

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 129

Expressing the sense of the Congress that a postage stamp should be issued to honor Zora Neale Hurston.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 29, 1997

Ms. BROWN of Florida (for herself, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. MCCOLLUM, Ms. ROSLEHTINEN, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. WATT of North Carolina, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. CLYBURN, Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri, Ms. CHRISTIAN-GREEN, Mr. FROST, Mr. DELLUMS, Mrs. CLAYTON, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BONIOR, Mr. BROWN of California, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Ms. CARSON, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. FILNER, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. RUSH, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. FOLEY, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. TORRES, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma, Mr. SNYDER, and Mr. GOSS) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress that a postage stamp should be issued to honor Zora Neale Hurston.

Whereas Zora Neale Hurston is one of the most famous American writers, folklorists, and interpreters of Southern rural African-American culture;

Whereas Zora Neale Hurston made significant contributions to the study and understanding of the American South's

folkways, and has enriched the American literary landscape;

Whereas some of Zora Neale Hurston's literary accomplishments include her autobiography, "Dust Tracks On A Road"; four novels, "Jonah's Gourd Vine", "Their Eyes Were Watching God", "Moses, Man of the Mountain", and "Seraph on the Sewanee"; two collections of folklore, "Of Men and Mules" and "Tell My Horse"; and numerous short stories, articles, and plays;

Whereas Zora Neale Hurston collaborated on works and associated with Langston Hughes and other notables of the Harlem Renaissance;

Whereas Zora Neale Hurston led an extraordinary life beyond the literary field as an anthropologist in the American South, the West Indies, and Haiti;

Whereas Zora Neale Hurston also worked as a journalist, teacher, and librarian;

Whereas recent Library of Congress discoveries of play manuscripts have furthered the revival of interest in Zora Neale Hurston;

Whereas Zora Neale Hurston has been listed in the book, "Black Female Playwrights", as "the most prolific and widely published female black writer of her era", and is seen as a major literary African-American female voice of the first half of the twentieth century;

Whereas Zora Neale Hurston was inducted into the Women's Hall of Fame in Seneca Falls, New York, in 1994, and the State of Florida's Writer's Hall of Fame in 1990;

Whereas Zora Neale Hurston has influenced famous authors and poets such as Maya Angelou, Toni Kay Bombara, and Nobel Laureate Toni Morrison;

Whereas Zora Neale Hurston has been recognized for her literary genius by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Alice Walker and literary scholar Robert Hemenway; and

Whereas the legacy of Zora Neale Hurston has inspired the establishment of the Zora Neale Hurston Society at Morgan State University and the annual Zora Neale Hurston Festival of Arts and Humanities in America's first African-American incorporated town of Eatonville, Florida: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of the Congress that—

3 (1) the United States Postal Service should
4 issue a postage stamp in honor of Zora Neale
5 Hurston;

6 (2) such stamp should be unveiled at the 1999
7 Zora Neale Hurston Festival in Eatonville, Florida;
8 and

9 (3) a copy of this resolution should be sent to
10 the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee of the
11 United States Postal Service and the Postmaster
12 General.

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