

Madam Speaker, for the sake of the 10th amendment and states' rights, I ask that all of my colleagues oppose this rule, and I urge the defeat of the underlying legislation, H.R. 4247.

Mr. CORDOZA. I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

EXPRESSING CONCERN ABOUT SUICIDE PLANE ATTACK ON IRS EMPLOYEES IN AUSTIN, TEXAS

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1127) expressing concern regarding the suicide plane attack on Internal Revenue Service employees in Austin, Texas.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1127

Whereas all Federal employees, and those from the Internal Revenue Service in particular, have experienced a terrible tragedy in the suicide plane attack on February 18, 2010;

Whereas Vernon Hunter, who lost his life in the terror attack, had 48 years of public service, including 20 years of serving in the United States Army and 2 tours in Vietnam;

Whereas Federal, State, and local officials have cooperated to respond promptly and professionally to the attack and provide assistance to Internal Revenue Service victims and families affected by the crash; and

Whereas Federal employees, from the Armed Forces to the Internal Revenue Service, serve their Nation with honor and commitment, and perform public service that benefits the entire Nation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) strongly condemns the terror attack perpetrated deliberately against Federal employees of the Internal Revenue Service in Austin, Texas;

(2) honors Vernon Hunter, a victim of the crash, Shane Hill, who suffered severe injuries, and all those who were injured for their service to our Nation;

(3) commends Internal Revenue Service employees for their dedication and public service;

(4) recognizes the heroic actions of the first responders, emergency services personnel, Internal Revenue Service employees, and citizens on the ground in Austin such as Robin De Haven whose actions minimized the loss of life; and

(5) rejects any statement or act that deliberately fans the flames of hatred or expresses sympathy for those who would attack public servants serving our Nation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS) and the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. BOUSTANY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on House Resolution 1127.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

On February 18, the IRS family suffered a terrible tragedy. I rise today to express my deepest sympathies to the families of Vernon Hunter, Shane Hill, and the employees at the IRS in Austin, Texas. We as a Nation and as a people are much better than this. We should be better to each other. This type of attack is just wrong, and we must not tolerate violence against our public servants.

I understand that people may not like to pay their taxes, but we cannot take out our anger on IRS employees. They do not deserve this. The people who work at the Internal Revenue Service are mothers and fathers and brothers and sisters who work hard each and every day. They do their jobs, and they do them well. They perform a public service that benefits the entire Nation. This Congress is committed to the safety of each and every person who serves this Nation.

I want to thank the IRS Commissioner for the steps he has taken to enhance security at all IRS sites around the country. We will continue to make sure that the Internal Revenue Service has the resources to improve security at its offices.

I was moved by the many stories of people who reached out and helped each other during this terrible tragedy. Even in the face of chaos and violence, people reached out and helped each other. First responders, emergency personnel, employees, and other citizens showed great courage and compassion to minimize the loss of life. I thank them all and honor them today.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

(Mr. BOUSTANY asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOUSTANY. Like all my colleagues here in the House of Representatives, I was shocked and horrified by the tragedy that occurred at the IRS office in Austin, Texas, on February 18. I especially want to offer my condolences to the family of Vernon Hunter, who lost his life in this senseless attack. Mr. Hunter dedicated his life to serving his country, including 20 years in the U.S. Army and two tours in Vietnam. I stand with my colleagues today to honor his service and his memory.

We should also recognize the courage and heroism of those men and women, including IRS employees, first responders, and others, who responded to the attack to ensure that our country did not suffer even greater losses.

I would like to associate myself with the words of President Obama to the employees of the IRS when he said, and I quote, "I am thankful for your dedication, courage, and professionalism as we rebuild in Austin. And as you continue your work, we will do what is needed to ensure your safety. We are grateful for your service to this country. May God bless you and the United States of America."

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1330

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I'm pleased to yield such time as he may consume to my colleague and my friend, the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT), a member of the Ways and Means Committee and a sponsor of the resolution.

Mr. DOGGETT. I thank the gentleman from Georgia and the gentleman from Louisiana for their important comments. The recent suicide attack in my hometown of Austin, Texas, on an IRS building was a horrible tragedy. I authored this resolution to honor those who were victims, to recognize the courage that was displayed by so many that day, and to condemn such cowardly acts of violence.

Seeing that building aflame after this premeditated suicide attack which was, in the words of Austin Mayor Lee Leffingwell, "perpetrated in rage without any regard for the sanctity of human life," I was just amazed that not more of our neighbors were harmed. In large measure, this was the result of the valor and professionalism amidst the flames and the chaos of the Federal workers, others who came upon the scene, and our local first responders.

