

governing the use of the Capitol Grounds. The event is open to the public and free of charge, and the sponsor will assume responsibility for all expenses and liabilities related to the event.

In addition, sales, advertisements, and solicitations are explicitly prohibited on the Capitol Grounds for this event. The races are to take place on Constitution Avenue between Delaware Avenue and Third Street, Northwest. Their participants are residents of the Washington Metropolitan Area and range in ages from 9 to 16. This event is currently one of the largest races in the country, and the winners of these races will represent the Washington metropolitan area at the national finals to be held in Akron, Ohio. I strongly support this resolution and urge my colleagues to do the same.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I am delighted to join the sponsor, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), in supporting H. Con. Res. 79 and acknowledge the efforts of the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), who has been such a champion for his constituents for this event.

H. Con. Res. 79 authorizes the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby. Youth ranging in age from 9 to 16 construct and operate their own soap box vehicles. On June 23, 2001, children from the Greater Washington area will race down Constitution Avenue to test the principles of aerodynamics. Hundreds of volunteers donate considerable time supporting the event and providing families with a fun-filled day. The event has grown in popularity, and Washington now is known as one of the outstanding race cities.

Madam Speaker, I support H. Con. Res. 79 and urge my colleagues to support it as well.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, for the last 9 years, I have sponsored a resolution for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby to hold its race along Constitution Avenue.

This year, I am once again proud to have introduced H. Con. Res. 79 to permit the 64th running of the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby, which is to take place on the Capitol Grounds on June 23, 2001.

This resolution authorizes the Architect of the Capitol, The Capitol Police Board, and the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby Association to negotiate the necessary arrangements for carrying out running of the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby in complete compliance with rules and regulations governing the use of the Capitol Grounds.

In the past, the full House has supported this resolution once reported favorably by the full Transportation Committee. I ask my colleagues to join with me, and the other cosponsors including Representatives ALBERT WYNN, CONNIE MORELLA, JIM MORAN, FRANK WOLF, and ELEANOR HOLMES-NORTON in supporting this resolution.

From 1992 to 2000, the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby welcomed over 52 contestants which made the Washington, DC, race one of the largest in the country. Participants range from ages 9 to 16 and hail from communities in Maryland, the District of Columbia, and Virginia.

The Winners of this local even will represent the Washington Metropolitan Area in the national race, which will be held in Akron, OH, on July 28, 2001.

The young people involved spend months preparing for this race, and the day that they complete it makes it all the more worthwhile. The soap box derby provides our young people with an opportunity to gain valuable skills such as engineering and aerodynamics.

Furthermore, the derby promotes team work, a strong sense of accomplishment, sportsmanship, leadership, and responsibility. These are positive attributes that we should encourage children to carry into adulthood.

I want to thank the Transportation full committee and subcommittee chairmen and ranking members for their support and I urge all of the Members to support this legislation.

Mrs. MORELLA. Madam Speaker, I am delighted to join the sponsor, Mr. HOYER, and the other cosponsors—Mr. WOLF, Mr. WYNN, Mr. MORAN, and Ms. NORTON—in supporting House Concurrent Resolution 79 which allows for participants in the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby to use the Capitol Grounds and race along Constitution Avenue on June 23rd. For the past nine years, I have cosponsored this resolution along with the rest of the Greater Washington Metropolitan delegation in order to promote this annual community event—which is now in its 60th year of running.

The Greater Washington Soap Box Derby has been considered one of the largest races in the nation—averaging over 40 contestants each year. Participants in the Derby, ranging in age from 9 to 16, live in communities in the great State of Maryland, the District of Columbia, and Virginia. The winners of the local event in June will have the honor of representing the Washington Metro area at the National Derby Race in Akron, Ohio on July 28th.

The Derby truly is a community event with scores of children, parents, and volunteers working tirelessly to construct and operate the soap boxes. The region's youth have the opportunity to learn the lessons of team work, competition, and sportsmanship—as well as the physics and mechanics involved in building an aerodynamically shaped soap box car.

I also would like to applaud one of my constituents, George Weissgerber of Rockville, Maryland for his work again this year as the Derby Director.

I invite the Members of the House to not only support this resolution today, but also with your attendance at the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby on June 23rd.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 79.

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.

AUTHORIZING USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR 2001 DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SPECIAL OLYMPICS LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN

Mr. LATOURETTE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 87) authorizing the 2001 District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run to be run through the Capitol Grounds.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 87

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

SECTION 1. AUTHORIZATION OF RUNNING OF D.C. SPECIAL OLYMPICS LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN THROUGH CAPITOL GROUNDS.

On June 1, 2001, or on such other date as the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate may jointly designate, the 2001 District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run (in this resolution referred to as the "event") may be run through the Capitol Grounds as part of the journey of the Special Olympics torch to the District of Columbia Special Olympics summer games at Gallaudet University in the District of Columbia.

SEC. 2. RESPONSIBILITY OF CAPITOL POLICE BOARD.

The Capitol Police Board shall take such actions as may be necessary to carry out the event.

SEC. 3. CONDITIONS RELATING TO PHYSICAL PREPARATIONS.

The Architect of the Capitol may prescribe conditions for physical preparations for the event.

SEC. 4. ENFORCEMENT OF RESTRICTIONS.

The Capitol Police Board shall provide for enforcement of the restrictions contained in section 4 of the Act of July 31, 1946 (40 U.S.C. 193d; 60 Stat. 718), concerning sales, advertisements, displays, and solicitations on the Capitol Grounds, as well as other restrictions applicable to the Capitol Grounds, with respect to the event.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. COSTELLO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE).

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

Madam Speaker, House Concurrent Resolution 87 authorizes the 2001 District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run to be conducted through the Grounds of the Capitol on June 1, 2001 or on such date as the Speaker of the House and the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration jointly designate.

