

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas September 8, 2000 marks the 100th anniversary of the hurricane that struck Galveston, Texas on September 8, 1900, the deadliest natural disaster in United States history;

Whereas an estimated 6,000 people died in a few hours in this thriving port of 37,000, dubbed the “Wall Street of the West” at the dawn of the 20th century;

Whereas vast waves, surging flood waters, and powerful winds of more than 120 miles an hour overtook the town, in an era without radar, satellites, or modern radio, making off-shore hurricanes difficult to track;

Whereas the residents of Galveston island showed much courage and sacrifice during the tempest, exemplified by 10 nuns who lost their lives along with the 90 children they were trying to save at St. Mary’s Orphanage on the beach;

Whereas Galveston never lost her resilient spirit, built a sturdy 17-foot sea wall that staved off other fierce hurricanes, pumped in millions of tons of sand from the Gulf of Mexico in order to raise the level of the city and its buildings to a safer height, and became a beautiful and prosperous town yet again;

Whereas the city of Galveston is this year holding a ceremony commemorating the hurricane, launching educational efforts, and celebrating the rebirth of Galveston after the storm; and

Whereas our Nation, which benefits from modern weather technology and the lessons learned from the Galveston tragedy, should never cease to improve hurricane forecasting and make life safer and more secure along our coasts: Now, therefore, be it

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

3 (1) September 8, 2000 is designated as Gal-
4 veston Hurricane National Remembrance Day; and

5 (2) the President is authorized and requested to
6 issue a proclamation in memory of the thousands of
7 Galvestonians and other Americans who lost their
8 lives in the devastating hurricane of 1900 and the
9 survivors who rebuilt Galveston.

Passed the Senate September 6, 2000.

Attest:

Secretary.

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. CON. RES. 134

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Designating September 8, 2000, as Galveston
Hurricane National Remembrance Day.