

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3149

To posthumously award a Congressional Gold Medal to 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 SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 7, 2016

Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. BOOKER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

A BILL

To posthumously award a Congressional Gold Medal to 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. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds that—

5 (1) Larry Doby was born in Camden, South
6 Carolina, on December 13, 1923, and moved to
7 Paterson, New Jersey, in 1938, where he became a

1 standout 4 sport athlete at Paterson Eastside High
2 School;

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

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

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

12 (5) on July 5, 1947, Larry Doby became the
13 first African-American to play in the American
14 League;

15 (6) Larry Doby played in the American League
16 for 13 years, appearing in 1,533 games and batting
17 .283, with 253 home runs and 970 runs batted in;

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

21 (8) in 1948, Larry Doby helped lead the Cleve-
22 land Indians to a World Series Championship over
23 the Boston Braves and became the first African-
24 American player to hit a home run in a World Series
25 game;

1 (9) after his stellar playing career ended, Larry
2 Doby continued to make a significant contribution to
3 his community;

4 (10) Larry Doby has been a pioneer in the
5 cause of civil rights and has received honorary doc-
6 torate degrees from Long Island University, Prince-
7 ton University, and Fairfield University;

8 (11) in 1978, Larry Doby became the manager
9 of the Chicago White Sox, only the second African-
10 American manager of a Major League Baseball
11 team;

12 (12) Larry Doby was the Director of Commu-
13 nity Relations for the New Jersey Nets of the Na-
14 tional Basketball Association, where he was deeply
15 involved in a number of inner-city youth programs;
16 and

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

19 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.**

20 (a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of
21 the House of Representatives and the President pro tem-
22 pore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements
23 for the posthumous presentation, on behalf of Congress,
24 of a gold medal of appropriate design, to Larry Doby in
25 recognition of his achievements and contributions to

1 American major league athletics, civil rights, and the
2 Armed Forces during World War II.

3 (b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purpose of the
4 presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary
5 of the Treasury (referred to in this Act as the “Sec-
6 retary”) shall strike a gold medal with suitable emblems,
7 devices, and inscriptions to be determined by the Sec-
8 retary.

9 (c) TRANSFER OF MEDAL AFTER PRESENTATION.—
10 Following the presentation of the gold medal in honor of
11 Larry Doby under subsection (a), the gold medal shall be
12 given to his son, Larry Doby, Jr.

13 **SEC. 3. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

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

20 **SEC. 4. STATUS OF MEDALS.**

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

24 (b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections
25 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all medals

1 struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic
2 items.

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