The resolution also authorizes the Architect of the Capitol, the Capitol Police Board, and the D.C. Special Olympics, the sponsor of the event, to negotiate the necessary arrangements for carrying out the event in complete

compliance with the rules and regulations governing the use of the Capitol Grounds.

The sponsor of the event will assume all expenses and liabilities in connection with the event, and all sales, advertisements, and solicitations are prohibited.

The Capitol Police will host the opening ceremonies for the run starting on Capitol Hill, and the event will be free of charge and open to the public.

Over 2,000 law enforcement representatives from local and Federal law enforcement agencies in Washington will carry the Special Olympics torch in honor of the 2,500 Special Olympians who participate in this annual event to show their support of the Special Olympics.

For over a decade, Madam Speaker, the Congress has supported this worthy endeavor by enacting resolutions for the use of the grounds. I am proud to have sponsored, along with the ranking member of our subcommittee, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. COSTELLO), this resolution and urge my colleagues to support it.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, this event needs little introduction. The year 2001 marks the 33rd anniversary of the D.C. Special Olympics. The torch relay event is a traditional part of the opening ceremonies for the Special Olympics, which take place at Gallaudet University in the District of Columbia. In the mid-1960s, Eunice Kennedy Shriver started a summer camp for handicapped children in her backyard. Since that modest beginning, this event has grown to involve approximately 2,500 Special Olympians competing in over a dozen events.

More than 1 million children and adults with special needs participate in Special Olympic programs worldwide. The event is supported by thousands of volunteers. The goal of the games is to help bring developmentally disabled individuals into the larger society under conditions where they are accepted and respected. Confidence and self-esteem are the building blocks for these Olympic games.

I enthusiastically support this resolution. I thank the subcommittee chairman for his support. I urge passage of this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 87.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

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HONORING SERVICES AND SACRIFICES OF THE UNITED STATES MERCHANT MARINE

Mr. LATOURETTE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 109) honoring the services and sacrifices of the United States merchant marine.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 109

Whereas throughout our history, the United States merchant marine has served the Nation during times of war;

Whereas the merchant marine served as the Nation's first navy, and defeated the British Navy to help gain the Nation's independence;

Whereas during World War II more than 250,000 men and women served in the merchant marine, and faced dangers from the elements, and from mines, submarines, other armed enemy vessels, and aircraft;

Whereas during World War II vessels of the merchant marine fleet, such as the S.S. Lane Victory, provided critical logistical support to the Armed Forces by carrying equipment, supplies, and personnel necessary to the war effort;

Whereas President Franklin D. Roosevelt and many military leaders praised the role of the merchant marine as the "Fourth Arm of Defense" during World War II;

Whereas during World War II more than 6,800 members of the merchant marine were killed at sea, more than 11,000 were wounded, and more than 600 were taken prisoner;

Whereas 1 out of every 32 members of the merchant marine serving during World War II died in the line of duty, a higher percentage of war related deaths than in any of the armed services;

Whereas, at a time when the people of the United States are recognizing the contributions of the Armed Forces and civilian personnel to the national security, it is appropriate to recognize the service of the merchant marine; and

Whereas the merchant marine continues to serve and protect the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) honors the service and sacrifice of members of the United States merchant marine;

(2) recognizes the critical role played by vessels of the United States merchant marine fleet in transporting equipment, supplies, and personnel in support of the Nation's defense;

(3) recognizes the historical significance of May 22 as National Maritime Day, so designated in 1933 to commemorate the anniversary of the first transoceanic voyage under steam propulsion, and finds it fitting and proper on this day of paying tribute to our maritime history to pay special honor to the merchant marine;

(4) encourages the American people and appropriate government agencies, through appropriate ceremonies and activities, to recognize the services and sacrifices of the United States merchant marine, and to observe this day by displaying the flag of the United States at their homes and other suitable places; and

(5) requests that all ships sailing under the United States flag prominently display the flag on this day.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. COSTELLO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE).

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

First of all, as May 22 is the day nationally designated as the commemoration for the efforts of merchant mariners across the country, I want to specifically thank the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG), the chairman of our full committee; the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR), the ranking member of the full committee; the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. LOBIONDO), the chairman of the Subcommittee on the Coast Guard; and the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. BROWN), the ranking member, for agreeing to discharge this particular resolution from the committee's consideration.

Madam Speaker, H. Con. Res. 109 honors the services and sacrifices of the United States Merchant Marine. Today, we are here to pay tribute to a group of American heroes who, in my estimation, have never gotten their just due for all they have done to serve our country; that is, the Merchant Marines.

The Merchant Marines certainly are aware of their proud history, but I will bet that there are millions of Americans out there, especially our schoolchildren, who probably did not hear much about the tremendous role of the Merchant Marine when they were learning about the Second World War.

The United States Merchant Marine has served the people of the United States in all wars since 1775 and was in existence prior to the formation of the United States Navy or the United States Coast Guard. In fact, the United States Merchant Marine was our country's first Navy and defeated the British Navy to help win our country's independence.

The Merchant Marine's role was especially important during the Second World War. The Merchant Marines were the ones who took the troops through harm's way and delivered supplies all over the world. Merchant Marines were participants in landing operations from Guadalcanal to Iwo Jima, and suffered the highest casualty rate of any service during the Second World War.

At least 8,600 merchant mariners were killed at sea, meaning one in 32 were killed in action. Another 11,000 mariners were wounded, and some 1,500 ships were sunk. More than 604 were taken prisoner. From December 1941 to August 1945 alone, the United States lost 5,638 merchant seamen aboard 733 ships sunk by submarines. Some weeks, 30 ships were sunk.

Our Merchant Marines were there long before the war began and were the