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37<sup>th</sup> House District  
Montgomery County

Committees  
Chair Higher Education  
Pensions  
Finance  
Joint Committee on Property Tax  
Review and Reform  
Health Provider Services

**Tom Young**  
State Representative

Chair Peterson, Vice-Chair Thomas, Ranking Member Humphrey, and members of the House Government Oversight Committee thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on HCR 15.

Our resolution does two things:

1. Urge MLB commissioner Rob Manfred to remove Pete Rose from Major League Baseball's permanently ineligible list as soon as possible.
2. Urge the Baseball Writers' Association of America and the National Baseball Hall of Fame to include Pete Rose on the next Hall of Fame ballot.

Pete Rose was born in Cincinnati in 1941 and made his first appearance with the Cincinnati Reds on April 8<sup>th</sup>, 1963. Over the next 23 years he won three World Series Championships, one National League MVP, one World Series MVP, one National League Rookie of the Year, two Gold Glove Awards, one Silver Slugger Award, the Roberto Clemente Award, was a 17 time All-Star, has had his number 14 retired by the Cincinnati Reds, was inducted into the Cincinnati Reds Hall of Fame and named to the Major League Baseball All-Century Team.

Additionally, he holds the MLB record in:

- Most career at-bats – 14,053
- Most career plate appearances – 15,890
- Most career hits – 4,256
- Most career singles – 3,215
- Most career times on base – 5,929
- Most career outs – 10,328
- Most career games played – 3,562
- Most career winning games played – 1,972
- Only player to play at least 500 games at five different positions – 1B (939), LF (671), 3B (634), 2B (628), RF (595)
- Most career runs by a switch hitter – 2,165

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## Tom Young State Representative

- Most career doubles by a switch hitter – 746
- Most career walks by a switch hitter – 1,566
- Most career total bases by a switch hitter – 5,752
- Most seasons of 200 or more hits – 10 (shared)
- Most consecutive seasons of 100 or more hits – 23
- Most consecutive seasons with 600 or more at-bats – 13 (1968–1980) (shared)
- Most seasons with 600 at-bats – 17
- Most seasons with 150 or more games played – 17
- Most seasons with 100 or more games played – 23

And National League records in:

- Most years played – 24
- Most consecutive years played – 24
- Most career runs – 2,165
- Most career doubles – 746
- Most career games with 5 or more hits – 10
- Modern (post-1900) NL record for longest consecutive-game hitting streak NL – 44
- Modern record for most hitting streaks of 20 or more consecutive games – 7

Pete ended his playing career with a lifetime batting average of .303 and with the highest modern-day career fielding percentage for a right fielder at 99.14% and the highest National League modern-day career fielding percentage for a left fielder at 99.07%.

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All of this goes to say Pete Rose is integral to the history of Major League Baseball. It is also important to recognize the elephant in the room. Pete Rose bet on baseball games and other sports while playing for and managing the Reds. He also admitted to betting on Reds games, but said he never bet against them.

This is what lead to him being placed on the permanently ineligible list and keeps him out of the Hall of Fame. Today, we see Major League Baseball, its teams as well as other sports leagues and teams encouraging fans to place bets on the games. They provide parlays to track during the game as well as opening sports books within the stadium. Employees for these sportsbooks encourage fans to sign up for accounts outside the stadium, ads occur during games both in stadium and on TV and announcers and broadcasters discuss the betting odds and money lines when commentating these games.

Thank you for your time and I will now turn it over to my Joint Sponsor Representative Seitz.