

## Senate Resolution 92

By: Senators Halpern of the 39th, Butler of the 55th, Parent of the 42nd, Anderson of the 43rd, Davenport of the 44th and others

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Hank Aaron; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of this nation's most distinguished  
3 citizens with the passing of Hank Aaron; and
- 4 WHEREAS, nicknamed "Hammerin' Hank," he started his baseball career in his hometown  
5 of Mobile, Alabama, with the semi-pro Mobile Black Bears in 1951 and spent most of his  
6 23 seasons of play as an outfielder for the Milwaukee/Atlanta Braves; and
- 7 WHEREAS, Hank Aaron ranks second all-time in home runs (755), third in hits (3,771), and  
8 third in games played (3,298), and he is tied for fourth with Babe Ruth in runs scored  
9 (2,174); and
- 10 WHEREAS, over the course of his career, he won two batting titles, led his league in homers  
11 and RBIs four times each, and won three Gold Gloves for fielding excellence; and
- 12 WHEREAS, the Hall of Famer will be remembered for one swing above all others: the one  
13 that made him baseball's home-run king on April 8, 1974, a title he would hold for more than  
14 33 years; and

15 WHEREAS, he was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1982 and awarded the  
16 Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian award, from President George  
17 W. Bush in 2002; and

18 WHEREAS, the MLB has established the Hank Aaron Award in his honor to annually  
19 recognize the top hitter in each league; and

20 WHEREAS, Hank Aaron served as a spokesperson against the league's lack of ownership  
21 and management opportunities for minorities and lobbied for efforts to encourage more  
22 young African American athletes to choose baseball, setting an example for all African  
23 American ballplayers; and

24 WHEREAS, after retiring from baseball, he moved into the Atlanta Braves front office to  
25 serve as executive vice president, where he became a leading spokesman for minority hiring  
26 in baseball; and

27 WHEREAS, a highly successful businessman, Hank Aaron owned 27 Popeye's Louisiana  
28 Kitchen restaurants, BMW dealerships, and two Krispy Kreme Doughnut shops throughout  
29 the metro Atlanta area; and

30 WHEREAS, he and his wife, Billye, employed hundreds of people in Atlanta and created  
31 economic growth in DeKalb, Gwinnett, Cobb, Clayton, and Fayette counties; and

32 WHEREAS, as a philanthropist and community leader, he spent decades contributing to the  
33 community by raising money for several charitable organizations like the United Negro  
34 College Fund, the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, and the NAACP; and

35 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper to honor the life, legacy, and  
36 accomplishments of this outstanding individual.

37 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
38 join in honoring the life and memory of Hank Aaron and express their deepest and most  
39 sincere regret at his passing.

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
41 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the family of Hank  
42 Aaron.