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House of Representatives

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February 12, 2009

The Hollywood Walk of Fame is known throughout the world to be America's recognition of accomplishments in the entertainment industry. I have long supported the process of posthumously awarding a Star on the Walk of Fame to the legendary Ethel Waters.

In addition to being a pioneer in the entertainment industry, Ethel Waters has also played a powerful role in African-American history. She was the first African-American entertainer to be nominated for an Emmy, the first African-American to star in a Broadway play, and only the second African-American to be nominated for an Academy Award.

The Hollywood Chamber of Commerce was kind enough to approve this application in 2004, but there was some difficulty in raising the required funding. Fortunately, a new group of supporters has committed to raising the funds to finally complete this process.

I thank the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce for allowing us to belatedly complete this process. And I truly appreciate the efforts currently being made to raise the funding necessary to help acknowledge Ethel Waters' valuable contributions to the entertainment industry. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Diane E. Watson, Ph.D.
Member of Congress
Chair, Congressional Entertainment Industries Caucus

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