

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 60

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that a postage stamp should be issued in honor of Zora Neale Hurston.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 11, 1999

Ms. BROWN of Florida (for herself, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Mr. FORD, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. JEFFERSON, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. WATT of North Carolina, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD, Mrs. MORELLA, Ms. LEE, Ms. CARSON, Mrs. CHRISTIAN-CHRISTENSEN, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. CLAY, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. FOLEY, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. WYNN, and Mr. CONYERS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that a postage stamp should be issued in honor of 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 was active in the historic Harlem Renaissance and collaborated on works with other notable figures of the Harlem Renaissance including Langston Hughes;

Whereas Zora Neale Hurston was also influential 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*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-
2 resentatives that—

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

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

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