

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 69

Expressing the sense of Congress that a commemorative postage stamp should be issued in honor of Luis A. Ferré.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 16, 2007

Mr. FORTUÑO submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress that a commemorative postage stamp should be issued in honor of Luis A. Ferré.

Whereas Luis A. Ferré was born on February 17, 1904, in Ponce, Puerto Rico;

Whereas Luis A. Ferré was a Puerto Rican engineer, industrialist, politician, philanthropist, environmentalist, and patron of the arts;

Whereas Luis A. Ferré was a distinguished statesman and a great American who dedicated himself to his family, the economic and cultural growth of Puerto Rico, and the dream that Puerto Rico would one day be welcomed as the 51st State of the Union;

Whereas in 1948, Luis A. Ferré acquired *El Día*, a fledgling newspaper, later converting it to *El Nuevo Día*, currently the newspaper with the largest circulation in Puerto Rico;

Whereas in 1952, Luis A. Ferré played a key role in the drafting of Puerto Rico's first Constitution, and, in that same year, was elected Representative in the Puerto Rico House of Representatives;

Whereas in 1968, Luis A. Ferré became Governor of Puerto Rico, in which capacity some of his many achievements included implementation of the Federal minimum wage, paying special attention to youth affairs, visiting the troops in Vietnam, and creating the Nation's first environmental control board, Puerto Rico's Environmental Quality Board, charged with protecting the island's environment;

Whereas Luis A. Ferré remained active in politics after completing his governorship;

Whereas Luis A. Ferré was elected to the Senate of Puerto Rico in 1976, served as the eighth President of the Senate of Puerto Rico from 1976 to 1980, and continued to serve in the Senate until 1985;

Whereas Luis A. Ferré never abandoned his passion to see Puerto Rico's political status resolved, and tirelessly advocated the statehood cause before Congress well into his late nineties;

Whereas Luis A. Ferré was a gifted musician who recorded several albums of his piano recitals; founded the Ponce Museum of Art in his hometown of Ponce, Puerto Rico; and is also credited with assisting in the chartering of the Puerto Rico Conservatory of Music and the establishment of the world-famous Casals Festival;

Whereas Luis A. Ferré's philanthropic deeds and defense of democratic values earned him the Presidential Medal of Freedom, awarded by President George H.W. Bush on November 18, 1991; and

Whereas Luis A. Ferré passed away on October 21, 2003, just three months shy of his 100th birthday: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that—

3 (1) a commemorative postage stamp should be
4 issued in honor of Luis A. Ferré; and

5 (2) the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee
6 should recommend to the Postmaster General that
7 such a stamp be issued.

