

**agreed to a concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Rotunda for a welcoming ceremony for Natan Shcharansky, a leader in the Soviet Jewish emigration movement.**

On May 1, 1986,<sup>(1)</sup> the House considered by unanimous consent and adopted House Concurrent Resolution 329, authorizing the use of the Capitol Rotunda for a welcoming ceremony for Natan (Anatoly) Shcharansky. The resolution read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 329

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

**SECTION 1. FINDINGS**

The Congress finds that—

(1) Natan (Anatoly) Shcharansky was a leader in the Soviet Jewish emigration movement and a founding member of the Moscow Helsinki monitoring group who was arrested on March 15, 1977, and sentenced to thirteen years imprisonment for his human rights activities;

(2) Shcharansky's wife, Avital, campaigned tirelessly for the release of her husband and other Soviet Jewish prisoners, and those efforts were supported by two successive administrations, the Congress, and the American people;

(3) on February 11, 1986, those efforts were successful and Natan (Anatoly) Shcharansky was released from Soviet prison and allowed to emigrate to Israel;

(4) despite the fact that at least 400,000 other Soviet Jews seek to emigrate to Israel, the Soviet Government has severely restricted Jewish emigration in violation of its international commitments; and

(5) the support of the Congress for the right of Soviet Jews to emigrate is long established and remains strong.

1. 132 CONG. REC. 9189, 9190, 99th Cong. 2d Sess.

**SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL WELCOME: USE OF CAPITOL ROTUNDA**

(a) CONGRESSIONAL WELCOME.—The Congress welcomes Natan (Anatoly) Shcharansky to the United States and to the Nation's capital.

(b) USE OF CAPITOL ROTUNDA.—The rotunda of the Capitol is authorized to be used on May 13, 1986, for a ceremony of welcome for Natan (Anatoly) Shcharansky. Physical preparations for the ceremony shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as the Architect of the Capitol may prescribe.

**SEC. 3. CALL FOR CONTINUED EFFORTS TO OBTAIN FREEDOM FOR ALL SOVIET JEWS.**

It is the sense of the Congress that the President should continue to call upon the Soviet Union—

(1) to release immediately all those Soviet Jews who have been imprisoned for their efforts to emigrate;

(2) to allow those Soviet Jews who wish to emigrate in order to join their families abroad, or to be repatriated to their historic homeland of Israel, to do so; and

(3) to permit the exercise of religious and cultural rights by Soviet Jews.

The SPEAKER pro tempore.<sup>(2)</sup> The question is on the concurrent resolution.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**§ 24. Congressional Gold Medals**

The Congressional Gold Medal is the highest award bestowed on civilians by the U.S. Congress. The commissioning and bestowing of a Congressional Gold Medal requires the passage of a bill awarding the medal itself. In addition, if a presentation ceremony is held in the Rotunda, the adoption of a

2. G. V. (Sonny) Montgomery (MS).

concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Rotunda for such a ceremony is also required.

Legislation awarding a Congressional Gold Medal falls under the jurisdiction of the Committee on Financial Services. That committee has adopted rules governing the consideration and content of such legislation. Under Committee Rule 3(f)(1)(A),<sup>(1)</sup> the Subcommittee on Domestic and International Monetary Policy, Trade and Technology will not hold a hearing on Congressional Gold Medal legislation unless it is cosponsored by at least two-thirds of the Members of the House.<sup>(2)</sup> Rule 3(f)(1)(C) requires the subcommittee to apply several standards in considering legislation authorizing Congressional Gold Medals. Among these are that “the recipient shall be a natural person;”<sup>(3)</sup> the recipient shall have performed an achievement that “has an impact on American history and culture that is likely to be recognized as a major achievement in the recipient’s field long after the achievement;”<sup>(4)</sup> that the recipient “shall not have received

a medal previously for the same or substantially the same achievement;”<sup>(5)</sup> that the recipient “shall be living or, if deceased, shall have been deceased for not less than five years and not more than 25 years;”<sup>(6)</sup> and the achievements “were performed in the recipient’s field of endeavor, and represent either a lifetime of continuous superior achievements or a single achievement so significant that the recipient is recognized and acclaimed by others in the same field, as evidenced by the recipient having received the highest honors in the field.”<sup>(7)</sup>

The Congressional Gold Medal has been bestowed on military personnel, entertainers, aeronautical and space pioneers, explorers, lifesavers, pioneers in agriculture, science and medicine, public servants, athletes, activists and foreign recipients.<sup>(8)</sup> What follows is a sampling of recent recipients of the award.

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#### § 24.1 The House, by unanimous consent, considered

1. See Rules of the Committee on Financial Services at 151 CONG. REC. H765–H768 [Daily Ed.], 109th Cong. 1st Sess., Feb. 17, 2005.
2. *Id.*
3. Rule 3(f)(1)(C)(i).
4. Rule 3(f)(1)(C)(ii).

