

House and the Minority Leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the House and the Senate, respectively, to reassemble at such place and time as they may designate if, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2006

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today pursuant to this order, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday, April 10, 2006, unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its concurrence in House Concurrent Resolution 382, in which case the House shall stand adjourned pursuant to that concurrent resolution.

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

There was no objection.

#### DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2006

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday, April 26, 2006.

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

There was no objection.

#### RECOGNIZING AND HONORING FIREFIGHTERS FOR THEIR MANY CONTRIBUTIONS THROUGHOUT THE HISTORY OF THE NATION

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it shall be in order at any time to consider in the House the resolution (H. Res. 764); that the resolution shall be considered as read; and that the previous question shall be considered as ordered on the resolution and its preamble to its adoption without intervening motion except 10 minutes of debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Government Reform.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the order of the House today, I call up the resolution (H. Res. 764) recognizing and honoring firefighters for their many contributions throughout the history of the Nation, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

#### H. RES. 764

Whereas in 1736 Benjamin Franklin founded the Union Fire Company, the first volunteer fire company;

Whereas there are more than 1,100,000 firefighters in the United States;

Whereas approximately 75 percent of all firefighters are volunteers who receive little or no compensation for their heroic work;

Whereas career and combination fire departments protect 3 out of 4 Americans;

Whereas there are more than 30,000 fire departments in the United States;

Whereas approximately 100 firefighters die in the line of duty each year;

Whereas Congress recognizes that Christopher Nicholas Kangas was a heroic firefighter;

Whereas more than 340 firefighters died responding to the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001;

Whereas firefighters respond to more than 24,000,000 calls during an average year;

Whereas firefighters also provide emergency medical services and life safety education; and

Whereas it is estimated that on April 6, 2006, more than 2,000 firefighters will attend the 18th Annual National Fire and Emergency Services Dinner and Seminars: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives honors and recognizes the more than 1,100,000 firefighters in the United States for their contributions to and sacrifice for the Nation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) will each control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 764. Each year in this country heroic firefighters respond to more than 24 million calls. These brave men and women provide all kind of lifesaving services such as emergency medical care, life safety education and fire prevention education. Many of these firefighters are volunteers and risk their lives every day. For this reason it is important that we adopt this resolution and honor the bravery and perseverance of these individuals that they show on a daily basis.

I congratulate the gentleman from Pennsylvania on bringing forth H. Res. 764.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON).

(Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank my distinguished friend and chairman, Mr. DAVIS, who is a cosponsor of this legislation, and my good friend and partner, the distinguished minority whip, Mr. HOYER, for their leadership in bringing forth the resolution to pay proper tribute to the 1.1 million men and women across the country in 32,000 departments that protect our communities.

The Fire Service of America is older than America as a country. The fire service is in every community, both

large and small. They are the backbone of our country, the heart and soul of the Nation. They are the people that make this country great.

Tonight, 2,500 of these brave leaders are assembled at the Washington Hilton, and they are looking forward to this recognition, which we will take to them as Mr. HOYER and I travel to the Washington Hilton and pay our respects.

In addition, this resolution goes one step further. In recognizing a recent Federal court decision that junior firefighters are in fact fire fighters, this resolution is affirming the Court decision that a junior firefighter is in fact recognized when the States in this country allow junior firefighters to be so designated. This is an important piece of legislation.

In honor of one of my constituents, Christopher Kangas, I am happy to have this bill come up so that all of us can provide true support for all of those men and women, including those younger junior firefighters, who aspire to take over the protection of our towns and cities across America.

I thank my colleagues for their support.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my good friend, Mr. DAVIS, the chairman of the committee, for bringing this resolution to the floor in such a timely fashion.

I certainly want to thank my good friend, CURT WELDON, the cochair of the Fire Service Caucus, who has been the leader of the Fire Service Caucus, and the Fire Service of America and emergency medical response teams have no better friend than CURT WELDON in the Congress of the United States or, frankly, in any place else.

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I am pleased to rise in support of our Nation's firefighters on this day that 2,100 of them from around the country are gathered in Washington for the annual National Fire and Emergency Services Dinner.

As Mr. WELDON said, we will be bringing them this resolution in just a few minutes as we go down to the Hilton to address them. I am proud to have cosponsored this resolution.

And I want to say that the Fire Caucus has long championed initiatives to improve the safety and well-being of our Nation's firefighters. Specifically, we have worked to establish and fund the assistance to the Firefighters Grant program, which has provided more than \$3 billion in equipment and training grants for career and volunteer departments across the country.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great honor to enthusiastically stand before you, Mr. HOYER, and to join with the two outstanding co-Chairs of the Fire Caucus to acknowledge our brothers and sisters who are now being hosted at the