

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 240

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER, 15, 2005

Received and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Supporting the goals and ideals of a national day of prayer and remembrance for the victims of Hurricane Katrina and encouraging all Americans to observe that day.

Whereas on August 25, 2005, Hurricane Katrina made landfall on the southeast tip of Florida as a Category 1 hurricane;

Whereas Hurricane Katrina moved into the Gulf of Mexico, rapidly intensifying to a Category 5 hurricane and, on August 29, 2005, made landfall on the Gulf coast as a Category 4 hurricane with 140 mile-per-hour winds,

devastating communities and towns in Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana;

Whereas the levees protecting the city of New Orleans, Louisiana from Lake Pontchartrain failed, causing heavy flooding in the city and inflicting incredible human and material damage;

Whereas Hurricane Katrina caused the evacuation of the city of New Orleans, marking the first time a major American city has been completely evacuated;

Whereas the number of individuals killed by Hurricane Katrina is estimated to be in the hundreds;

Whereas the damage to human life and the fabric of families torn apart by Hurricane Katrina is inestimable;

Whereas Hurricane Katrina has inflicted enormous damage to homes and businesses along the Gulf Coast, with damage estimates in the hundreds of billions of dollars;

Whereas Hurricane Katrina left an estimated five million people without power, and it may be months before all power is restored;

Whereas the States of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Florida have received federal disaster declarations;

Whereas Hurricane Katrina ranks among the worst natural disasters in our Nation's history;

Whereas years of intense effort will be required to recover from the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina and to rebuild the Gulf Coast;

Whereas the American people have an inherent spirit of willpower and strong resilience;

Whereas the American people have opened their hearts and their homes to the victims of Hurricane Katrina, sheltering its victims, providing food and medical assistance, and donating hundreds of millions of dollars to the relief effort;

Whereas Louisiana Governor Kathleen Blanco declared August 31, 2005, to be a day of prayer in the State of Louisiana, and asked that all Louisianans take time that day to pray for the victims of Hurricane Katrina and their rescuers; and

Whereas President George W. Bush has proclaimed September 16, 2005, to be a National Day of Prayer and Remembrance for the Victims of Hurricane Katrina: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
 2 *concurring)*, That Congress supports the goals and ideals
 3 of a national day of prayer and remembrance for the vic-
 4 tims of Hurricane Katrina and encourages all Americans
 5 to observe that day.

Passed the House of Representatives September 14,
 2005.

Attest:

JEFF TRANDAHL,

Clerk.

By GERASIMOS C. VANS,

Deputy Clerk.