5. Rule 3(f)(1)(C)(iii).
6. Rule 3(f)(1)(C)(iv).
7. Rule 3(f)(1)(C)(v).
8. For a full list of recipients, see [http://clerk.house.gov/art\\_history/house\\_history/goldMedal.html](http://clerk.house.gov/art_history/house_history/goldMedal.html) (last visited May 3, 2010).

**and adopted an unreported concurrent resolution (discharged from the Committee on House Administration) authorizing the use of the Rotunda for the posthumous presentation of a Congressional Gold Medal to Jackie Robinson.**

On Mar. 1, 2005,<sup>(1)</sup> the following proceedings took place:

PERMITTING USE OF CAPITOL ROTUNDA FOR CEREMONY TO AWARD CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO JACKIE ROBINSON

Mr. [Robert W.] NEY [of Ohio]. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Administration be discharged from further consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 79) permitting the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony to award a Congressional gold medal to Jackie Robinson (posthumously), in recognition of his many contributions to the Nation, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 79

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

1. 151 CONG. REC. 3072, 3073, 109th Cong. 1st Sess. See also 149 CONG. REC. 24229–33, 108th Cong. 1st Sess., Oct. 7, 2003 (H.R. 1900, to award a posthumous Congressional Gold Medal to Jackie Robinson in recognition of his many contributions to the Nation).

rotunda of the Capitol is authorized to be used on March 2, 2005, for a ceremony to award a Congressional gold medal to Jackie Robinson (posthumously), in recognition of his many contributions to the Nation. Physical preparations for the ceremony shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as the Architect of the Capitol may prescribe.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**§ 24.2 The House, by unanimous consent, considered and adopted an unreported concurrent resolution (discharged from the Committee on House Administration) authorizing the use of the Rotunda for the presentation of a Congressional Gold Medal to General Henry H. Shelton.**

On Sept. 17, 2002,<sup>(1)</sup> the following proceedings took place:

Mr. [Vernon] EHLERS [of Michigan]. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Administration be discharged from further consideration of the concurrent resolution

1. 148 CONG. REC. 16912, 107th Cong. 2d. Sess. See also 147 CONG. REC. 27125–28, 107th Cong. 1st Sess., Dec. 19, 2001 (H.R. 2751, authorizing the President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to General Henry H. Shelton and to provide for the production of bronze duplicates of such medal for sale to the public).

(H. Con. Res. 469) authorizing the Rotunda of the Capitol to be used on September 19, 2002, for a ceremony to present the Congressional Gold Medal to General Henry H. Shelton (USA, Ret.), and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DUNCAN).<sup>(2)</sup> Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. Con. Res. 469

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),* That the Rotunda of the Capitol is authorized to be used on September 19, 2002, for a ceremony to present the Congressional Gold Medal to General Henry H. Shelton (USA, Ret.). Physical preparations for the ceremony shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as the Architect of the Capitol may prescribe.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**§ 24.3 The House suspended the rules and agreed to a concurrent resolution (discharged from the Committee on House Administration) authorizing the use of the Rotunda for a ceremony to present a Congressional Gold Medal to former President**

2. John J. Duncan, Jr. (TN).

**Ronald Reagan and his wife, Nancy Reagan.**

On Mar. 5, 2002,<sup>(1)</sup> the following proceedings took place:

Mr. [John] LINDER [of Georgia]. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 305) permitting the use of the Rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony to present a gold medal on behalf of Congress to former President Ronald Reagan and his wife Nancy Reagan, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 305

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),* That the Rotunda of the Capitol is authorized to be used on May 16, 2002, for a ceremony to present a gold medal on behalf of Congress to former President Ronald Reagan and his wife Nancy Reagan. Physical preparations for the ceremony shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as the Architect of the Capitol may prescribe.

The SPEAKER pro tempore.<sup>(2)</sup> Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LINDER) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) will each control 20 minutes. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LINDER). . . .

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and

1. 148 CONG. REC. 2393–95, 2398, 107th Cong. 2d. Sess. See also 146 CONG. REC. 4255–61, 107th Cong. 2d Sess., Apr. 3, 2000 (H.R. 3591, to provide for the award of a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to former President Ronald Reagan and his wife Nancy Reagan in recognition of their service to the Nation).

2. John Culberson (TX).

the concurrent resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**§ 24.4 The House, by unanimous consent, considered and adopted an unreported concurrent resolution (discharged from the committee on House Administration) authorizing the use of the Rotunda for the posthumous presentation of a Congressional Gold Medal to Charles M. Schulz, the creator of the Peanuts comic strip.**

On June 5, 2001,<sup>(1)</sup> the following proceedings took place:

PERMITTING USE OF ROTUNDA OF CAPITOL FOR PRESENTATION POSTHUMOUSLY OF CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO CHARLES M. SCHULZ

Mr. [Vernon] EHLERS [of Michigan]. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Administration be discharged from further consideration of the concurrent

1. 147 CONG. REC. 9891, 9892, 107th Cong. 1st Sess. See also 146 CONG. REC. 9587, 9588, 106th Cong. 2d Sess., June 6, 2000 (H.R. 3642, to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to Charles M. Schulz in recognition of his lasting artistic contributions to the Nation and to the world).

resolution (H. Con. Res. 149) permitting the use of the Rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony to present posthumously a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Charles M. Schulz, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore.<sup>(2)</sup> Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan? . . .

