

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 575

Expressing disapproval of the occupation of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge
by a group of armed individuals.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 5, 2016

Mr. GRIJALVA submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the
Committee on Natural Resources

RESOLUTION

Expressing disapproval of the occupation of Malheur
National Wildlife Refuge by a group of armed individuals.

Whereas, on Saturday January 2, 2016, a number of armed
individuals broke into and occupied the headquarters
building at the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in Har-
ney County, Oregon;

Whereas these individuals have continued to unlawfully oc-
cupy and block access to the refuge headquarters in viola-
tion of Federal law, disrupting operations of the refuge;

Whereas these individuals have prevented 20 refuge employ-
ees from reporting to work and prevented refuge employ-
ees living on the refuge from accessing their homes;

Whereas the unlawful actions of these individuals are harming the local community, including forcing local officials to close public schools in the area for security reasons;

Whereas these actions have forced closure of at least one other Federal facility in the area;

Whereas the Harney County Sheriff and local residents, including Dwight and Steven Hammond, have condemned these unlawful actions;

Whereas recent incidents involving these individuals and similar armed groups have resulted in violence, or threats of violence, toward Federal land managers and local and Federal law enforcement officers;

Whereas those engaged in these unlawful activities have publicly called for more armed individuals to come to the refuge;

Whereas at least one elected official has already offered inflammatory statements supporting these unlawful actions; and

Whereas it is imperative that this unlawful occupation does not escalate into violence: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives con-
 2 demns the unlawful, armed occupation of the Malheur Na-
 3 tional Wildlife Refuge and calls on those involved to end
 4 their occupation and surrender to law enforcement au-
 5 thorities immediately.

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