

103<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. RES. 189

Honoring cultural achievements of the Voice of America.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 8, 1993

Mr. MICHEL (for himself and Mr. GILMAN) submitted the following resolution;  
which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## RESOLUTION

Honoring cultural achievements of the Voice of America.

Whereas the Voice of America is the global radio network of the United States Government, seeking to promote understanding abroad for the United States, its people, culture, and policies;

Whereas the Voice of America's charter calls upon it to provide consistently reliable and authoritative news, balanced and comprehensive information about the United States, and official pronouncements of the United States Government;

Whereas the Voice of America broadcasts are not directed to audiences in the United States, so that most Americans have no first-hand knowledge of the professionalism and patriotism that are the hallmark of such broadcasts;

Whereas the Voice of America tells America's story to the world on a daily basis, not only in terms of news and politics and policy, but also by reflecting the complexity, diversity, and excellence of American art and culture;

Whereas chief among our Nation's indigenous art forms is jazz;

Whereas since 1955, Willis Conover of Voice of America has been broadcasting the best of American jazz to millions around the world;

Whereas during that time, the music of Duke Ellington, Charlie Parker, Ella Fitzgerald, Benny Goodman, Dizzy Gillespie, and other great American artists, broadcast by Mr. Conover, have come to symbolize the freedom and creativity of democracy for those denied freedom; and

Whereas Mr. Conover has said "Jazz is a liberating kind of music . . . every emotion—love, anger, joy, sadness—can be communicated with the vitality and spirit that characterizes our country at its best—which is of course the same freedom that people everywhere should enjoy.":  
Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives ap-  
2       plauds the Voice of America for disseminating the very  
3       best of American culture to those in other lands, exempli-  
4       fied in the work of Willis Conover who for thirty-eight  
5       years has made a unique and important contribution to  
6       the cause of international understanding and good will.

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