

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. CON. RES. 39

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 29, 2005

Referred to the Committee on Armed Services

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express the sense of Congress on the Purple Heart.

Whereas the Purple Heart is the oldest military decoration in the world in present use;

Whereas the Purple Heart is awarded in the name of the President of the United States to members of the Armed Forces who are wounded in conflict with an enemy force or are wounded while held by an enemy force as prisoners of war, and posthumously to the next of kin of members of the Armed Forces who are killed in conflict with an enemy force or who die of a wound received in conflict with an enemy force;

Whereas the Purple Heart was established on August 7, 1782, during the Revolutionary War, when General George Washington issued an order establishing the Honorary Badge of Distinction, otherwise known as the Badge of Military Merit;

Whereas the award of the Purple Heart ceased with the end of the Revolutionary War, but was revived in 1932, the 200th anniversary of George Washington's birth, out of respect for his memory and military achievements; and

Whereas National Purple Heart Recognition Day is a fitting tribute to George Washington and to the more than 1,535,000 recipients of the Purple Heart, approximately 550,000 of whom are still living: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*
2 *concurring), That Congress—*

3 (1) supports the goals and ideals of National
4 Purple Heart Recognition Day;

5 (2) encourages all people of the United States
6 to learn about the history of the Purple Heart and
7 to honor its recipients; and

8 (3) requests that the President issue a procla-
9 mation calling on the people of the United States to
10 conduct appropriate ceremonies, activities, and pro-
11 grams to demonstrate support for people who have
12 been awarded the Purple Heart.

Passed the Senate July 28, 2005.

Attest:

EMILY J. REYNOLDS,

Secretary.