

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 8

Expressing the sense of Congress that a commemorative postage stamp should be issued honoring Barbara Charline Jordan.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 7, 2009

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas 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 honoring Barbara Charline Jordan.

Whereas Barbara Charline Jordan was an American original as a public servant and later as a professor, and she transcended race, gender, and politics;

Whereas Barbara Charline Jordan was never reluctant or afraid to speak truth to power and was a tireless and unceasing advocate for equal opportunity for all, equal justice under the law, and transparency, accountability, and ethics in government;

Whereas in 1966 Barbara Charline Jordan became the first African-American woman elected to the senate of the State of Texas and was the only woman in the 1967–1968 legislative session;

Whereas in 1972 Barbara Charline Jordan became the first African-American woman from the State of Texas elected to Congress after Reconstruction and served with distinction on the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives;

Whereas one of Barbara Charline Jordan's Federal legislative achievements was the 1975 renewal and expansion of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 to include language minorities;

Whereas in 1975 a leading national magazine surveyed 700 political opinion leaders, and they ranked Barbara Charline Jordan at the top of a list of women they would like to see become president;

Whereas in 1976 Barbara Charline Jordan delivered a keynote address entitled "Who Then Will Speak for the Common Good?" at the Democratic National Convention and in doing so became the first African-American woman to deliver a keynote address at the Democratic National Convention;

Whereas Barbara Charline Jordan left Congress in 1979 to join the faculty of the Lyndon Baines Johnson School of Public Policy at the University of Texas, where she held the endowed Lyndon B. Johnson Centennial Chair in National Policy, named for one of her political mentors, President Lyndon Baines Johnson;

Whereas in 1994 Barbara Charline Jordan was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President William Jefferson Clinton for being "the most outspoken moral voice of the American political system";

Whereas on January 17, 1996, Barbara Charline Jordan died at the young age of 59 from complications of leukemia; and

Whereas commemorative postage stamps have been commissioned to honor other great leaders in American history; 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) the United States Postal Service should
4 issue a commemorative postage stamp honoring Bar-
5 bara Charline Jordan; and

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

