

Public Law 100-54
100th Congress

Joint Resolution

Recognizing the service and contributions of the Honorable Wilbur J. Cohen.

June 18, 1987

[H.J. Res. 283]

- Whereas the Congress mourns the loss of the Honorable Wilbur J. Cohen, a great humanitarian who was a compassionate spokesman, advocate, and champion of the poor and the common people;
- Whereas Wilbur J. Cohen was a participant and author in the creation of all social legislation in this country over the past five decades;
- Whereas Wilbur J. Cohen had a distinguished career in the Federal Government from 1935-1956, including being the 1st employee of the Social Security Board and the director of the office of research and statistics;
- Whereas Wilbur J. Cohen held the posts of the Assistant Secretary, Under Secretary, and Secretary of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare under the Kennedy and Johnson Administrations;
- Whereas Wilbur J. Cohen had an additional distinguished career as a professor, while only holding a Bachelor's degree, at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and at the University of Texas at Austin;
- Whereas Wilbur J. Cohen was the principal architect of the Medicare/Medicaid amendments of 1965;
- Whereas, in the last weeks of his life, Wilbur J. Cohen saw pending catastrophic legislation as a vehicle for expanding all aspects of health care, including prevention, home care, and nursing home coverage, in addition to long-term hospitalization coverage; and
- Whereas, in the last 52 years as a public and private citizen, Wilbur J. Cohen effectively advocated for expansion of social insurance: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Honorable Wilbur J. Cohen, champion of social insurance, architect of Social Security, disability insurance, Medicare and Medicaid, mental

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health legislation, children's programs, and civil rights legislation, is recognized for outstanding service and contributions for the development of a social insurance system that provides vital health and social services to all Americans regardless of their age, sex, race, creed, or national origin.

Approved June 18, 1987.

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June 3, considered and passed Senate.