

It's vital that our nation be united as never before as we emerge from these terrible events. The symbol of our unity is our flag. I urge every business and home to raise their flags high in support of the victims and their families of this atrocity. By doing so, each of us will send a signal to the world that as a nation we will not be deterred by the vicious attack, and we will move through this together strengthening each other.

I thank the sponsors of this resolution.

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution encouraging our citizens and communities to show their support for the victims of our most recent and most vicious national tragedy by displaying our Nation's most recognizable symbol of freedom, the American flag.

The terrorist attack earlier this week has brought us together as a nation. From the smallest communities in our country to our nation's largest cities, Americans have shown their love and respect for one another in many different ways. By giving blood and sending donations, our nation's people have once again proven why we are the greatest nation on the face of this Earth.

I am extremely proud to join the members of this legislative body in asking each of our constituents to display the American flag over the course of the next month. Our unity in flying our nation's flag at our homes, in our businesses, in our communities, and where we worship will be yet one more way to show the entire world that we are one nation, stronger than we have ever been.

The lives of all United States citizens will be greatly altered because of this national tragedy. We stand here today encouraging American flags be flown in remembrance of those whose lives were lost to show both unity and strength in our nation. Terrorists may be able to destroy airplanes and buildings, but they will never be able to destroy the spirit of the American people. God Bless America.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share my grief and sorrow with the victims and the families of Tuesday's tragedies in New York, Washington and Western Pennsylvania.

As a nation, we must stand strong together to denounce these cowardly acts of War against our people, our nation, and our civilization. As a united people, we must show our colors to those with sinister hearts and minds throughout the world that we will not be deterred.

As Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, I am proud to join Minority Leader (DICK) GEPHARDT, Mrs. (JO ANN) EMERSON, and Mr. (IKE) SKELTON on this resolution urging our fellow Americans to fly the American flag for the next thirty days outside their homes, their businesses, public buildings, and places of worship. By doing so, we provide a physical tribute from coast-to-coast and around the globe in memory of those we lost and to show publicly our solidarity, resolve and strength as a Nation that these terrorist actions will not stand.

I know that ever since Tuesday morning our lives and our nation have been changed forever. And from that time forward, many Americans have asked how they can help. No matter where you live, by flying Old Glory on the Main Streets of Geneva, Illinois and Rolla, Missouri to big cities like Seattle, Washington and Miami, Florida, you will be sending a strong signal to millions of people here at

home and abroad that the red, white and blue represents freedom and democracy and those ideals will live on.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE). All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to the order of the House today, the concurrent resolution is considered as having been read for amendment and the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the concurrent resolution.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. EMERSON. 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 H. Con. Res. 225.

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

There was no objection.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 50 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

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AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE) at 11 o'clock and 24 minutes a.m.

PROVIDING FOR EXPEDITED PAYMENT OF CERTAIN BENEFITS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS KILLED OR INJURED IN CONNECTION WITH TERRORIST ATTACKS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order at any time, without intervention of any point of order, to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 2882) to provide for the expedited payment of certain benefits for a public safety officer who was killed or suffered a catastrophic injury as a direct and proximate result of a personal injury sustained in the line of duty in connection with the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001; that the bill be considered as read for amendment; that the previous question be considered as ordered on the bill to final passage without intervening motion except; 1, one hour of debate, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and rank-

ing minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their designees; and, 2, one motion to recommit; and that the chair may, notwithstanding the order of the previous question, postpone further consideration of the bill to a time designated by the Speaker.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the order of the House just agreed to, I call up the bill (H.R. 2882) to provide for the expedited payment of certain benefits for a public safety officer who was killed or suffered a catastrophic injury as a direct and proximate result of a personal injury sustained in the line of duty in connection with the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of H.R. 2882 is as follows:

H.R. 2882

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. EXPEDITED PAYMENT FOR HEROIC PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS.

Notwithstanding the limitations of subsection (b) of section 1201 or the provisions of subsections (c), (d), and (e) of such section or section 1202 of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796, 3796a), upon certification by a public agency that a public safety officer employed by such agency was killed or suffered a catastrophic injury as a direct and proximate result of a personal injury sustained in the line of duty as described in section 1201(a) of such Act in connection with the rescue or recovery efforts related to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance shall authorize payment to qualified beneficiaries, said payment to be made not later than 30 days after receipt of such certification, benefits described under subpart 1 of part L of such Act (42 U.S.C. 3796 et seq.).

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this Act, the terms "catastrophic injury", "public agency", and "public safety officer" have the same meanings given such terms in section 1204 of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796b).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. WEINER) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 2882, the bill currently under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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