

rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

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

There was no objection.

EXPRESSING SYMPATHY AND CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF VICTIMS OF THE MADRID TERRORIST ATTACKS OF MARCH 11, 2004

Mr. MCCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on International Relations be discharged from further consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 99) expressing the condolences of the House of Representatives to the families of the victims of the terrorist attacks in Madrid that occurred one year ago, on March 11, 2004, and expressing deepest sympathy to the individuals injured in those attacks and to the people of the Kingdom of Spain, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 99

Whereas on March 11, 2004, 10 coordinated bomb explosions at the Atocha, Santa Eugenia, and El Pozo del Tío Raimundo stations and aboard a commuter train occurred during the morning rush hour in Madrid;

Whereas 191 individuals were killed and more than 1,800 individuals were wounded in these horrific terrorist attacks;

Whereas these terrorist bombing attacks were the deadliest in Europe since the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 in 1988;

Whereas these attacks constitute the worst acts of terrorism ever experienced in Spanish history;

Whereas Spain's investigation into the Basque Fatherland and Liberty terrorist organization, also known as Euzkadi Ta Askatasuna (ETA), has made progress in the Global War on Terrorism;

Whereas the leaders of Spain have worked vigorously to identify and capture terrorists who attempt to find sanctuary in Spain;

Whereas the atrocious acts of violence committed on March 11, 2004, in Madrid show yet again that terrorism knows no borders;

Whereas the United States and Spain are committed to continuing to strengthen the relationship between the United States and Europe;

Whereas Spain is an advocate for the ideals of freedom and democracy; and

Whereas the people of the United States stand together with the people of Spain to remember those individuals who lost their lives on the one year anniversary of these horrific terrorist attacks: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) expresses its condolences to the families of the individuals killed in the terrorist bombing attacks in Madrid that occurred on March 11, 2004, and expresses its deepest

sympathy to the individuals injured in such attacks and to the people of the Kingdom of Spain on the one year anniversary of the attacks;

(2) condemns the terrorist attacks that occurred on March 11, 2004, and all acts of terror worldwide; and

(3) expresses its solidarity with Spain and all other countries that have been attacked during the Global War on Terrorism.

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, this Friday marks the one-year anniversary of the tragic train bombing in Madrid, Spain.

The resolution I have introduced with Mr. MCCOTTER expresses the condolences of the House of Representatives to the families of individuals killed in the bombing. It also expresses solidarity with Spain and all other countries that have been attacked during the Global War on Terrorism.

These bombings were the worst acts of terrorism ever experienced in Spanish history—killing 191 individuals and injuring almost 2,000. They also marked the deadliest terrorist attacks in Europe since the 1988 bombing of Pan Am Flight 103.

Much like our own September 11th, the March 11 attacks were senseless acts of violence perpetrated by terrorists against innocent civilians. This was nothing more than an attack against freedom and democracy—perpetrated by cowards bent on turmoil and destruction.

While we have had our differences with the government of Spain over the last year—it is important that Congress reiterate its support with the people of Spain. The war on terrorism is a global conflict that knows no boundaries and does not distinguish between civilian and soldier. We have experienced its destruction first-hand, and we must stand in unity with others who have also felt this tragedy.

The relationship between the United States and Spain remains strong, and Spain remains an important ally in the war on terrorism. The Madrid bombings were a direct attack on this peace-loving government and its democratic principles.

I am deeply saddened by this senseless loss of life, and join my colleagues in expressing our most sincere condolences to the victims, their families and the people and government of the Kingdom of Spain.

The resolution was agreed to.

AMENDMENT TO PREAMBLE OFFERED BY MR. MCCOTTER

Mr. MCCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I offer an amendment to the preamble.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment to preamble offered by Mr. MCCOTTER:

Strike the preamble and insert in lieu thereof:

Whereas on March 11, 2004, terrorists affiliated with Al Qaeda coordinated 10 bomb explosions at the Atocha, Santa Eugenia, and El Pozo del Tío Raimundo stations and aboard a commuter train during the morning rush hour in Madrid;

Whereas 191 individuals were killed and more than 1,800 individuals were wounded in these horrific terrorist attacks;

Whereas these terrorist bombing attacks were the deadliest in Europe since the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 in 1988;

Whereas these attacks constitute the worst acts of terrorism ever experienced in Spanish history;

Whereas Spain's investigation into the Basque Fatherland and Liberty terrorist organization, also known as Euzkadi Ta Askatasuna (ETA), has made progress in the Global War on Terrorism;

Whereas the leaders of Spain have worked vigorously to identify and capture terrorists who attempt to find sanctuary in Spain;

Whereas the Club de Madrid, an independent organization of democratic former heads of state and government dedicated to strengthening democracy around the world, is convening an international summit on democracy, terrorism, and security under the High Patronage of His Majesty the King of Spain to commemorate the one year anniversary of the terrorist attacks in Madrid;

Whereas the atrocious acts of violence committed on March 11, 2004, in Madrid show yet again that terrorism knows no borders;

Whereas the United States and Spain are committed to continuing to strengthen the relationship between the United States and Europe;

Whereas Spain is an advocate for the ideals of freedom and democracy; and

Whereas the people of the United States stand together with the people of Spain to remember those individuals who lost their lives on the one year anniversary of these horrific terrorist attacks: Now, therefore, be it

The amendment to the preamble was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1500

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DENT). Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MATSUI), the whole number of the House is adjusted to 435.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 4303, and the order of the House of January 4, 2005, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Member of the House to the Board of Trustees of Gallaudet University:

Mr. LAHOOD, Illinois.

PERMISSION FOR COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET TO HAVE UNTIL SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 2005, TO FILE A PRIVILEGED REPORT TO ACCOMPANY A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Budget have until 4 p.m. on March 12, 2005, to file a privileged report to accompany a concurrent resolution on the budget.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Illinois?