



H.RES. 1173 – Recognizing AmeriCorps Week

FLOOR SITUATION

H.Res. 1173 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Doris Matsui (D-CA) on May 5, 2008. The resolution was referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor, but was never considered.

H.Res. 1173 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on May 13, 2008.

SUMMARY

H.Res. 1173 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- Encourages all citizens to join in a national effort to salute AmeriCorps members and alumni, and raise awareness about the importance of national and community service;
- Acknowledges the significant accomplishments of the AmeriCorps members, alumni, and community partners;
- Recognizes the important contributions to the lives of our citizens by AmeriCorps members; and
- Encourages citizens of all ages to consider serving in AmeriCorps.

BACKGROUND

In 1993, President Bill Clinton signed the National and Community Service Trust Act, which established the Corporation for National and Community Service and brought the full range of domestic community service programs under the umbrella of one central organization. On July 3, 2003, President Bush signed the Strengthen AmeriCorps Program Act, which nearly doubled the number of AmeriCorps members.

Each year, AmeriCorps offers 75,000 opportunities for adults of all ages and backgrounds to serve through a network of partnerships with local and national nonprofit groups.

Their current strategic plan embraces bold national goals in four specific focus areas: mobilizing more volunteers, ensuring a brighter future for all of America's youth, engaging students in communities, and harnessing baby boomers' experience. To accomplish these goals, AmeriCorps wants to have 75 million Americans volunteering by the year 2010. They would like to have mentors for 3 million more at-risk youth, 3 million at-risk youth serving others in their communities, service-learning in half of all K-12 schools, and 3 million more baby boomers engaged in service.

STAFF CONTACT

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