating Roberto Clemente Day. As residents of Pittsburgh cross the Roberto Clemente Bridge, which spans the Allegheny River, they may remember the example that Roberto Clemente set for us all.

Roberto Clemente Walker was born in Barrio San Anton in Carolina, Puerto Rico, on August 18, 1934. Roberto always excelled at track and field; however, his real love was baseball. Clemente joined the Pittsburgh Pirates in 1955, where he played his entire 18-year Major League Baseball career from 1955 to 1972. Clemente is considered one of the finest outfields to ever play professional baseball, amassing over 3,000 hits, 12 Golden Glove Awards, a league MVP Award, and leading the Pittsburgh Pirates to World Series victories in 1960 and 1971. Clemente was also a devoted father. With his wife Vera Cristina, he raised three sons: Roberto Jr., Luis Roberto, and Roberto Enrique. Proud of his heritage Roberto insisted that Vera give birth to all three sons in Puerto Rico.

I will always remember feeling deeply saddened upon hearing the news, on December 31, 1972, that Clemente had died in a tragic plane crash off the coast of Puerto Rico. The plane was taking medical, food, and clothing supplies to earthquake-stricken Nicaragua. Clemente will always be remembered as one of the greatest humanitarians of all time.

Aside from playing baseball myself over the years, the culture of identifying with star baseball players and my hometown team is an inextricable part of who I am. As a child playing and watching baseball, I learned the value of hard work, the importance of teamwork, how to deal with success and failure, how to concentrate and stay focused on a goal, and how to look beyond personal achievement to something bigger than oneself. Roberto Clemente embodied all of these virtues.

As our Nation recognizes Hispanic Heritage Month during the month of September, this is an ideal time to honor this exceptional person and personal hero and his legacy that lives on through the recipients of the Roberto Clemente Award.

IN MEMORIAM TO STATE SENATOR HENRY J. MELLO

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to honor the memory of one of California’s dedicated public servants, California State Senator Henry J. Mello. Senator Mello passed away on September 4, 2004. He was 80 years old.

Senator Mello was first elected to the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors in 1966, where he served for 8 years. In 1976, he was elected to the California State Assembly. After serving for two terms in the assembly, Senator Mello was elected to the California State Senate, where he spent the majority of his career in public service. During his tenure as a member of the California State Legislature, Senator Mello carried a record number of bills and resolutions—727—of which 456 were signed into law. Because of his successful leadership skills and his ability to work across partisan lines, Senator Mello served as the State Senate’s majority whip from 1981 to 1992, and as the majority leader from 1992 to 1996.

During his years in the Senate, Senator Mello advocated for the establishment of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary; the creation of the California...