

## 2023-J1599

Senate Resolution No. 1599

BY: Senator SEPULVEDA

HONORING Bartolo Colon upon the occasion of his retirement from Major League Baseball

WHEREAS, The State of New York honors individuals whose exceptional talents and dedication significantly contribute to the state's cultural and sports heritage; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to acknowledge those individuals whose professional lives and civic endeavors serve to enhance the stature of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Bartolo Colon upon the occasion of his retirement from Major League Baseball on Sunday, September 17, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Bartolo Colon, a distinguished Major League Baseball pitcher and proud Dominican immigrant, has officially announced his retirement, marking the end of a storied and impactful career; and

WHEREAS, Born on May 24, 1973, in Altamira, Dominican Republic, Bartolo Colon's journey to Major League Baseball is a testament to his perseverance, skill, and the dreams of countless immigrants who aspire to achieve greatness in their chosen fields; and

WHEREAS, Known affectionately as "Big Sexy" during his tenure with the New York Mets from 2014 to 2016, Colon became a beloved figure in New York, both for his exceptional performances on the mound and his charismatic presence, endearing him to fans across the state; and

WHEREAS, Bartolo Colon's time with the Mets was highlighted by memorable moments including a behind-the-back flip and hitting his first Major League home run at the age of 42, making him the oldest player to achieve this feat, a moment that brought immense pride and joy to New Yorkers; and

WHEREAS, With a record of 247 victories, Colon is celebrated as the pitcher with the most wins by a Dominican player, a four-time All-Star, the 2005 American League Cy Young Award winner, and a symbol of excellence for the Dominican community in New York and beyond; and

WHEREAS, His transformation from a hard-throwing power pitcher to a finesse pitcher showcases his adaptability and deep understanding of baseball, attributes that endeared him to his teammates, coaches, and the baseball community at large; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pauses in its deliberations to honor Bartolo Colon upon the occasion of his retirement from Major League Baseball, recognizing his outstanding career, significant contributions to the state of New York, and his role as a proud Dominican immigrant who brought glory and excitement to the sport; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Bartolo Colon.