

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. RES. 399

Honoring the life and legacy of Melvin Jones and recognizing the  
contributions of Lions Clubs International.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 15, 2003

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota submitted the following resolution; which was  
referred to the Committee on Government Reform

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## RESOLUTION

Honoring the life and legacy of Melvin Jones and recognizing  
the contributions of Lions Clubs International.

Whereas Melvin Jones was born in the Cavalry Outpost at  
Fort Thomas, Arizona, on January 13, 1879;

Whereas Melvin Jones experienced early success in the insur-  
ance industry and that success led to his sole ownership  
of an insurance agency;

Whereas although many business clubs of the time exhibited  
a self-interested attitude, Melvin Jones had a vision of an  
organization of businessmen focused on volunteerism and  
community service;

Whereas the Association of Lions Clubs, known today as  
Lions Clubs International, was begun on June 17, 1917,

when 20 delegates gathered in the East Room of the Hotel LaSalle in Chicago;

Whereas, while Melvin Jones passed away on June 1, 1961, his legacy lives on;

Whereas, for over 85 years, Lions Clubs International has honored Melvin Jones' legacy by following the simple rule that he insisted be included in the organization's Constitution: "No club shall hold out as one of its objects, financial benefits to its members.";

Whereas Lions Clubs International counts over 46,000 clubs and 1.4 million members, and constitutes the largest network of service clubs in the world; and

Whereas Lions Clubs International continues to embrace its motto "We Serve" by performing a wide range of services, including cleaning local parks, supporting advances in medical technology, bringing sight to the blind, mentoring children, and organizing Liberty Day celebrations: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2               (1) honors the life and legacy of volunteerism  
3               and community service of Melvin Jones; and

4               (2) recognizes the contributions and service of  
5               Lions Clubs International to communities and those  
6               in need throughout the world.

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