

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 38

Expressing the sense of the Congress that a commemorative postage stamp should be issued honoring Paul Leroy Robeson, and that the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee should recommend to the Postmaster General in 1999, that such a stamp be issued.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 25, 1999

Mr. RUSH (for himself, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. EVANS, Mr. FORD, Mr. HINCHEY, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. SHOWS, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mrs. MORELLA, Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma, Ms. LEE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. STARK, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. WYNN, Mr. GONZALEZ, and Mr. BONIOR) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress that a commemorative postage stamp should be issued honoring Paul Leroy Robeson, and that the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee should recommend to the Postmaster General in 1999, that such a stamp be issued.

- 1 Whereas April 9, 1998, was the centennial of the birth
- 2 of Paul Leroy Robeson;
- 3 Whereas Paul Leroy Robeson lost his mother, Anna, in
- 4 a household fire, and was reared in humble cir-
- 5 cumstances as 1 of 5 children in a single-parent

1 household by his father, William Drew Robeson, a
 2 Presbyterian minister, who graduated from Lincoln
 3 University;

4 Whereas despite difficult circumstances, as a child, Paul
 5 Leroy Robeson showed significant promise as an
 6 honor student, thespian, and athlete;

7 Whereas Paul Leroy Robeson graduated from Rutgers
 8 University in 1919, with letters in basketball, base-
 9 ball, discus, shot put, football, and javelin, and, more
 10 importantly, was a member of both the Phi Beta
 11 Kappa and Cap and Skull honor societies at Rutgers
 12 University;

13 Whereas Paul Leroy Robeson graduated from Columbia
 14 Law School in 1923, but found the legal profession
 15 so resistant to African-American lawyers that he em-
 16 barked on a career in the theater and arts which
 17 brought him world renown; and

18 Whereas Paul Leroy Robeson became an advocate for the
 19 rights of African-Americans and other oppressed peo-
 20 ple, and in so doing sacrificed his career as a world-
 21 renowned actor and singer: Now, therefore, be it

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

1 (1) a commemorative postage stamp should be
2 issued by the United States Postal Service honoring
3 Paul Leroy Robeson; and

4 (2) the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee
5 should recommend to the Postmaster General that
6 such a stamp be issued.

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