

## HR9 INTRODUCED



1 HR9

2 A4D977Q-1

3 By Representatives Chestnut, Garrett, Ledbetter, Hassell,

4 Lawrence, Stadthagen, Bedsole, Kiel, Colvin, Lovvorn, Robbins,

5 Hill, Travis, Gray, Hendrix

6 RFD:

7 First Read: 06-Feb-24



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HR\_\_\_\_\_ CONGRATULATING GUNNAR RANDAL HENDERSON FOR WINNING THE SILVER SLUGGER AWARD AND THE 2023 JACKIE ROBINSON AMERICAN LEAGUE ROOKIE OF THE YEAR AWARD.

WHEREAS, with great pride and special pleasure, highest commendations and congratulations are conveyed to Gunnar Randal Henderson, a native son of Alabama, on being awarded the Silver Slugger Award and unanimously winning the 2023 Jackie Robinson American League Rookie of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, Gunnar Henderson was born on June 29, 2001, in Montgomery, Alabama; he grew up in Selma and attended John T. Morgan Academy; in 2019, his senior year in high school, he was named Alabama Sports Writers Association's Mr. Baseball and selected as the Gatorade Player of the Year for Alabama; furthermore, he was named to the Under Armour, Perfect Game, Baseball America, USA Today, Collegiate Baseball, and Area Code High School All-American teams after batting .559 with 17 doubles, nine triples, 11 home runs, 69 runs scored, and 75 RBIs while stealing 32 bases; and

WHEREAS, the Baltimore Orioles selected Henderson in the second round of the 2019 Major League Baseball (MLB) draft with the 42nd overall pick; and

WHEREAS, Henderson was named the best overall athlete in the Orioles' minor league system going into the 2021



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29 season, where he played over 105 games between three teams  
30 slashing .258/.350/.476 with 17 home runs, 74 RBIs, 28  
31 doubles, and 16 stolen bases; for the 2022 season, Henderson  
32 was named Baseball America's Minor League Player of the  
33 Year; and

34 WHEREAS, the Orioles promoted Gunnar Henderson to  
35 their major league roster and he made his debut on August  
36 31, 2022; and

37 WHEREAS, Gunnar Henderson was named the number one  
38 prospect in Major League Baseball going into the 2023 season  
39 by Baseball America and MLB Pipeline, and from there he has  
40 won the following prestigious awards: Sporting News 2023  
41 American League Rookie of the Year, MLB Pipeline's 2023  
42 All-Rookie Team, Baseball Digest 2023 Rookie of the Year,  
43 and 2023 MLB Players Association's Outstanding Rookie of the  
44 Year; and

45 WHEREAS, the Baltimore Orioles infielder received the  
46 Silver Slugger Award as the best hitting utility player in  
47 the American League for the 2023 MLB season; voted on by MLB  
48 managers and coaches, the Silver Slugger awards have been  
49 presented annually since 1980 to the top offensive player at  
50 each position in each league; and

51 WHEREAS, his incredible 2023 season culminated in his  
52 unanimous win of one of the highest honors in Major League  
53 Baseball, the 2023 Jackie Robinson American League Rookie of  
54 the Year (ROY) Award, which is voted on by the Baseball  
55 Writers' Association of America; he is the seventh Oriole to  
56 win this prestigious ROY award; and



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57           WHEREAS, other notable MLB accomplishments include,  
58 but are not limited to, hitting a 462-foot home run against  
59 the Kansas City Royals, which was the farthest ever hit onto  
60 Eutaw Street in the 31-year history of Camden Yards; setting  
61 the Orioles' record for extra base hits by a rookie at 66,  
62 and finishing the 2023 regular season with 28 home runs, 82  
63 RBIs, .814 OPS, and a .255 AVG; now therefore,

64           WHEREAS, the occasion of Gunnar Henderson's  
65 designation as winner of both the Silver Slugger Award and  
66 the 2023 Jackie Robinson American League Rookie of the Year  
67 Award are accomplishments to be celebrated; his  
68 single-minded dedication, strong desire for success,  
69 constant training, and tireless and diligent efforts to  
70 achieve excellence serve as a valuable example to young  
71 athletes across the country and in his home State of  
72 Alabama; now therefore,

73           BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, That  
74 we highly commend and congratulate Gunnar Henderson for his  
75 outstanding 2023 Major League Baseball Season and for being  
76 selected as the recipient of the Silver Slugger Award and  
77 the 2023 Jackie Robinson American League Rookie of the Year  
78 Award, and we hereby dedicate this resolution to him with  
79 utmost admiration, along with sincere best wishes for  
80 continued success.