

House Resolution 118 - Introduced

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 118

BY BACON, KAUFMANN, HEIN, JACOBSEN, MITCHELL, WILLS,
WHEELER, SORENSEN, NORDMAN, BRINK, BOSSMAN, BEST,
OLSON, KLEIN, THOMPSON, McCONKEY, SEXTON, BRADLEY,
McCLINTOCK, MOORE, BAXTER, BOUSSELOT, COHOON,
DUNWELL, WILLIAMS, SMITH, BROWN-POWERS, KRESSIG,
and JACOBY

1 A Resolution urging Major League Baseball and the
2 National Baseball Hall of Fame to reconsider each
3 entity's decision to ban Pete Rose.

4 WHEREAS, Pete Rose was born in 1941 in Cincinnati,
5 Ohio; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Rose played parts of 24 seasons in
7 Major League Baseball, including 19 seasons with his
8 hometown team, the Cincinnati Reds; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Rose was selected to the National
10 League All-Star team 17 times and for five different
11 positions, was on three teams that won the World
12 Series, won the National League Rookie of the Year
13 award in 1963, won the National League Most Valuable
14 Player award in 1973, and was a top-10 finalist for the
15 National League Most Valuable Player award nine other
16 times; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Rose led Major League Baseball in games
18 played four times, plate appearances six times, at-bats
19 three times, runs scored three times, hits seven times,
20 doubles four times, and batting average two times,
21 and led the National League in on-base percentage two
22 times; and

23 WHEREAS, Mr. Rose finished his career with a

1 Major League record 3,562 games played, 15,890 plate
2 appearances, 14,053 at-bats, and 4,256 hits, which
3 include a Major League record 3,215 singles; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Rose was given the nickname "Charlie
5 Hustle" due to his energetic style that included
6 sprinting to first base even after a plate appearance
7 ended as a walk; and

8 WHEREAS, a 1989 investigation found that Mr. Rose
9 bet on baseball games that he was involved in, but did
10 not provide any evidence that Mr. Rose bet against his
11 team; and

12 WHEREAS, in exchange for Major League Baseball
13 declining to make a formal finding, Mr. Rose agreed to
14 be permanently placed on the league's ineligible list
15 and his subsequent requests for reinstatement have not
16 been approved; and

17 WHEREAS, in 1994, the National Baseball Hall of Fame
18 voted to exclude individuals on Major League Baseball's
19 ineligible list from induction into the National
20 Baseball Hall of Fame; and

21 WHEREAS, despite subsequently amending its rules
22 so that Pete Rose was eligible for consideration for
23 induction into the Major League Hall of Fame by the
24 Veterans Committee, Mr. Rose has not been considered
25 for induction; and

26 WHEREAS, in 2004, Mr. Rose admitted to betting on
27 baseball games, including games he was involved in, but
28 reaffirmed that he never bet against his team; and

29 WHEREAS, American culture, including the state of
30 Iowa, has grown more accepting of sports betting; and

H.R. 118

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Rose was one of the greatest baseball
2 players of all time but has been punished for
3 portraying confidence in himself and his teammates; NOW
4 THEREFORE,

5 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, That
6 the House of Representatives recognizes the importance
7 of Mr. Pete Rose and his accomplishments to the history
8 of baseball and American sports and urges Major League
9 Baseball and the National Baseball Hall of Fame to
10 reconsider their decision to prohibit his association
11 with each entity.