

111TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 1474

Commending Harry Belafonte for receiving the Hubert H. Humphrey Civil and Human Rights Award from the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 24, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON (for herself, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. RUSH, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. STARK, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. COHEN, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Ms. NORTON, Mr. WATT, and Mr. TOWNS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

RESOLUTION

Commending Harry Belafonte for receiving the Hubert H. Humphrey Civil and Human Rights Award from the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights.

Whereas the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights is a coalition charged by its diverse membership of more than 200 national organizations to promote and protect the civil and human rights of all persons in the United States that, through advocacy and outreach to targeted constituencies, works toward the goal of a more open and just society—an America as good as its ideals;

Whereas Hubert Humphrey’s deep commitment and dedication to social justice are legendary, because—

(1) he devoted his life to public service in the cause of equality;

(2) elected mayor of Minneapolis in 1945, he quickly ascended to the national political scene;

(3) addressing racial discrimination and anti-Semitism in Minneapolis in 1948, he was responsible for the city enacting the Nation's first municipal fair employment legislation;

(4) that same year, amid fierce debate on the direction of civil rights, he delivered a fiery speech at the Democratic National Convention and spurred the Democratic Party to add a civil rights plank to their platform;

(5) from 1949–1964, he served from Minnesota as one of the Nation's most distinguished Senators and was pivotal in the enactment of the 1964 Civil Rights Act calling its passage “one of the landmarks of my life”;

(6) elected vice president of the United States in 1964, he continued his selfless advocacy for equality in a free, plural, and democratic society;

(7) in 1971, he resumed his senatorial career, and in 1974 he introduced the ambitious Humphrey-Hawkins Full Employment and National Growth bill, the first attempt at full employment legislation, which eventually passed after his death in 1978; and

(8) this final legislative achievement stood as a symbol of Humphrey's undying commitment to the humanitarian goals of the New Deal;

Whereas as a testament to Hubert Humphrey's exemplary leadership on civil and human rights, the Hubert H. Humphrey Civil and Human Rights Award was established by The Leadership Conference in 1977; and

Whereas Harry Belafonte received the Hubert H. Humphrey Award because—

(1) he is as well-known for his pursuit of social justice as he is for his artistic talent;

(2) his initiatives in overturning racial barriers throughout society are highly acclaimed;

(3) he served as a confidant to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., helped to organize the March on Washington in 1963, raised funds to free imprisoned civil rights protesters, and has been a powerful voice for voting rights;

(4) as a result of his work as the driving force behind the 1985 “We Are the World” project, Mr. Belafonte was named a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador in 1987;

(5) he was an outspoken opponent of Apartheid and is known for his longstanding advocacy for the people of Haiti; and

(6) he remains a tireless advocate of human rights efforts in the United States and throughout the world: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives com-
 2 mends Harry Belafonte for receiving the Hubert H. Hum-
 3 phrey Civil and Human Rights Award on Wednesday, May
 4 12, 2010, from the Leadership Conference on Civil and
 5 Human Rights.

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