

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. RES. 331

Supporting the goals and ideals of National Drowning Prevention and Water Safety Month.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 2, 2009

Mrs. TAUSCHER (for herself, Mr. WOLF, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## RESOLUTION

Supporting the goals and ideals of National Drowning Prevention and Water Safety Month.

Whereas for children ages 1 to 4 and 10 to 14, drowning is the second leading cause of unintentional injury and death;

Whereas on average, annually 3,600 injuries occur to children due to near drowning incidents;

Whereas on average, of 2,725 children who were treated annually in an emergency room for pool submersion, an estimated 10 percent sustained permanent neurological injury;

Whereas between May and August, drowning deaths among children increase 89 percent;

Whereas in 2000, total drowning injuries cost the Nation over \$16 billion;

Whereas 91 percent of the reported non-fatal drowning incidents for 2005 through 2007 and 89 percent of drowning fatalities for 2003 through 2005 for children under age 5 occurred in a residential setting;

Whereas there is a need to educate individuals and to promote awareness within society as to the causes of drowning and near drowning incidents;

Whereas State and local governments need to partner with policymakers, educators, nonprofits, community leaders, and others to develop strategies to prevent future drowning and near drowning incidents; and

Whereas the House of Representatives recognizes May 2009 as “National Drowning Prevention and Water Safety Month”: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-  
2       resentatives that—

3               (1) National Drowning Prevention and Water  
4       Safety Month provides an opportunity to urge pol-  
5       icymakers, educators, nonprofits, community leaders,  
6       and others to educate the people of the United  
7       States on drowning and near drowning prevention  
8       and how to use primary and secondary prevention  
9       strategies to reduce morbidity and mortality associ-  
10      ated with drowning and submersion injuries;

11              (2) parents, caregivers, supervisors, and others  
12      should be encouraged to be aware of the hazards as-

1       sociated with children near swimming and water rec-  
2       reational facilities, use appropriate prevention strate-  
3       gies, and be prepared with the skills to save a child’s  
4       life in the event of emergencies;

5           (3) it is important to incorporate “layers of  
6       protection”, including active adult supervision, the  
7       use of drain entrapment prevention devices and sys-  
8       tems on pools and spas to prevent entrapment, and  
9       the use of enclosures to prevent small children from  
10      gaining unsupervised access to pools and spas; and

11          (4) the people of the United States, interested  
12      groups, and State and local governments should pro-  
13      mote awareness of, and volunteer involvement in,  
14      National Drowning Prevention and Water Safety  
15      Month.

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