

109TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 452

Recognizing the cultural and educational contributions of the American Ballet Theatre throughout its 65 years of service as “America’s National Ballet Company”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 27, 2006

Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mrs. DOLE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the cultural and educational contributions of the American Ballet Theatre throughout its 65 years of service as “America’s National Ballet Company”.

Whereas American Ballet Theatre (known as “ABT”) is recognized as one of the world’s great dance companies;

Whereas ABT is dedicated to bringing dance to the United States and dance of the United States to the world;

Whereas, over its 65-year history, ABT has appeared in all 50 States of the United States, in a total of 126 cities, and has performed for more than 600,000 people annually;

Whereas ABT has performed in 42 countries as perhaps the most representative ballet company of the United States,

with many of those engagements sponsored by the Department of State;

Whereas ABT has been home to the world's most accomplished dancers and has commissioned works by all of the great choreographic geniuses of the 20th century;

Whereas President Dwight D. Eisenhower recognized ABT's ability to convey through the medium of ballet "some measure of understanding of America's cultural environment and inspiration";

Whereas over the years ABT has performed repeatedly at the White House, most recently in December 2005;

Whereas ABT is committed to bringing dance to a broad audience and provides exposure to dance to more than 20,000 underprivileged children and their families each year;

Whereas ABT's award-winning Make a Ballet program and its other outreach initiatives help to meet the need for arts education in underserved schools and communities;

Whereas ABT's Studio Company brings world class ballet to smaller communities like—

- (1) Rochester, New York;
- (2) Stamford, Connecticut;
- (3) Sanibel, Florida;
- (4) South Hadley, Massachusetts; and
- (5) Winston-Salem, North Carolina; and

Whereas the Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis School at ABT and the ABT's other artistic development initiatives provide the highest quality training consistent with the professional standards of ABT: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

1 (1) recognizes and commends the American
2 Ballet Theatre for over 65 years of service as
3 “America’s National Ballet Company”, during which
4 it has provided world class art to audiences in all 50
5 States;

6 (2) recognizes that the American Ballet Theatre
7 also serves as a true cultural ambassador for the
8 United States, by having performed in 42 countries
9 and fulfilling its reputation as one of the world’s
10 most revered and innovative dance companies; and

11 (3) recognizes that the American Ballet Thea-
12 tre’s extensive and innovative education, outreach,
13 and artistic development programs both train future
14 generations of great dancers and expose students to
15 the arts.

○