

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. RES. 894

Honoring the 50th anniversary of the recording of the album “Kind of Blue” and reaffirming jazz as a national treasure.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 5, 2009

Mr. CONYERS (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. ABERCROMBIE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

---

## RESOLUTION

Honoring the 50th anniversary of the recording of the album “Kind of Blue” and reaffirming jazz as a national treasure.

Whereas, on August 17, 1959, Miles Davis, Jimmy Cobb, Bill Evans, Wynton Kelly, Paul Chambers, John Coltrane, and Julian “Cannonball” Adderley collaborated to record the album “Kind of Blue”;

Whereas “Kind of Blue” ranks 12th on the list of the “500 Greatest Albums of All Time” published by Rolling Stone magazine;

Whereas “Kind of Blue” was recorded in 1959, the year Columbia Records declared “jazz’s greatest year”;

Whereas “Kind of Blue” marked the beginning of the mass popularity of jazz in the United States;

Whereas in 2008, the Recording Industry Association of America awarded “Kind of Blue” quadruple-platinum status, meaning 4,000,000 copies of the album had been sold;

Whereas in 2002, the Library of Congress added “Kind of Blue” to the National Recording Registry;

Whereas “Kind of Blue” was recognized as the bestselling record in the history of jazz;

Whereas 50 years after the release of “Kind of Blue”, MOJO magazine honored the Legacy Edition of the album by giving it the “Best Catalogue Release of the Year” award;

Whereas “Kind of Blue” both redefined the concept of jazz for musicians and changed the perceptions of jazz held by many fans;

Whereas today, the sole surviving member of the Miles Davis Sextet, Jimmy Cobb, is performing and touring with his So What Band in tribute to the 50th anniversary of “Kind of Blue”; and

Whereas “Kind of Blue” continues to be the standard masterpiece of jazz for American musicians and audiences: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2               (1) honors the 50th anniversary of “Kind of  
3       Blue” and recognizes the unique contribution the  
4       album has made to American jazz;

5               (2) directs the Clerk of the House of Represent-  
6       atives to transmit enrolled copies of this resolution  
7       to Columbia Records;

1           (3) encourages the United States Government  
2           to take all appropriate steps to preserve and advance  
3           the art form of jazz music;

4           (4) recommits itself to ensuring that musical  
5           artists such as Miles Davis and his Sextet receive  
6           fair protection under the copyright laws of the  
7           United States for their contributions to culture in  
8           the United States; and

9           (5) reaffirms the status of jazz as a national  
10          treasure.

○