

111TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. RES. 1565

Expressing support for the designation of the third Thursday of April as “Rachel’s Challenge: A Day of Kindness and Compassion” in honor of the triumph and hope stemming from the life of Rachel Scott and in memoriam of the Columbine High School tragedy.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 28, 2010

Mr. HALL of Texas (for himself and Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

RESOLUTION

Expressing support for the designation of the third Thursday of April as “Rachel’s Challenge: A Day of Kindness and Compassion” in honor of the triumph and hope stemming from the life of Rachel Scott and in memoriam of the Columbine High School tragedy.

Whereas Rachel Scott was born on August 5, 1981, and passed away on April 20, 1999;

Whereas Rachel Scott was the first victim of the Columbine tragedy who through acts of kindness and compassion sparked the inspiration for Rachel’s Challenge, a nationwide school outreach program for the prevention of teen violence that empowers people, recognizes and celebrates

doing the right thing, focuses on healthy, happy, well-balanced students, and builds healthy communities;

Whereas Rachel Scott drew an outline of her hand on the back of her dresser and wrote, “These hands belong to Rachel Joy Scott and will someday touch millions of people’s hearts”;

Whereas Rachel Scott was beloved by her family, friends, fellow students, teachers, and administrators for her generosity, good humor, spirited charm, and the belief that kindness and compassion could be contagious and life changing;

Whereas Rachel Scott wrote a challenge to the world through an essay she titled, “My Ethics, My Codes of Life” just a month before she was killed;

Whereas in this essay she challenged people by saying, “I have this theory that if one person can go out of their way to show compassion, then it will start a chain reaction of the same. People will never know how far a little kindness can go”;

Whereas Rachel Scott left an example of kindness and compassion as one of the most inspirational students in the United States by reaching out to students who were handicapped, new to school, or picked on or put down by others, and her actions are now being replicated by millions of people;

Whereas Rachel Scott was posthumously awarded the 2001 National Kindness Award as Student of the Year by the Acts of Kindness Association;

Whereas Rachel Scott, through her humanitarian work, leaves an incomparable legacy serving as an inspiration for kindness and compassion and will never be forgotten;

Whereas Rachel Scott once said, “How do you know that trust, compassion, and beauty will not make this world a better place”;

Whereas Rachel Scott through the work of her dad, Darrell Scott, and Rachel’s Challenge, was awarded the National Education Association of New York Friend of Education Award;

Whereas Rachel’s Challenge has directly impacted over 13,000,000 people since 1999, prevented hundreds of suicides, documented the prevention of school shootings and incidence of violence, and inspired over 1,000 service clubs, involving hundreds of thousands of students, that have been created in her memory in schools across the United States and are impacting innumerable communities;

Whereas Rachel’s Challenge extends Rachel Scott’s challenge of kindness and compassion to all students through national and international multimedia campaigns and broadcasts;

Whereas Rachel’s Challenge will cosponsor on May 6, 2010, the packaging of over 1,000,000 meals for Haiti in 1 day, and each year from this point forward on the third Thursday of April the world record for packaging meals will be broken again and again; and

Whereas the third Thursday of April would be an appropriate date to designate as “Rachel’s Challenge: A Day of Kindness and Compassion” to bring awareness to kindness, compassion, and service to world hunger: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

1 (1) supports the designation of “Rachel’s Chal-
2 lenge: A Day of Kindness and Compassion”;

3 (2) honors the life and accomplishments of Ra-
4 chel Scott and her challenge to start a chain reac-
5 tion of kindness and compassion;

6 (3) recognizes Rachel’s Challenge for delivering
7 Rachel Scott’s legacy to the world; and

8 (4) remembers the victims of the Columbine
9 school tragedy, their families and friends, and all the
10 people impacted.

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