

HRES 999

Recognizing the threats to press freedom in the United States in the wake of protests following the killing of George Floyd, an unarmed Black man, by police in Minneapolis on May 25, 2020, reaffirming the centrality of a free and independent press to the health of democracy, and reaffirming freedom of the press as a priority of the United States in promoting democracy, human rights, and good governance.

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

Introduced: Jun 11, 2020

Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary. (Jun 11, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-resolution/999>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Scanlon, Mary Gay [D-PA-5]

Party: Democratic • **State:** PA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (20 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Jun 11, 2020
Del. San Nicolas, Michael F. Q. [D-GU-At Large]	D · GU		Jun 11, 2020
Rep. Beatty, Joyce [D-OH-3]	D · OH		Jun 11, 2020
Rep. Cicilline, David N. [D-RI-1]	D · RI		Jun 11, 2020
Rep. Cooper, Jim [D-TN-5]	D · TN		Jun 11, 2020
Rep. Eshoo, Anna G. [D-CA-18]	D · CA		Jun 11, 2020
Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-20]	D · FL		Jun 11, 2020
Rep. Hayes, Jahana [D-CT-5]	D · CT		Jun 11, 2020
Rep. Houlahan, Chrissy [D-PA-6]	D · PA		Jun 11, 2020
Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]	D · CA		Jun 11, 2020
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		Jun 11, 2020
Rep. Neguse, Joe [D-CO-2]	D · CO		Jun 11, 2020
Rep. Raskin, Jamie [D-MD-8]	D · MD		Jun 11, 2020
Rep. Rush, Bobby L. [D-IL-1]	D · IL		Jun 11, 2020
Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-28]	D · CA		Jun 11, 2020
Rep. Vargas, Juan [D-CA-51]	D · CA		Jun 11, 2020
Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large]	D · VT		Jun 11, 2020
Rep. Levin, Andy [D-MI-9]	D · MI		Jun 26, 2020
Rep. Maloney, Carolyn B. [D-NY-12]	D · NY		Jul 13, 2020
Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]	D · TX		Jul 24, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred To	Jun 11, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HRES 1009	Identical bill	Jun 18, 2020: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

Summary (as of Jun 11, 2020)

This resolution expresses support for freedom of the press and opposes the targeting of journalists.

Specifically, the resolution

- calls on law enforcement to protect freedom of the press and refrain from targeting journalists and media workers;
- calls on government entities to clarify that credentialed press are exempt from curfews enacted in response to protests and public demonstrations;
- stresses the need for accountability where law enforcement entities or protesters violate the Constitution, laws, or regulations in their treatment of journalists and media crews during protests; and
- reaffirms the centrality of freedom of the press to supporting democracy, exposing corruption, and promoting good governance.

Actions Timeline

- Jun 11, 2020: Introduced in House
- Jun 11, 2020: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.