

PERMISSION TO HAVE UNTIL MIDNIGHT, OCTOBER 26, 2001, TO FILE CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2590, TREASURY AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the managers on the part of the House have until midnight October 26, 2001, to file a conference report on the bill (H.R. 2590) making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the United States Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain Independent Agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia? There was no objection.

APPLYING SPECIAL ORDER OF OCTOBER 24, 2001 RELATING TO "UNITED WE STAND REMEMBRANCE DAY" TO HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 71

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the special order of the House of October 24, 2001, relating to the United We Stand Remembrance Day be applied to House Joint Resolution 71.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 11 AS PATRIOT DAY

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the order of the House of October 24, 2001, I call up the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 71) amending title 36, United States Code, to designate September 11 as Patriot Day, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The text of House Joint Resolution 71 is as follows:

H.J. RES. 71

Whereas on September 11, 2001, terrorists hijacked four civilian aircraft, crashing two of them into the towers of the World Trade Center in New York City, and a third into the Pentagon outside Washington, D.C.;

Whereas the fourth hijacked aircraft crashed in southwestern Pennsylvania after passengers tried to take control of the aircraft in order to prevent the hijackers from crashing the aircraft into an important symbol of democracy and freedom;

Whereas these attacks were by far the deadliest terrorist attacks ever launched against the United States, killing thousands of innocent people; and

Whereas in the aftermath of the attacks the people of the United States stood united in providing support for those in need: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

SEC. 1. DESIGNATION OF SEPTEMBER 11 AS PATRIOT DAY.

(a) DESIGNATION.—Chapter 1 of title 36, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“§ 144. Patriot Day

“(a) DESIGNATION.—September 11 is Patriot Day.

“(b) PROCLAMATION.—The President is requested to issue each year a proclamation calling on—

“(1) State and local governments and the people of the United States to observe Patriot Day with appropriate programs and activities;

“(2) all departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the United States and interested organizations and individuals to display the flag of the United States at halfstaff on Patriot Day in honor of the individuals who lost their lives as a result of the terrorist attacks against the United States that occurred on September 11, 2001; and

“(3) the people of the United States to observe a moment of silence on Patriot Day in honor of the individuals who lost their lives as a result of the terrorist attacks against the United States that occurred on September 11, 2001.”

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for chapter 1 of title 36, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“144. Patriot Day.”

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday, October 24, 2001, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. OWENS) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.J. Res. 71, the joint resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, on September 11, 2001, the United States fell victim to the worst terrorist attack in our history. The attack was prompted by a hatred for freedom and liberty and resulted in the deaths of thousands of innocent people. On that day, four civilian aircraft were hijacked.

Two crashed into the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center in New York City. A third struck the Pentagon building here in Washington, D.C., and the fourth hijacked plane crashed in a rural part of southwestern Pennsylvania, after passengers on that plane heroically tried to take control of the aircraft.

Since these attacks, we have honored our heroes, mourned those that we have lost, and offered an unprecedented amount of support and comfort to those in need. We have also witnessed

an outpouring of unity and American spirit that has been unmatched in our Nation's history.

In remembrance of the tragic events of September 11, as well as the remarkable events that followed, House Joint Resolution 71 would designate September 11 as United We Stand Remembrance Day.

Each year the President of the United States would issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate programs and activities.

I want to commend the author of this legislation, Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from New York (Mr. FOSSELLA), for bringing this important measure to the floor. I also want to thank the Committee on Rules for expediting the consideration of this bill in the House.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution. It is an important step towards ensuring that the events of September 11 are never forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the balance of the time on our side be given to the gentleman from New York (Mr. FOSSELLA) and that he be permitted to yield time as he sees fit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, 44 days ago thousands of innocent, brave souls began to rest with the Almighty. Each individual is a chapter in the wonderful and cherished story known as America.

They were born in different towns. Some spoke different languages. They worshipped different faiths: Christian, Jew, Hindu and Muslim. At home, they were known by different names: sister, brother, aunt, uncle, grandma, grandpa, son, daughter, mom, and dad. At home, they did different things. They coached little league; they instructed in the Bible; they taught our kids how to play soccer.

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During the day they had different jobs, dishwasher, broker, secretary, electrician, accountant, police officer, EMS worker, court officer, soldier, sailor, marine, airman, firefighter, and so much more. That was up until September 11. They were the essence of America. But these differences that they had were minor compared to the things they had in common. They all cherished freedom and they all loved America.

After September 11, they each had one more thing in common. They united this Nation, the crucible of liberty, to keep us strong, just and free. It is thus our task to ensure that future generations know, acknowledge, and remain thankful to the honorable lives that perished tragically, but not in vain, on September 11, 2001.