

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 142

Expressing the sense of the Congress that the Congress should have the power to prohibit the desecration of the flag of the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 23, 1999

Mr. STEARNS submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress that the Congress should have the power to prohibit the desecration of the flag of the United States.

Whereas from Valley Forge to Yugoslavia, in every battlefield where ever American values have been attacked and American lives sacrificed, the flag of the United States has been the shining, indomitable, eternal spirit of American liberty in visual form;

Whereas to desecrate such a symbol is to desecrate the memory of the thousands of Americans who have sacrificed their lives to keep that banner flying, intact, and inviolate; and

Whereas since Americans have fought and died to defend the flag of the United States, any act of desecration of the

flag is profoundly offensive to Americans: Now, therefore,
be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of the Congress that—

3 (1) the reasoning of the opinion of the United
4 States Supreme Court leading to the decision in
5 *Texas v. Johnson*, 491 U.S. 397 (1989), was flawed;

6 (2) as a symbol of our Nation, the flag of the
7 United States is unique and deserves to be treated
8 with respect of the highest order; and

9 (3) the Congress should have the power to pro-
10 hibit the desecration of the flag of the United
11 States.

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