



Legislative Bulletin.....September 15, 2004

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H.Res. 177 — Expressing the thanks of the House of Representatives and the Nation for the contributions to freedom made by American POW/MIAs on National POW/MIA Recognition Day

H.Res. 177 — Expressing the thanks of the House of Representatives and the Nation for the contributions to freedom made by American POW/MIAs on National POW/MIA Recognition Day (Simmons)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, September 15, 2004, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.Res. 177 includes six findings regarding POW's and MIA's and the National POW/MIA Recognition Day (September 14, 2004) and resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “(1) recognizes that National POW/MIA Recognition Day is one of the six days specified by law (pursuant to section 902 of title 36, United States Code) as a day on which the POW/MIA flag is to be flown over specified Federal facilities and national cemeteries, military installations, and post offices;
- “(2) extends the gratitude of the House of Representatives and the Nation to those who have served their nation in captivity to hostile forces as prisoners of war;
- “(3) recognizes and honors the more than 88,000 members of the United States Armed Forces who remain unaccounted for and their families;
- “(4) recognizes the untiring efforts of national POW/MIA organizations to ensuring that America never forgets the contribution of the Nation's prisoners of war and unaccounted for military personnel; and
- “(5) calls on all Americans to recognize National POW/MIA Recognition Day with appropriate remembrances, ceremonies, and activities.”

Additional Information: According to resolution's findings, from World War II to the present, more than 88,000 members of the United States Armed Forces remain unaccounted for and nearly 50,000 former American prisoners of war currently live in the United States. National POW/MIA Recognition Day is one of the six days specified by law as days on which the POW/MIA flag is to be flown over specified Federal facilities and national cemeteries, post offices, and military installations. By custom, it is often observed in Pentagon ceremonies on the third Friday in September, but in 2004, it will be observed on Tuesday, September 14, 2004, out of respect for Rosh Hashanah.

Committee Action: The resolution was introduced yesterday, September 14, 2004, and referred to the House Committee on Armed Services, which did not consider it.

Cost to Taxpayers: None.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

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