



**Legislative Bulletin.....March 5, 2002**

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**H.Con.Res. \_\_\_—Authorizing the printing as a House document of a collection of memorial tributes made in honor of the late Gerald Solomon (Ney)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

**Summary:** The resolution would authorize the printing of a collection of statements (and related materials) made in tribute to the late Gerald Solomon as a House document. Specifically, the resolution would authorize the printing of the lesser of either 114 casebound copies or the number of casebound copies that yields a total production and printing cost of \$25,525. About half of the printed copies would go to the Solomon family, one copy would go to each U.S. senator from New York, and two copies would go to each House member from New York.

**Additional Background:** Jerry Solomon enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps at the onset of the Korean War, served on active duty until July 25, 1952, and remained in the Marine Corps Reserve until honorably discharged on July 14, 1959.

For over 25 years, Solomon was an insurance agent in Glens Falls, New York. He and his wife Freda had five children and four grandchildren.

Solomon served six years as Queensbury Town Supervisor and Warren County Supervisor. He then served six years as a New York State Assemblyman. Beginning in 1978, he represented the 22<sup>nd</sup> congressional district of New York (encompassing much of the Hudson Valley region) in the U.S. House of Representatives and eventually became chairman of the House Rules Committee.

President Reagan appointed Solomon as an Ambassador Delegate to the United Nations and later appointed him to serve as a congressional advisor to the UN session on disarmament. Solomon also served as the congressional delegate to the North Atlantic Assembly, the

political arm of NATO.

Solomon founded the Gerald B.H. Solomon Freedom Foundation, a charitable organization that awards scholarships for top-ranking Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts seeking to attend college.

After a three-year retirement from Congress, on October 26, 2001, Solomon died of congestive heart failure at age 71.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** The resolution would authorize total production costs for the House document of not more than \$25,525.

**Does the Bill Create New Federal Programs or Rules?:** The resolution would authorize the production of a new House document.

**Constitutional Authority:** A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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### **H.Con.Res. 305—Permitting the use of the Rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony to present a gold medal on behalf of Congress to former President Ronald Reagan and his wife Nancy Reagan (Gibbons)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution will be considered under suspension of the rules on Tuesday, March 5, 2002.

**Summary:** H.Con.Res. 305 permits the Rotunda of the Capitol to be used on May 15, 2002, for a ceremony to present a Congressional Gold Medal to former President Ronald Reagan and his wife Nancy Reagan. The concurrent resolution also authorizes physical preparations for the ceremony to be carried out in accordance with conditions set by the Architect of the Capitol.

In 2000, Congress authorized the award of a gold medal to former President Ronald Reagan and his wife Nancy Reagan in recognition of their service to the Nation. The House passed the bill during the 106<sup>th</sup> Congress on April 3, 2000, by a vote of 350-8, 1 present. (<http://clerkweb.house.gov/cgi-bin/vote.exe?year=2000&rollnumber=97>)

**Additional Information:** Former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev wrote in a letter released in March of 2000, "The award of the Gold Medal of the U.S. Congress to Ronald Reagan is a fitting tribute. Together with Ronald Reagan, we took the first, most important steps to end the Cold War and start real nuclear disarmament."

Source: <http://asia.cnn.com/2000/ALLPOLITICS/stories/03/15/reagan.medal/>

For talking points on President Reagan, including his quotes arranged by issue area, please see the RSC Reagan document at <http://www.house.gov/burton/RSC/Reagan.PDF>

**Cost to Taxpayers:** The Rotunda resolution authorizes no new expenditures. CBO estimates that it costs \$30,000 to design a Gold Medal and \$5,500 per medal for the gold. Duplicate bronze medals will be sold and proceeds deposited back into the Numismatic Public Enterprise Fund account to offset costs.

**Constitutional Authority:** A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

**Does the Bill Create New Federal Programs or Rules:** No.

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