

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 372

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the historic significance of the 210th anniversary of the establishment of the Coast Guard, and for other purposes.

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Whereas the Revenue Cutter Service was established in 1790 under the jurisdiction of the Treasury Department;

Whereas the Revenue Cutter Service and the United States Life-Saving Service were combined in 1915 to form the Coast Guard;

Whereas in April 1967, the Coast Guard was transferred to the Department of Transportation where it remains

today (except when operating as a service in the Navy in times of war);

Whereas the Coast Guard is comprised of nearly 35,000 active personnel and 28,000 reserve personnel;

Whereas the Coast Guard is supported by approximately 35,000 volunteers of the Coast Guard Auxiliary;

Whereas the Coast Guard is the Nation's premier military, multimission, maritime service that provides unique, non-redundant, complimentary capabilities to safeguard United States national security interests;

Whereas the Coast Guard provides unique services and benefits to the United States through a distinctive blend of humanitarian, law enforcement, diplomatic, and military capabilities;

Whereas the five operating roles of the Coast Guard are maritime safety, maritime security, protection of natural resources, maritime mobility, and national defense;

Whereas each year the Coast Guard conducts on average more than 65,000 search and rescue missions, saving over 5,000 lives and \$1,400,000,000 in property;

Whereas each year the Coast Guard, through its drug interdiction efforts, keeps more than \$3,000,000,000 worth of drugs off United States streets;

Whereas the Coast Guard safeguards ocean resources from degradation by pollution and overuse through marine environmental protection and fisheries enforcement programs;

Whereas each year the Coast Guard responds to more than 11,600 hazardous waste spills, inspects approximately

34,000 United States vessels and 19,400 foreign vessels,
and investigates over 7,400 marine accidents;

Whereas the Coast Guard maintains the largest system of
aids to navigation in the world, with more than 50,000
buoys, fixed markers, and lighthouses;

Whereas the Coast Guard provides critical ice breaking serv-
ices for the Nation's inland waterways and shipping
channels;

Whereas the Coast Guard is responsible for approximately
18,000 highway and railroad bridges that span navigable
waterways throughout the Nation;

Whereas the Coast Guard plays a leading role in the Nation's
undocumented migrant interdiction activities;

Whereas the Coast Guard is a military service and a branch
of the Armed Forces, and plays a crucial role in the
President's strategy of international engagement;

Whereas Coast Guard personnel have fought in every major
military conflict since its inception in 1790; and

Whereas the men and women serving in the Coast Guard em-
body a rich tradition of honor, devotion to duty, and
dedication to service during times of peace and war: Now,
therefore, be it

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

3 (1) recognizes the historic significance of the
4 210th anniversary of the establishment of the Coast
5 Guard and the indelible contributions of the Coast
6 Guard to the United States;

7 (2) commends—

1 (A) the Coast Guard’s effectiveness in pro-
2 tecting the public, the environment, and United
3 States economic and security interests in the
4 Nation’s ports and inland waterways, along the
5 Nation’s coasts, on international waters, and in
6 any maritime region in which United States in-
7 terests may be at risk; and

8 (B) the men and women serving in the
9 Coast Guard who risk their lives to save others
10 in danger at sea, enforce the Nation’s treaties
11 and other laws, protect the marine environment,
12 ensure a safe and efficient marine transpor-
13 tation system, and support diplomatic and na-
14 tional defense interests of the United States
15 worldwide; and

16 (3) supports the Coast Guard in its efforts to
17 remain “Semper Paratus”—Always Ready—as it
18 moves forward to meet the demands of the 21st cen-
19 tury.

Passed the House of Representatives July 25, 2000.

Attest:

Clerk.