

connecting with children all across America through live satellite feeds and Web casting of the event. This will be hosted from the main reading room of the Library of Congress for a captivating afternoon reading program. The reading celebration continues at the Thomas Jefferson Building and on the grounds of the United States Capitol.

Much of the weekend's festivities are modeled after a similar book festival that the First Lady launched in Texas. A variety of noted authors and national celebrities will participate, offering readings throughout the afternoon. In addition, folk, jazz, and blues artists will chronicle American storytelling through music.

The President and First Lady have been strong advocates of education and reading, since it serves as the foundation from which we all learn and grow. I encourage any Members in town that weekend to attend this event with their young family members, in addition to encouraging their constituents to participate in this event, either those that live here in Washington or via the Internet.

I support the resolution, and strongly urge my colleagues to join in support.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I join the gentlewoman from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) in support of House Concurrent Resolution 348, to authorize using the Capitol Grounds on September 21 for the National Book Festival.

The event, jointly hosted by the Library of Congress and First Lady Laura Bush, is intended to promote the Nation's libraries and celebrate the joys of reading. The book festival, held in September of 2001, was a huge success, drawing approximately 30,000 people to Capitol Hill to enjoy public readings and listen to poetry and music.

The book signings by the festival's invited authors proved to be so popular that the authors had to be moved out of doors to deal with the long lines of loyal fans, leaving many of them to comment that they felt like rock stars.

The book festival 2002 is also expected to be as successful, with prominent authors, music, and other activities throughout the day. As with all events on the Capitol grounds, it is open to the public and is free of charge, and has the support of the Joint Committee on the Library.

The sponsors of this event will coordinate with the Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police.

Mr. Speaker, cities all over the United States, localities of every kind, are choosing books for the entire locality to read to once again promote the joy of reading in our society.

I can think of no more worthwhile on-site activity for this Congress to authorize than promoting the reading of books and the joy of reading itself for adults and children alike.

The book festival is a very worthwhile endeavor, and I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 348.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AUTHORIZING USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SPECIAL OLYMPICS LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 354) authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 354

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

SECTION 1. AUTHORIZATION OF USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR D.C. SPECIAL OLYMPICS LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN.

On June 7, 2002, or on such other date as the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate may jointly designate, the 2002 District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run (in this resolution referred to as the "event") may be run through the Capitol Grounds as part of the journey of the Special Olympics torch to the District of Columbia Special Olympics summer games at Gallaudet University in the District of Columbia.

SEC. 2. RESPONSIBILITY OF CAPITOL POLICE BOARD.

The Capitol Police Board shall take such actions as may be necessary to carry out the event.

SEC. 3. CONDITIONS RELATING TO PHYSICAL PREPARATIONS.

The Architect of the Capitol may prescribe conditions for physical preparations for the event.

SEC. 4. ENFORCEMENT OF RESTRICTIONS.

The Capitol Police Board shall provide for enforcement of the restrictions contained in section 4 of the Act of July 31, 1946 (40 U.S.C. 193d; 60 Stat. 718), concerning sales, advertisements, displays, and solicitations on the Capitol Grounds, as well as other restrictions applicable to the Capitol Grounds, in connection with the event.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO).

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

Mr. Speaker, House Concurrent Resolution 353 authorizes the 2002 District

of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run, to be conducted through the grounds of the Capitol on June 7, 2002. The Capitol Police will host the opening ceremonies for the run, starting on Capitol Hill, which will be free of charge and open to the public.

Over 2000 law enforcement officers representing 60 local and Federal law enforcement agencies will carry the Special Olympics torch in honor of and to show their support for the 2,500 Special Olympians who will participate in this annual event.

For over a decade, Congress has supported this worthy endeavor by enacting resolutions for the use of the grounds. Since its inception, the Torch Run has been launched from the West Terrace of the Capitol building.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, this event needs little introduction. 2002 marks the 34th anniversary of the D.C. Special Olympics. The torch relay event is a traditional part of the opening ceremony for the Special Olympics, which takes place at the Gallaudet University here in the District of Columbia.

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Each year, approximately 2,500 Special Olympians compete in over a dozen events and over one million children and adults with special needs participate in the Special Olympic worldwide programs. The event is supported by literally thousands of volunteers. The goal of the games is to help bring mentally handicapped individuals into the larger society under conditions whereby they are accepted and respected. Confidence and self-esteem are the building blocks of these Olympic games.

I enthusiastically support this resolution and the very worthwhile endeavor of the Special Olympics. I urge passage of H. Con. Res. 354.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WALDEN of Oregon). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 354.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.