

112TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. RES. 771

Expressing support for the designation of February 14th as National Solidarity Day for Compassionate Patient Care to promote national awareness of the importance of compassionate and respectful relationships between health care professionals and their patients as reflected in attitudes that are sensitive to the values, autonomy, cultural, and ethnic backgrounds of patients and families.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 2, 2012

Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## RESOLUTION

Expressing support for the designation of February 14th as National Solidarity Day for Compassionate Patient Care to promote national awareness of the importance of compassionate and respectful relationships between health care professionals and their patients as reflected in attitudes that are sensitive to the values, autonomy, cultural, and ethnic backgrounds of patients and families.

Whereas individuals and groups of medical professionals and students stand in solidarity to support compassion in health care as expressed by Dr. Randall Friese, triage physician at the University of Arizona Medical Center who, when queried, stated that the most important treatment he provided to Congress member Gabrielle Giffords

after she was shot on January 8, 2011, was to hold her hand and reassure her that she was in the hospital and would be cared for;

Whereas physicians, nurses, all other health care professionals, and medical facilities are charged with providing both the art and science of medicine;

Whereas a greater awareness of the importance of compassion in health care encourages health care professionals to be mindful of the need to treat the patient rather than the disease;

Whereas scientific research illustrates that when health care professionals practice humanistically; demonstrating the qualities of integrity, excellence, compassion, altruism, respect, empathy, and service, their patients have better medical outcomes; and

Whereas February 14th would be an appropriate day to designate as National Solidarity Day for Compassionate Patient Care and to celebrate it by health care students and professionals performing humanistic acts of compassion and kindness toward patients, families of patients, and health care colleagues: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2               (1) supports the goals and ideals of National  
3       Solidarity Day for Compassionate Patient Care;

4               (2) recognizes the importance and value of a re-  
5       spectful relationship between health care profes-  
6       sionals and their patients as a means of promoting  
7       better health outcomes; and

- 1           (3) encourages all health care professionals to  
2       be mindful of the importance of both—  
3           (A) being humanistic and compassionate;  
4       and  
5           (B) providing technical expertise.

