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(Original Signature of Member)

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES.

Recognizing the 50th anniversary of the landmark case *Gideon v. Wainwright*, in which the Supreme Court held that counsel must be provided to indigent defendants in all felony cases.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. DEUTCH submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on _____

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the 50th anniversary of the landmark case *Gideon v. Wainwright*, in which the Supreme Court held that counsel must be provided to indigent defendants in all felony cases.

Whereas on March 18, 1963, the Supreme Court recognized in *Gideon v. Wainwright* that counsel must be provided to indigent defendants in all felony cases;

Whereas the Supreme Court held that providing counsel to indigent defendants in all felony cases meets the essential requirements of the 6th amendment to the United States Constitution;

Whereas the Supreme Court held in *Argersinger v. Hamlin* that indigent defendants are entitled, under the 6th amendment to the United States Constitution, to court-appointed counsel in all cases where imprisonment is a possibility;

Whereas 50 years after the *Gideon v. Wainwright* decision, excessive caseloads are preventing counsel for indigent defendants from providing quality representation; and

Whereas the provision of counsel to indigent defendants often lacks fairness and increases the risk that poor people will be wrongfully convicted: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) recognizes and honors the 50th anniversary
3 of the decision in *Gideon v. Wainwright*;

4 (2) encourages all people in the United States
5 to recognize and honor the 50th anniversary of the
6 *Gideon v. Wainwright* decision; and

7 (3) supports strategies to improve the criminal
8 justice system to ensure that indigent defendants in
9 all felony cases are adequately represented by coun-
10 sel.