Leaders of these well-trained professionals who rose to the call of duty that day include our Austin Police Chief, Art Acevedo; our Fire Chief, Rhoda Mae Kerr; our EMS Director, Ernie Rodriguez; and Travis County HAZMAT Chief, Gary Warren who, with the Westlake Fire Department, was fortunately near the site of the attack and raced into action. And I know

that the neighboring Grace Covenant Church has already offered support and solace for many following the attack.

This resolution also recognizes Robin De Haven. Robin, an Iraqi veteran and a technician with Binswanger Glass, was driving by and was one of the first to rush to the scene as he saw the attack. Without a moment's hesitation, he stopped his truck, got out his ladder, and despite the fire, the heat, the smoke and the chaos, he rescued employees from the second floor of the building.

As the saying goes, "it's easy to be brave from a distance," but Robin showed his bravery close up, very close up, and in doing so, he helped many people escape injury. Last week he became the first Austinite to receive a "challenge coin," recognizing his quick thinking and courage from all three of the city's public safety organizations.

There is the spirit and courage of the Austin IRS employees, whose calm and orderly evacuation saved lives. They were recognized by the prompt visit of IRS Commissioner Doug Shulman, Treasury Secretary Geithner, and Colleen Kelley, the president of the National Treasury Employees Union, who heard firsthand what these employees experienced.

Frankly, all in the building that day were heroes, and we cannot know the names of all who acted with courage. But a few stories that were shared with me by the employees I think are typical: Alfredo Valdespino, who guided employees out of the building and then ran back inside to offer more help. Also returning to help a missing colleague was Richard Lee. David Irving carried a disabled coworker down the stairs and out of the building on his back. Armando Valdez, Jr., and Deborah Fleming yelled to other employees, "Follow my voice," as they guided them away from falling through the gaping holes in the floor. Andrew Jacobson and Morgan Johnson broke out a window and allowed employees to climb out through Robin De Haven's ladder.

That tragic day, even as work continued at the scene, however, after this deadly assault on Federal employees, a Facebook page was created that lauded the killer. This response to violence is deplorable. Intense debate as we have here on this floor about our Tax Code is appropriate. That's what we do here in Congress and in gatherings across the country. There are many tax provisions that I have personally criticized in the strongest terms, and at times I have also criticized the way the IRS has administered the Tax Code. But to demonize and harm public servants who are serving our country at the IRS while praising a murderer or anyone else who would do them harm is outrageous.

Nor is such misconduct unique to this tragedy. According to the Wall Street Journal, the number of threats against IRS employees are on the rise. Just this week, the Austin American-

Statesman reported about another local agent's necessary care in opening mail filled with razor blades and pushpins, about last year's phony anthrax attack on another Austin IRS building and an earlier plot to blow up another Austin IRS building. Each year, the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, which oversees the IRS, investigates more than 900 threats against IRS employees, including violence.

Let me be clear: I'm not here today to glorify the IRS. I'm here to condemn unequivocally through this resolution those who would glorify violence against our public employees who are properly conducting their duties in service to our Nation.

There are many who will long bear the emotional scars from this attack, and some still cope with the physical burdens. I want especially to recognize Shane Hill, a 5-year investigator with the Texas State Comptroller's office who happened to be in the building that day and now with his family faces a very long physical recovery.

Vernon Hunter has been mentioned. Known by his friends as Vern, he lost his life in this senseless attack. At his funeral last Friday, he was described as the type of man who always woke up with a smile, always wanted to help others, and as a Texan, never left home without his cowboy hat. Coming from a family dedicated to uniformed service, he served in the U.S. Army for over two decades, which included two tours of duty in Vietnam. His four brothers and a son all served in the United States military, as does his son-in-law today who is actively serving in the United States Navy. After retiring from the Army, he continued that service to his country for almost three decades with the Internal Revenue Service, where his wife Valerie has also worked.

The gentleman from Georgia is a particularly appropriate person to present this resolution today because after living through a life of segregation in South Carolina, Vern was present that day, JOHN LEWIS, when you along with Dr. Martin Luther King spoke down The Mall here in the famous "I Have a Dream" speech and the celebration at the Lincoln Memorial. His dream, he saw in his service to his country through the Army and through the Internal Revenue Service, was a dream rooted in freedom and justice; and 45 years after that speech, Vernon was able to witness America's progress when he himself served as a delegate for President Obama.

Dr. Martin Luther King once said: "The quality, not the longevity, of one's life is what is important." Because Vern Hunter cared enough to make a difference, Austin and this Nation that he loved so much and served his whole life was made better. In a remarkable statement at a moment of such great pain, the Hunter family expressed its personal forgiveness of the suicide attacker and expressed sym-

pathy for the attacker's family. These moving words of peace reflect the power of their own faith and the strength of spirit, both of the Hunter family and the Greater Mount Zion Baptist Church family, led by Reverend Gaylon Clark. Vern, his life and his family are a testament about what is best in our country. In him, we have lost a true American hero.

