

SENATE RESOLUTION

8629

By Senators Schoesler, Boehnke, Chapman, Cleveland, Dozier, Gildon, Goehner, Lias, Lovelett, MacEwen, Nobles, Orwall, Robinson, Shewmake, Short, Trudeau, Valdez, Warnick, Wellman, Hasegawa, Braun, Fortunato, Torres, and Wagoner

1 WHEREAS, Ichiro Suzuki's passion for baseball was rivaled by few
2 players before his time or since his retirement; and

3 WHEREAS, Ichiro was born October 22nd, 1973, and grew up in a
4 small Japanese town called Toyoyama; and

5 WHEREAS, Ichiro joined his first baseball team at the age of 7,
6 following a daily routine with his father that included throwing 50
7 pitches, fielding 50 infield balls and 50 outfield balls, and hitting
8 500 pitches; and

9 WHEREAS, By age 12, Ichiro dedicated himself to pursuing a career
10 in professional baseball, dedicating his life to the sport; and

11 WHEREAS, Ichiro had established himself as the best baseball
12 player in Japan by the year 2000, which led him to sign with the
13 Seattle Mariners before the 2001 season; and

14 WHEREAS, Ichiro began his rookie season with a bang, hitting
15 safely in 39 of his first 41 games, showing great speed on the base
16 paths and in the outfield, and displaying a very powerful throwing
17 arm; and

18 WHEREAS, Ichiro quickly became a fan favorite in Seattle and the
19 Northwest, with fans at Mariner home games chanting his name before
20 his at-bats; and

21 WHEREAS, Ichiro helped lead the Mariners to the best record in
22 Major League Baseball in 2001 with 116 wins and 46 losses, with the

1 116 wins tying the 1906 Chicago Cubs for most wins by a Major
2 League team in a season; and

3 WHEREAS, Ichiro finished the 2001 season with 242 hits, 56
4 steals, an American League-leading .350 batting average, the
5 first of his 10 Gold Glove Awards and three Silver Slugger
6 Awards, and was a winner of the American League Most Valuable
7 Player and was the runaway winner of the American League Rookie
8 of the Year Award; and

9 WHEREAS, In 2004, Ichiro broke the MLB record for hits in a
10 single season with 262 hits; and

11 WHEREAS, Ichiro was traded by the Mariners to the New York
12 Yankees during the 2012 season, and he later played for the
13 Miami Marlins from 2015 to 2017 before returning to Seattle and
14 ending his MLB career with the Mariners in 2018 and 2019; and

15 WHEREAS, Ichiro had the highest batting average of any MLB
16 player who debuted after year 2000; and

17 WHEREAS, Ichiro is one of only seven players in history with
18 at least 3,000 hits and 500 stolen bases; and

19 WHEREAS, Ichiro was the first Japanese position player to
20 sign with a Major League club, and the third Japanese player to
21 sign with the Mariners; and

22 WHEREAS, He became the 30th player to reach 3,000 hits,
23 reaching the milestone on August 7th, 2016; and

24 WHEREAS, Ichiro Suzuki was elected to the Baseball Hall of
25 Fame on January 21st, 2025, receiving 393 of a possible 394
26 votes of the Baseball Writers' Association of America, thus
27 being part of the 2025 Hall of Fame class along with Dick Allen,
28 Dave Parker, CC Sabathia and Billy Wagner;

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Senate honor and
30 congratulate Ichiro Suzuki on being elected to the Baseball Hall
31 of Fame and thank him for an incredible career with the Seattle
32 Mariners that earned him the respect and admiration of Mariner
33 fans and other baseball fans.

34 I, Sarah Bannister, Secretary of the Senate,
35 do hereby certify that this is a true and
36 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8629,
37 adopted by the Senate

1 March 10, 2025

2 SARAH BANNISTER

3 Secretary of the Senate