

---

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 58 Session of 2023

---

INTRODUCED BY PISCIOTTANO, BURGOS, GIRAL, VENKAT, BRENNAN, HILL-  
EVANS, RABB, KULIK, GREINER, KHAN, SCHLOSSBERG, SMITH-WADE-  
EL, MADDEN, MALAGARI, SANCHEZ, SAMUELSON, MERSKI, MARSHALL,  
HADDOCK, BOROWSKI, PARKER AND McANDREW, MARCH 30, 2023

---

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TOURISM AND ECONOMIC AND RECREATIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT, MARCH 30, 2023

---

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing September 15, 2023, as "Roberto Clemente Day" in  
2 Pennsylvania and encouraging the celebration of his life as a  
3 humanitarian, veteran and Hall of Fame baseball player.

4 WHEREAS, On August 18, 1934, Roberto Enrique Clemente Walker  
5 was born in Barrio San Antón, Carolina, Puerto Rico; and

6 WHEREAS, Roberto Clemente's mother, Luisa Walker, was a  
7 laundress, and his father, Melchor Clemente, was employed at a  
8 sugarcane plantation where a young Roberto Clemente often worked  
9 alongside him; and

10 WHEREAS, In high school, Roberto Clemente's talent for sports  
11 was evident, as he excelled at both baseball and track and  
12 field; and

13 WHEREAS, Following success in the Puerto Rican baseball  
14 league, Roberto Clemente signed with the Brooklyn Dodgers in  
15 1954, spending a season in the minor leagues before making his  
16 way to the Pittsburgh Pirates; and

17 WHEREAS, During his 18-year major league career with the

1 Pirates, Roberto Clemente accumulated 3,000 hits and two World  
2 Series titles, was a 15-time all-star, a 12-time Gold Glove  
3 Award winner in right field, the 1966 National League Most  
4 Valuable Player and a four-time batting champion; and

5 WHEREAS, In the 1958-1959 off-season, Roberto Clemente  
6 enlisted in the United States Marine Corps Reserve and served  
7 until 1964, spending six months on active duty at Parris Island,  
8 South Carolina, and Camp Lejeune, North Carolina; and

9 WHEREAS, In addition to his legendary Major League Baseball  
10 career and veteran status, Roberto Clemente was also a devoted  
11 humanitarian who spent countless hours helping those in need;  
12 and

13 WHEREAS, After a devastating earthquake hit central Nicaragua  
14 on December 23, 1972, Roberto Clemente organized shipments of  
15 food, clothing and medical supplies to Managua, Nicaragua; and

16 WHEREAS, Upon hearing reports that the shipments of supplies  
17 had disappeared, Roberto Clemente insisted on seeing the next  
18 flight to Nicaragua himself to ensure that the donations were  
19 appropriately distributed; and

20 WHEREAS, Tragically, on December 31, 1972, the plane loaded  
21 with supplies crashed off the coast of Puerto Rico immediately  
22 after takeoff, killing Roberto Clemente and all other passengers  
23 on board; and

24 WHEREAS, After Roberto Clemente's premature death, the  
25 Baseball Writers Association of America waived the required  
26 five-year waiting period and held a special ballot, electing  
27 Roberto Clemente to the Baseball Hall of Fame; and

28 WHEREAS, Major League Baseball established September 15 as  
29 "Roberto Clemente Day," coinciding with the start of "Hispanic  
30 Heritage Month," to honor his legacy; therefore be it

1       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize  
2   September 15, 2023, as "Roberto Clemente Day" in Pennsylvania  
3   and encourage the celebration of his life as a humanitarian,  
4   veteran and Hall of Fame baseball player.