

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

March 6, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington D.C. 20500

Dear President Trump:

We are proud to submit the name of Bobby Richardson for the Presidential Medal of Freedom award.

Mr. Richardson has lived a life of meritorious service to our nation, the state of South Carolina, and his hometown of Sumter, South Carolina. His life has been a beacon of light for the Christian evangelical movement, and he has remained an infallible role model throughout a time when sports figures have been idolized and placed on a pedestal that only few can live up.

Mr. Richardson had an illustrious career as the second baseman for the New York Yankees, highlighted by being named an All-Star eight times, winning three World Series titles, and being awarded five Gold Gloves. In 1960, he became the only player in baseball history to win a World Series Most Valuable Player award despite his team not winning the series. His jersey was retired by the Yankees on "Bobby Richardson Day" on September 17, 1966, becoming just one of ten players to receive this honor.

While his accomplishments on the field were impressive, they pale in comparison to Mr. Richardson's service to his country and community. He was the recipient of the Lou Gehrig Memorial award in 1963, which is given to players whose lives exemplify the character and integrity of the great Lou Gehrig. Mr. Richardson is a devout Christian and was heavily involved in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) both during and after his career. Furthermore, he served as president of the Baseball Chapel for ten years after his playing career and served on the President's Council for Physical Fitness. Mr. Richardson has also been invited as a guest speaker at a number of influential events, including the funeral for his former teammate Mickey Mantle, five Billy Graham Crusades, and the White House as a guest of President Richard Nixon. His positive impact off the baseball field is immeasurable, and he continues his meaningful work to this day.

The Presidential Medal of Freedom is awarded to someone who has made a noble contribution to the security or national interests of the United States, world peace, cultural or other significant

public or private endeavors. Bobby Richardson fits this description and is deserving of this award. He served, and is still serving, America through his actions on and off the field. He has left a lasting legacy for the youth of American first through his athletic accomplishments, then through his actions later in life. We are proud to express our unwavering support for Bobby Richardson by recommending him for the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Sincerely,



Lindsey O. Graham
United States Senator



Tim Scott
United States Senator



Nancy Mace
Member of Congress



Joe Wilson
Member of Congress



Sheri Biggs
Member of Congress



William Timmons
Member of Congress



Ralph Norman
Member of Congress



Russell Fry
Member of Congress