The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 170

Whereas America’s community of faith has long provided a leader in dealing with difficult societal problems that might otherwise have gone unaddressed;

Whereas President Bush has called upon Americans “to revitalize the spirit of citizenship...to marshal the compassion of our people to meet the continuing needs of our Nation”;

Whereas although the work of faith-based organizations should not be used by government as an excuse for backing away from its historic and rightful commitment to help those who are disadvantaged and in need, such organizations can and should be seen as a valuable partner with government in meeting societal challenges;

Whereas every day faith-based organizations in the United States help people recover from drug and alcohol addiction, provide food and shelter for the homeless, rehabilitate prison inmates so that they can break free from the cycle of recidivism, and teach people job skills that will allow them to move from poverty to productivity; and

Whereas faith-based organizations are often more successful in dealing with difficult societal problems than government and non-sectarian organizations;

Whereas, as President Bush recently stated, “It is not sufficient to praise charities and community groups; we must support them. And this is both a public obligation and a personal responsibility.”;

Whereas corporate foundations contribute billions of dollars each year to a variety of philanthropic causes;

Whereas according to a recent study produced by the Capital Research Center, the 10 largest corporate foundations in the United States contributed $1,900,000,000 to such causes;

Whereas according to the same study, faith-based organizations only receive a small fraction of the contributions made by corporations in the United States, and 6 of the 10 corporations that give the most to philanthropic causes explicitly ban or restrict contributions to faith-based organizations; now, therefore, be it;

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

(A) corporations in the United States are important partners with government in efforts to overcome difficult societal problems; and

(B) no corporation in the United States should adopt policies that prohibit the corporation from contributing to an organization that is successfully advancing a philanthropic cause merely because such organization is faith based.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Pursuant to rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on any motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which a vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX. Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 6 p.m. today.

ENCOURAGING CORPORATIONS TO CONTRIBUTE TO FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 170) encouraging corporations to contribute to faith-based organizations.