

107TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 491

Supporting the goals and ideals of National Safety Forces Appreciation Week.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 26, 2002

Mr. LATOURETTE submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Supporting the goals and ideals of National Safety Forces
Appreciation Week.

Whereas the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, focused the Nation's attention on the selfless dedication of police and other law enforcement officers, firefighters, and emergency medical personnel;

Whereas the men and women of these safety forces in every community in the United States always answer the call when needed;

Whereas there are over 1 million career and volunteer firefighters in the United States, and more than 1 million Federal, State, and local law enforcement officers;

Whereas each response to a call for help carries with it the potential for members of these safety forces to face life-threatening situations;

Whereas the year 2001 had the highest number of deaths in a single year for police and firefighters since such records have been maintained;

Whereas more than 435 firefighters died in the line of duty in 2001, including 343 at the World Trade Center;

Whereas more than 230 Federal, State, and local law enforcement officers were killed in the line of duty in 2001, including 71 in the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks;

Whereas harm to police, fire, and rescue workers is all too common, with more than 85,000 firefighters injured in the line of duty annually and more than 55,000 law enforcement officers assaulted in the line of duty annually;

Whereas the safety forces are routinely willing to help not only their own communities but others as well, and indeed 25 search and rescue teams from 18 States assisted at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon after September 11, 2001, and countless fire and police departments from around the Nation sent people to assist in rescue and recovery efforts;

Whereas the safety forces will play a critical role in securing the Nation's safety from terrorist attacks in addition to all their other duties;

Whereas such valor, dedication, and sacrifice should not go unnoticed by the citizens of a free Nation;

Whereas communities, schools, and organizations throughout the Nation should be encouraged to set time aside each year to hold events recognizing, praising, and appreciating the safety forces;

Whereas many communities have requested that Congress designate a time to honor safety forces nationwide; and

Whereas it would be appropriate that the week beginning September 8 and ending September 14 of each year be designated as “National Safety Forces Appreciation Week” to honor and recognize our police, firefighters, and emergency medical personnel: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That the Congress supports the goals and
3 ideals of National Safety Forces Appreciation Week.

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