

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 235

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the establishment of a National Words Can Heal Day.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 10, 2001

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the establishment of a National Words Can Heal Day.

Whereas words used unfairly, whether expressed through excessive anger, unfair criticism, public and private humiliation, bigoted comments, cruel jokes, or rumors and malicious gossip, can traumatize and damage many lives;

Whereas an unwillingness or inability of many parents to control what they say when angry causes the infliction of potentially damaging verbal abuse on many children;

Whereas bigoted words are often used to dehumanize entire religious, racial, and ethnic groups, and can inflame hostility;

Whereas the spreading of negative and often unfair, untrue, or exaggerated comments or rumors about others often inflicts irrevocable damage on the victim of such rumors;

Whereas the establishment of a National Words Can Heal Day would raise awareness regarding the damage that can be caused by destructive language; and

Whereas September 10, 2001, would be an appropriate day to establish as National Words Can Heal Day: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-
2 resentatives that—

3 (1) a National Words Can Heal Day should be
4 established; and

5 (2) the President should issue a proclamation
6 calling on the people of the United States to observe
7 such a day with appropriate programs and activities.

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