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 149

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),* That the Rotunda of the Capitol is authorized to be used on June 7, 2001, for a ceremony to present posthumously a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Charles M. Schulz. Physical preparations for the ceremony shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as the Architect of the Capitol may prescribe.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**§ 24.5 The House suspended the rules and agreed to an unreported concurrent resolution (discharged from the Committee on House Administration) authorizing use of the Rotunda to present a Congressional Gold Medal to Father Theodore Hesburgh.**

2. Judith Biggert (IL).

On June 27, 2000,<sup>(1)</sup> the following proceedings took place:

PERMITTING USE OF ROTUNDA  
OF CAPITOL FOR PRESEN-  
TATION CEREMONY OF CON-  
GRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO  
FATHER THEODORE  
HESBURGH

Mr. [Bill] THOMAS [of California]. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 344) permitting the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony to present the Congressional Gold Medal to Father Theodore Hesburgh, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 344

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),* That the rotunda of the Capitol is authorized to be used on July 13, 2000, for a ceremony to present the Congressional Gold Medal to Father Theodore Hesburgh. Physical preparations for the ceremony shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as the Architect of the Capitol may prescribe.

The SPEAKER pro tempore.<sup>(2)</sup> Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

1. 146 CONG. REC. 12520–22, 106th Cong. 2d Sess. See also 145 CONG. REC. 24976–82, 106th Cong. 1st Sess., Oct. 12, 1999 (H.R. 1932, to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to Father Theodore M. Hesburgh, in recognition of his outstanding and enduring contributions to civil rights, higher education, the Catholic Church, the Nation, and the global community).
2. Ray LaHood (IL).

California (Mr. THOMAS) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS).

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

Mr. THOMAS. 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. THOMAS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 344, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**§ 24.6 The House suspended the rules and agreed to a concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Rotunda for a ceremony to present the Congressional Gold Medal to President and Mrs. Gerald R. Ford.**

On Oct. 18, 1999,<sup>(1)</sup> the following proceedings took place:

1. 145 CONG. REC. 25679, 25680, 25695, 106th Cong. 1st Sess. See also 144 CONG. REC. 17828, 105th Cong. 2d Sess., July 29, 1998 (H.R. 3506, to award a congressional gold medal to Gerald R. and Betty Ford in recognition of their dedicated public service and outstanding humanitarian contributions to the people of the United States).

Mr. [Bill] THOMAS [of California]. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 196) permitting the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for the presentation of the Congressional Gold Medal to President and Mrs. Gerald R. Ford.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 196

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),* That the rotunda of the Capitol is authorized to be used on October 27, 1999, for the presentation of the Congressional Gold Medal to President and Mrs. Gerald R. Ford. Physical preparations for the ceremony shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as the Architect of the Capitol may prescribe.

The SPEAKER pro tempore.<sup>(2)</sup> Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE) each will control 20 minutes. . . .

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

## § 25. Presidential Inaugurations

Inaugural ceremonies have evolved since George Washington gave his first inaugural address on Apr. 30, 1789, and his second on Mar. 4, 1793.

After Washington's first inauguration, the Mar. 4 date was

2. Judith Biggert (IL).

used for subsequent Presidential inaugurations until 1933.<sup>(1)</sup> The ratification of the 20th Amendment in 1933 mandated that the Presidential term begin at noon on Jan. 20.<sup>(2)</sup>

From the 1829 inauguration of Andrew Jackson through the 1977 inauguration of Jimmy Carter, the primary Inauguration Day ceremony took place on the Capitol's East Portico.<sup>(3)</sup>

1. The ratification of the 12th Amendment in 1804 mandated that the Presidential term expire on Mar. 4. U.S. Const. amend. XII.
2. U.S. Const. amend. XX. See also *House Rules and Manual* § 150 (2007).
3. The fourth inauguration of Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1945 was a notable exception. Because World War II was at its height, Roosevelt had a simple inauguration ceremony at the White House with no fanfare or formal celebration. See 91 CONG. REC. 364, 365, 79th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 22, 1945.

Ronald Reagan's second inaugural in 1985 was the coldest on record, with an estimated noon temperature of seven degrees Fahrenheit and wind chills well below zero. Because Jan. 20, 1985, fell on a Sunday, President Reagan was sworn in privately on that date at the White House and had scheduled his public inauguration ceremony for Monday, Jan. 21. The cold weather forced the ceremony to be moved indoors to the Capitol Rotunda, and limited space dictated that it be a semi-private ceremony. See 131 CONG. REC. 630–