

Public Law 99-342
99th Congress

Joint Resolution

June 19, 1986
[S.J. Res. 347]

To designate the week beginning June 22, 1986, as "National Homelessness Awareness Week".

Whereas an estimated 3,000,000 individuals in the United States are homeless;

Whereas an increasing number of homeless individuals are women, children, families, minorities, mental patients, and elderly individuals;

Whereas the demand for emergency shelter increased by more than 20 percent in 22 cities in 1985;

Whereas many emergency shelters do not have sufficient space to provide shelter for everyone who seeks shelter;

Whereas many emergency shelters are in violation of numerous health and safety standards;

Whereas factors contributing to the problem of homelessness include shortages in housing for low-income individuals, deinstitutionalization of mentally ill individuals, drug and alcohol abuse, and unemployment;

Whereas homelessness is a complex problem that cannot be solved by providing only food and shelter;

Whereas many organizations are committed to helping homeless individuals in the United States by providing food, clothes, shelter, and medical treatment;

Whereas public awareness with respect to the problem of homelessness should be increased; and

Whereas efforts by the Federal Government and the governments of States to solve the problem of homelessness should be increased: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the week beginning June 22, 1986, is designated as "National Homelessness Awareness Week", and the President of the United States is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe such week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

Approved June 19, 1986.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S.J. Res. 347:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 132 (1986):

May 21, considered and passed Senate.

May 22, considered and passed House, amended.

June 10, Senate concurred in House amendments.