Assembly Resolution No. 2154

BY: M. of A. Septimo

HONORING David Ortiz "Big Papi" for his contributions to baseball, in conjunction with the 20th Anniversary of the 2004 World Series

WHEREAS, David Ortiz, famously known as "Big Papi," is one of the greatest designated hitters in baseball history, whose career was marked by clutch performances and leadership, culminating in his induction into the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York; and

WHEREAS, David Ortiz's significant baseball achievements include leading the Boston Red Sox to three World Series titles, transforming the team and its legacy during his tenure; and

WHEREAS, In New York, Ortiz's philanthropic efforts have significantly impacted the community, particularly through the David Ortiz Children's Fund, which collaborates with prestigious hospitals like Massachusetts General Hospital and Boston Children's Hospital-both of which serve numerous New York families; these collaborations provide critical cardiac services to children from both the Dominican Republic and New York State; and

WHEREAS, David Ortiz's philanthropic reach in New York includes participation in high-profile events like the Maestro Cares Gala, which supports disadvantaged children in Latin America and the U.S., the Derek Jeter Celebrity Invitational, and the CC Sabathia PitCCh In Foundation Charity Softball Game at Yankee Stadium, events that significantly benefit youth programs and enhance the lives of inner-city youth in New York; and

WHEREAS, These activities not only underscore his commitment to philanthropy but also solidify his connection to New York State, leveraging his celebrity status to raise awareness and substantial funds for various causes, thus directly benefiting children and communities across the state; and

WHEREAS, David Ortiz's final visit as a player to Yankee Stadium was marked by heartfelt recognition and respect from New York fans, reflecting his deep connection to the city and its people, who have embraced him not only as a fierce competitor but also as a beloved figure in baseball; and

WHEREAS, His retirement tour stop at Yankee Stadium was celebrated with a ceremony that included gifts and accolades, demonstrating the high esteem in which he is held by both fans and peers, including many New York Yankees fans who expressed their admiration and respect for his contributions to the game; and

WHEREAS, His continued engagement in such community-focused events reflects his dedication to New York as well as to his native Dominican Republic, demonstrating his global impact and commitment to humanitarian

causes; and

WHEREAS, David Ortiz's triumph in the 2004 World Series not only elevated his status as a sports icon but also restored hope and pride to a storied franchise; today, we honor "Big Papi" for his indelible impact on the Red Sox and the game of baseball, an achievement that reverberates through the annals of sports history; and

WHEREAS, His philanthropic efforts and iconic status in baseball have earned him respect and admiration across borders, making him a beloved figure in both New York and the Dominican Republic; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor David Ortiz "Big Papi" for his contributions to baseball, in conjunction with the 20th Anniversary of the 2004 World Series; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed be transmitted to David Ortiz.