



Legislative Bulletin.....September 11, 2008

H.Res. 1420—Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the terrorist attacks launched against the United States on September 11, 2001 (*Hoyer, D-MD*)

Order of Business: H.Res. 1420 is scheduled to be considered on Thursday, September 11, 2008, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 1420 would express the sense that the House or Representatives:

- “Recognizes September 11 as a day of solemn commemoration;
- “Extends its deepest condolences again to the friends, families, and loved ones of the innocent victims of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks;
- “Honors the heroic service, actions, and sacrifices of first responders, law enforcement personnel, State and local officials, volunteers, and others who aided the innocent victims and, in so doing, bravely risked and often sacrificed their own lives;
- “Expresses gratitude to the foreign leaders and citizens of all nations who have assisted and continue to stand in solidarity with the United States against terrorism in the aftermath of the attacks;
- “Asserts in the strongest possible terms that the war on terrorists and terrorism is not a war on any nation, any people, or any faith;
- “Recognizes the heroic service, actions, and sacrifices of United States personnel, including members of the United States Armed Forces, the United States intelligence agencies, the United States diplomatic service, and their families, who have sacrificed much, including their lives and health, in defense of their country against terrorists and their supporters;
- “Vows that it will continue to take whatever actions are appropriate to identify, intercept, and defeat terrorists, including providing the United States Armed Forces, the United States intelligence agencies, and the United States diplomatic service with the resources and support to effectively and safely accomplish this mission; and
- “Reaffirms that the American people will never forget the sacrifices made on and since September 11, 2001, and will defeat those who attacked our Nation through our shared determination, spirit, and embrace of democratic values.”

The resolution lists the following findings:

- “On the morning of September 11, 2001, terrorists hijacked and destroyed four civilian aircraft, crashing two of them into the towers of the World Trade Center in New York City and a third into the Pentagon outside Washington, DC;
- “The passengers and crew aboard United Flight 93 acted heroically to prevent the terrorist hijackers from taking additional American lives, by crashing the plane in Shanksville, Pennsylvania and sacrificing their own lives instead;
- “Thousands of innocent men, women, and children were brutally murdered in the attacks of September 11, 2001;
- “7 years later, the United States still mourns their loss and honors their memory;
- “By targeting symbols of American strength and prosperity, the attacks were intended to assail the principles and values of the American people, to intimidate the Nation and its allies, and to weaken the national resolve;
- “The United States remains steadfast in its determination to defeat, disrupt, and destroy terrorist organizations and seeks to harness all elements of national power, including its military, economic, and diplomatic resources, to do so;
- “Congress passed and the President signed numerous laws to assist victims of terrorism, protect our Nation, combat terrorism at home and abroad, and support, in the field and upon return, the members of the Armed Forces who courageously defend the United States;
- “The terrorist attacks that have occurred around the world since September 11, 2001, remind us all of the hateful inhumanity of terrorism and the ongoing threat it poses to freedom, justice, and the rule of law;
- “The United States has worked cooperatively with the nations of the free world to capture and punish terrorists and remains committed to building strong and effective counterterrorism alliances;
- “Immediately following September 11, 2001, the United States Armed Forces moved swiftly against al-Qaeda and the Taliban, which the President and Congress had identified as enemies of the United States;
- “In doing so, brave servicemen and women left loved ones in order to defend the Nation; and
- “7 years later, many servicemen and women remain abroad, defending the Nation from further terrorist attacks and continuing to battle al-Qaeda and the Taliban.”

Committee Action: H.Res. 1420 was introduced on September 9, 2008, and referred to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform, Foreign Affairs, Armed Services, Transportation and Infrastructure, Homeland Security, the Judiciary, and Intelligence. No further action was taken.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution does not authorize expenditures.

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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