Today I respectfully ask that my colleagues join in adopting this resolution to honor him, the other victims, the employees, and the rescuers and to renounce violence against those who are serving our country.

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Speaker, now I would like to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) in whose district this tragic event occurred.

Mr. MCCAUL. I thank the gentleman for yielding. And I thank the gentleman from Austin, Mr. DOGGETT, for introducing this resolution. We share Austin, and we share in our grief and share in these tragic events that occurred on February 18. I was in Austin. I was driving, and I saw a bunch of smoke coming out of some Federal buildings where I used to work with the Joint Terrorism Task Force and the FBI, right next door to the IRS building.

I called the police chief that day, and I said, What happened? Police Chief Acevedo said that a plane had flown into the Federal building, and I said, Well, do you know if it was an accident? He said, No, Congressman, it was intentional. And at that point in time, we knew that this was not just some accidental mishap, airplane getting off course, mechanical problems, but rather an intentional act of violence.

What I saw at the scene was quite astounding, and I'm sure the gentleman from Austin saw it as well. The airplane was a rather small aircraft, yet the damage that was done was massive, almost bringing the entire Federal building down. As it was in flames that fateful day, it reminded me a bit of Oklahoma City. It also looked like a sort of smaller version of 9/11. As the flames went up, as the glass blew out, a technician by the name of Robin De Haven, probably one of the great heroes that day, removed glass from the back side of the building and saved five employees of the IRS.

Our thoughts and prayers go to the Hunter family. Vernon Hunter served his country and served in the IRS. He also served in the United States Army for 20 years. His office was right above where the airplane crashed into that building. The plane literally skipped off the top of a car and went into the first floor of the building in an intentional act to kill people.

And I was asked a question at the press conference with the police chief and the fire department, Well, Congressman, was this an act of terrorism? Well, I guess it's all how you define "act of terrorism." But what I said was, Anytime somebody flies an airplane intentionally into a Federal

building to kill people, I think that is an act of terror. And if you ask the Federal employees that day what they thought, well, they certainly thought it was an act of terror as well. We need to stop this in this country. We need to stop this.

The heroism on the part of the Austin Police Department, the fire department, the FBI and the first responders in responding to this tragic scene and saving so many lives when we saw this massive destruction, the great miracle that day was that more people were not killed. Those first responders saved countless lives, and we owe them a debt of gratitude for their great, great service to not only the city of Austin but to the American people.

So with that, let me again thank the gentleman from Austin for introducing this resolution. It's very timely. We do share that city together. We work well together, and I think, again, we share the grief of the loss. We share the tragic event, and we also share the belief that this was really an intentional act, an act of terror that we need to stop in this country.

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

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Having no further requests for time, Madam Speaker, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Texas to close.

Mr. DOGGETT. I thank both gentlemen. I want to applaud the remarks of my colleague Mr. MCCAUL, both the remarks that he made here today and the remarks that he made on the afternoon of this tragedy, under what I know was a very stressful situation.

□ 1345

I believe that we share a common purpose here. No one was looking to see which party, a member of the IRS was that day, or what part of the City of Austin. It affected our entire community. I had not used the term earlier, but I must say I also agree with his conclusion that like the much larger-scale tragedy in Oklahoma City, this was an act of domestic terrorism. But let's not quibble over the terms; it was the harm that was done and the promotion of that harm and violence. There is nothing noble about terror. Any expression to the contrary deserves our condemnation.

As I read the statement that the pilot put up on his website, which was a rather confusing diatribe, I noticed particularly his quotation, "violence not only is the answer, it is the only answer," and in response almost immediately, some folks set up a Facebook page and called themselves "fans" of this suicide attacker. Sporting a "Don't Tread on Me" flag, the so-called "fan page" to the murderer misappropriated Thomas Jefferson's famous words that "the tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants." This resolution soundly rejects, in a bipartisan manner, such appalling tributes.

The patriots were working in the building that day, not working to kill public servants. The heroes were people like Vern Hunter who were doing their job on behalf of their country, not trying to destroy their fellow human beings.

