

Senate Resolution No. 4493

**BY:** Senator DILAN

**URGING** the Secretary of the Interior to recognize the historical significance of Roberto Clemente's place of death near Pinones in Loiza, Puerto Rico, by adding it to the National Register of Historic Places

**WHEREAS,** Roberto Clemente was an American baseball legend who embodied the values of a model citizen; and

**WHEREAS,** Roberto Clemente won two Major League Baseball World Series Championships, was named World Series Most Valuable Player, and was an All-Star for 12 seasons; and

**WHEREAS,** Roberto Clemente served this Nation as a United States Marine Corps Reservist; and

**WHEREAS,** Roberto Clemente was the first Puerto Rican inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame; and

**WHEREAS,** Roberto Clemente was inducted into the Marine Corps Sports Hall of Fame; and

**WHEREAS,** Roberto Clemente was committed to caring and helping those in need, regardless of their location; and

**WHEREAS,** Roberto Clemente selflessly chose to travel to an earthquake-ridden Nicaragua to provide humanitarian aid; and

**WHEREAS,** Roberto Clemente's plane crashed shortly after taking off from San Juan-Isla Verde International Airport/Aeropuerto Internacional do Isla Verde on December 31, 1972; and

**WHEREAS,** Roberto Clemente was only 38 years old when he tragically passed away; and

**WHEREAS,** Roberto Clemente's passion and advocacy demonstrated the positive influence that professional athletes could have in improving the lives of others; and

**WHEREAS,** Roberto Clemente challenged the stereotypes that had marginalized native Spanish speakers in this Nation and remains an icon to many Puerto Ricans and Latinos in the United States and Latin America; and

**WHEREAS,** Major League Baseball presents an annual Roberto Clemente Award to the player that best embodies Roberto Clemente's value of service to others and represents the game of baseball through extraordinary character, community involvement, philanthropy, and positive contributions, both on and off the field; and

**WHEREAS,** Roberto Clemente was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, Presidential Citizens Medal, and the Congressional Gold Medal for his civic and charitable contributions; and

**WHEREAS,** The crash site in the adjacent area to Playa Aviones in the municipality of Loiza, Puerto Rico, was the last place Roberto Clemente graced this world; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor the memory of Roberto Clemente as a great humanitarian and athlete; to recognize Roberto Clemente as the embodiment of a baseball legend that contributed to the betterment of society; and to request that the Secretary of the Interior recognize the crash site of Roberto Clemente's airplane and the adjacent land by adding such site to the National Register of Historic Places.