

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas November 17, 2000, is the 200th anniversary of the first meeting of Congress in Washington, DC;

Whereas Congress, having previously convened at the Federal Hall in New York City and at the Congress Hall in Philadelphia, has met in the United States Capitol Building since November 17, 1800;

Whereas President John Adams, on November 22, 1800, addressed a joint session of Congress in Washington, DC, for the first time, stating, “I congratulate the people of the United States on the assembling of Congress at the permanent seat of their Government; and I congratulate you, gentlemen, on the prospect of a residence not to be changed.”;

Whereas, on December 12, 1900, Congress convened a joint meeting to observe the centennial of its residence in Washington, DC;

Whereas since its first meeting in Washington, DC, on November 17, 1800, Congress has continued to cultivate and build upon a heritage of respect for individual liberty, representative government, and the attainment of equal and inalienable rights, all of which are symbolized in the physical structure of the United States Capitol Building; and

Whereas it is appropriate for Congress, as the first branch of the government under the Constitution, to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the first meeting of Congress in Washington, DC, in order to focus public attention on its present duties and responsibilities: Now, therefore, be it

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

3 (1) November 17, 2000, be designated as a day of
 4 national observance for the 200th anniversary of the first
 5 meeting of Congress in Washington, DC; and

6 (2) the people of the United States be urged and in-
 7 vited to observe such date by celebrating and examining
 8 the legislative process by which members of Congress con-
 9 vene and air differences, learn from one another, subordi-
 10 nate parochial interests, compromise, and work towards
 11 achieving a constructive consensus for the good of the peo-
 12 ple of the United States.

Passed the Senate October 5 (legislative day, September 22), 2000.

Attest:

Secretary.

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. CON. RES. 144

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Commemorating the 200th anniversary of the first
meeting of Congress in Washington, DC.