

109TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. CON. RES. 119

Expressing the sense of Congress that Arthur Schomburg should be recognized for his leadership and contributions in documenting, recording, and researching the historical contributions to society of peoples of African descent and for his efforts to combat racial and ethnic discrimination in the United States.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 17, 2005

Mr. RANGEL submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress that Arthur Schomburg should be recognized for his leadership and contributions in documenting, recording, and researching the historical contributions to society of peoples of African descent and for his efforts to combat racial and ethnic discrimination in the United States.

Whereas Arthur Schomburg was born in Puerto Rico on January 24, 1874, and immigrated to New York City in 1891;

Whereas Arthur Schomburg first developed his thirst for knowledge about peoples of African descent through his participation in a history club;

Whereas during the early 20th century, Arthur Schomburg participated in the civil rights movements of immigrant Cubans and Puerto Ricans living in New York City;

Whereas Arthur Schomburg was a mason before he began to write about African world history and to collect written works focusing on the African Diaspora;

Whereas Arthur Schomburg was a collector of letters, manuscripts, prints, playbills, and paintings relating to African world history and the African Diaspora, and was particularly proud of his collection of almanacs produced by Benjamin Banneker;

Whereas Arthur Schomburg was keenly interested in the history of the Caribbean Basin and Latin America and its peoples and heroic figures;

Whereas Arthur Schomburg, who frequently loaned objects from his personal library to the 135th Street Branch of the New York Public Library, saw his collection become the cornerstone of the Division of Negro Literature, History, and Prints of the New York Public Library;

Whereas in 1926 Arthur Schomburg sold his collection, which numbered 10,000 items, to the New York Public Library with the financial help of the Carnegie Corporation; and

Whereas Arthur Schomburg was deeply involved in the cultural movement known as the Harlem Renaissance and was driven to combat racial prejudice by providing the proof of the extraordinary contributions of peoples of African descent: Now, therefore, be it

- 1       *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
- 2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that Arthur
- 3 Schomburg should be recognized both for his leadership

1 and contributions in documenting, recording, and re-  
2 searching the historical contributions to society of peoples  
3 of African descent and for his efforts to combat racial and  
4 ethnic discrimination in the United States.

