

There was no objection.

AUTHORIZING USE OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR GREATER WASHINGTON SOAP BOX DERBY

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 49) authorizing the use of the Capitol grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 49

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring).

SECTION 1. AUTHORIZATION OF SOAP BOX DERBY RACES ON CAPITOL GROUNDS.

The Greater Washington Soap Box Derby Association (hereinafter in this resolution referred to as the "Association") shall be permitted to sponsor a public event, soap box derby races, on the Capitol grounds on July 12, 1997, or on such other date as the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate may jointly designate.

SEC. 2. CONDITIONS.

The event to be carried out under this resolution shall be free of admission charge to the public and arranged not to interfere with the needs of Congress, under conditions to be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board; except that the Association shall assume full responsibility for all expenses and liabilities incident to all activities associated with the event.

SEC. 3. STRUCTURES AND EQUIPMENT.

For the purposes of this resolution, the Association is authorized to erect upon the Capitol grounds, subject to the approval of the Architect of the Capitol, such stage, sound amplification devices, and other related structures and equipment as may be required for the event to be carried out under this resolution.

SEC. 4. ADDITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS.

The Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board are authorized to make any such additional arrangements that may be required to carry out the event under this resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California [Mr. KIM] and the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. TRAFICANT] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California [Mr. KIM].

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, House Concurrent Resolution 49 simply authorizes the use of the Capitol grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby races to be held on July 12, 1997. This free event is sponsored by the All American Soap Box Derby and its local affiliate, the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby Association. Its participants are young girls and boys from 9 to 16 who reside in the greater Washington metropolitan area. Winners in the various age groups will advance to the national championship in Akron, OH. Pursuant to this resolution the association will assume full responsibility for any expenses or any liability related to the event. This association also agrees to make any necessary arrangements for

the races with the approval of the Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board.

Mr. Speaker, for over 50 years the soap box derby races have taken place in Washington, DC. It is truly an exciting event for the family, and I support the resolution and urge my colleagues to pass the resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

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Mr. Speaker, I join the gentleman from California [Mr. KIM] in supporting H. Con. Res. 49. I would like to just compliment Rick Barnett and Susan Brita, the staff, for all of the work they do on many of these things that are more laborious than seem to be substantive, but they do serve a good purpose.

The 1996 event produced three winners, who then went on to win the National Derby held in Akron, OH. Two of these winners were brother and sister. The Washington event has grown in size and now has become one of the best attended in the country.

The derby organizers will work with the Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police to ensure that appropriate rules and regulations are in place. It is a good initiative. I join Mr. KIM in supporting it.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise enthusiastically today in support of House Concurrent Resolution 49, a resolution authorizing the use of the grounds of the U.S. Capitol for a truly wonderful and family-oriented event: the Greater Washington Soapbox Derby. For the past 6 years, I have sponsored this legislation, and I would like to offer my very sincere thanks to the chairman and ranking member of the Subcommittee on Public Buildings and Economic Development—Mr. KIM and Mr. TRAFICANT—and to the chairman and ranking member of the full Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure—Mr. SCHUSTER and Mr. OBERSTAR—for their commendable work in bringing this legislation to the floor in so timely a manner.

This resolution authorizes the use of Constitution Ave. between Delaware Ave. and Third St. for the 56th running of the Greater Washington Soap box Derby on July 12, 1997. The competition is part of the All-American Soap box Derby which will be held later this year.

The resolution also authorizes the Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police to negotiate a licensing agreement with the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby Association ensuring full compliance with the rules and regulations governing use of the Capitol Grounds.

I am happy once again to have the support of Members from the Washington metropolitan region as cosponsors. Ms. NORTON, Mr. MORAN, Mr. WOLF, Ms. MORELLA, and Mr. WYNN have been enthusiastic supporters in years past and they are again this year.

This event provides young boys and girls, ages 9 to 16, with an invaluable opportunity to develop and practice both good sportsmanship and engineering skill. This year, there will

once again be over 50 participants from Washington, DC, and the surrounding communities of northern Virginia and Maryland participating in the derby events. I am especially pleased that boys and girls representing four of the five counties in my district will be competing in this year's derby.

The Soap box Derby promotes a fun, positive and character-building activity for our young people to participate in. At a time when our newspapers are filled with stories about the transgressions and negative conduct of our youth, and at a time when Congress has been forced to confront juvenile crime as an issue of national scope and magnitude, it is certainly a pleasure to be involved in an event which provides a positive outlet for kids and teenagers from the region.

I like to recall a statement made to me by Ken Tomasello, director of the Greater Soap Box Derby Association, when I introduced the first resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for this event. Ken said, in short, "The derby doesn't keep kids off the street; it gives them a drug-free activity on the street."

The young people involved in this event spend many months preparing for this race—building their derby cars from the ground up. The day they actually compete provides a genuine sense of accomplishment and camaraderie—for the participants, and their families and friends alike. This worthwhile event also provides visitors to the Capitol and local residents with a safe and enjoyable day of activities.

I would like to take this opportunity to offer my sincere congratulations to all of this year's participants for their hard work and dedication and I wish them all well in this year's race.

Again, I want to thank the Transportation Committee for its consistent support of the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby and I encourage all of my colleagues to attend this year's race.

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California [Mr. KIM] that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 49.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on House Concurrent Resolution 49.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.