I believe we must turn down the volume on hate if we are to avoid reoccurrence of such baseless terror attacks. In our country, there is room for wide and vigorous political discourse and disagreement—our democracy thrives on it—but there is no room for violence or the dangerous incitement to violence. We get change through the ballot box, not by bullets, not by suicide airplane attacks. Let us speak today with one strong, unequivocal voice renouncing this attack. We reject the path of hate, and we reject the call to violence.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1127.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. DOGGETT. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

adoption of H. Res. 1126, by the yeas and nays;

motion to suspend the rules on H. Res. 747, by the yeas and nays;

motion to suspend the rules on H. Res. 1096, de novo.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4247, PREVENTING HARMFUL RESTRAINT AND SECLUSION IN SCHOOLS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on adoption of House Resolution 1126, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 228, nays 184, not voting 19, as follows:

[Roll No. 78]

YEAS—228

Ackerman	Hall (NY)	Ortiz
Adler (NJ)	Halvorson	Owens
Altmire	Hare	Pallone
Andrews	Harman	Pascrell
Arcuri	Hastings (FL)	Pastor (AZ)
Baca	Heinrich	Payne
Baird	Higgins	Perlmutter
Baldwin	Himes	Perriello
Barrow	Hinchey	Peters
Bean	Hirono	Peterson
Becerra	Hodes	Pingree (ME)
Berkley	Holden	Polis (CO)
Berman	Holt	Pomeroy
Berry	Honda	Price (NC)
Bishop (GA)	Hoyer	Quigley
Bishop (NY)	Inslee	Rahall
Blumenauer	Israel	Rangel
Bocchieri	Jackson (IL)	Reyes
Boren	Johnson (GA)	Richardson
Boswell	Johnson, E. B.	Rodriguez
Boucher	Kagen	Ross
Boyd	Kanjorski	Rothman (NJ)
Brady (PA)	Kaptur	Roybal-Allard
Braley (IA)	Kennedy	Ruppersberger
Brown, Corrine	Kildee	Rush
Butterfield	Kilpatrick (MI)	Ryan (OH)
Capps	Kilroy	Salazar
Capuano	Kind	Sánchez, Linda T.
Cardoza	Kissell	Sanchez, Loretta
Carnahan	Klein (FL)	Sarbanes
Carney	Kosmas	Schakowsky
Carson (IN)	Kucinich	Schauer
Castor (FL)	Langevin	Schiff
Chandler	Larsen (WA)	Schrader
Chu	Larson (CT)	Schwartz
Clarke	Lee (CA)	Scott (GA)
Clay	Levin	Scott (VA)
Cleaver	Lewis (GA)	Sestak
Clyburn	Lipinski	Shea-Porter
Cohen	Loeback	Sherman
Connolly (VA)	Lofgren, Zoe	Sires
Conyers	Lowey	Skelton
Cooper	Lujan	Slaughter
Costa	Lynch	Smith (WA)
Costello	Maffei	Snyder
Courtney	Maloney	Space
Crowley	Markey (CO)	Speier
Cuellar	Markey (MA)	Spratt
Cummings	Marshall	Stark
Davis (CA)	Massa	Stupak
Davis (IL)	Matheson	Sutton
Davis (TN)	Matsui	Tanner
DeFazio	McCarthy (NY)	Teague
DeGette	McCollum	Thompson (CA)
Delahunt	McDermott	Thompson (MS)
DeLauro	McGovern	Tierney
Dicks	McIntyre	Titus
Dingell	McNerney	Tonko
Doggett	Meek (FL)	Towns
Doyle	Meeke (NY)	Tsongas
Edwards (MD)	Melancon	Van Hollen
Edwards (TX)	Michaud	Velázquez
Engel	Miller (NC)	Visclosky
Etheridge	Miller, George	Walz
Farr	Minnick	Waters
Fattah	Mollohan	Watson
Filner	Moore (KS)	Watt
Foster	Moore (WI)	Waxman
Frank (MA)	Moran (VA)	Weiner
Fudge	Murphy (CT)	Welch
Gonzalez	Murphy, Patrick	Wilson (OH)
Gordon (TN)	Nadler (NY)	Woolsey
Grayson	Neal (MA)	Wu
Green, Al	Nye	Yarmuth
Green, Gene	Oberstar	
Grijalva	Obey	
Gutierrez	Olver	

NAYS—184

Aderholt	Boozman	Carter
Akin	Boustany	Cassidy
Alexander	Brady (TX)	Castle
Austria	Bright	Chaffetz
Bachmann	Broun (GA)	Childers
Bachus	Brown (SC)	Coble
Bartlett	Brown-Waite,	Coffman (CO)
Barton (TX)	Ginny	Cole
Biggart	Buchanan	Conaway
Bilbray	Burgess	Crenshaw
Bilirakis	Burton (IN)	Culberson
Bishop (UT)	Buyer	Davis (KY)
Blackburn	Calvert	Dent
Blunt	Camp	Diaz-Balart, L.
Boehner	Cantor	Diaz-Balart, M.
Bonner	Cao	Donnelly (IN)
Bono Mack	Capito	Dreier