

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. RES. 482

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to the October 3, 2003, order released by the Federal Communications Commission's Enforcement Bureau in response to complaints regarding the broadcast of program material that contained indecent language.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 8, 2003

Mr. GINGREY (for himself, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. TANNER, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BARTON of Texas, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. STENHOLM, Mr. BURNS, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, and Mr. TURNER of Ohio) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to the October 3, 2003, order released by the Federal Communications Commission's Enforcement Bureau in response to complaints regarding the broadcast of program material that contained indecent language.

Whereas the complaint arose from the broadcast by numerous licensees of the "Golden Globe Awards" program on January 19, 2003, in which an individual used indecent language during the ceremony;

Whereas the Federal Communications Commission order determined that the licensees did not violate the law since

it was determined that the use of the indecent language was not rendered indecent since it did not “describe or depict sexual or excretory organs or activities”;

Whereas this is the latest salvo in a string of decisions by the Federal Communications Commission that establishes a precedent regarding the use of universally-recognized vulgar expletives on our Nation’s public airwaves; and

Whereas this precedent intrudes on the families’ ability to raise their children in an environment that is not inundated with indecent or profane language on our public airwaves: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That is the sense of the House of Rep-  
2       resentatives that—

3               (1) the House of Representatives does not sup-  
4       port the lowering of standards or the weakening of  
5       the rules of the Federal Communications Commis-  
6       sion prohibiting obscene and indecent broadcasts to  
7       allow network or other communications to use lan-  
8       guage that is indecent or vulgar;

9               (2) the Federal Communications Commission  
10      has a responsibility to utilize its enforcement author-  
11      ity to its proper extent to maintain those rules; and

12              (3) the House of Representatives will not allow  
13      the Federal Communications Commission to permit  
14      intrusion upon the family’s ability to raise their chil-

- 1 dren in an environment that is not inundated with
- 2 indecent or profane language on our public airwaves.

