

H. Res. 963

In the House of Representatives, U. S.,

February 14, 2008.

Whereas February 11–15, 2008, has been designated by the President as National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans Week;

Whereas the National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans week each year is an opportunity to thank a special group of men and women, the more than 98,000 veterans of the United States Armed Forces, who are cared for every day in Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical centers, outpatient clinics, domicilaries, and nursing homes;

Whereas at the 155 VA hospitals across the Nation, there are veterans who face the physical and mental wounds of combat every day, long after their military service has been completed;

Whereas we can never fully repay our debt of gratitude to the veterans, but will thank and support them with our words and deeds;

Whereas Mike Vogel, motion picture actor and star of the newly-released “Cloverfield”, will lead the VA’s annual patient recognition program as the national spokesperson, inviting the public to visit and honor hospitalized veterans during National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans Week; and

Whereas Mike Vogel will be the youngest celebrity to lead the National Salute, bringing youthful energy to the program at a time when the number of young combat veterans under the care of the VA is growing, and as the VA is looking to younger generations of Americans to replenish an aging volunteer force: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans Program and its efforts to pay tribute to and express appreciation for hospitalized veterans, to increase community awareness of the role of VA medical centers, and to encourage citizens to visit hospitalized veterans and become involved as volunteers;

(2) encourages citizens who live near a VA hospital or clinic to take time this week to visit and thank our veterans; and

(3) will continue to work with veterans service organizations to support our veterans with words, actions, and financial assistance.

Attest:

Clerk.