



**H.Res. \_\_\_ – Recognizing September 11 as a day of remembrance, extending sympathies to those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001, and their families, honoring the heroic actions of our nation’s first responders and Armed Forces, and reaffirming the commitment to defending the people of the United States against any and all future challenges.**

### **FLOOR SITUATION**

H.Res. \_\_\_ is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation is expected to be introduced by Reps. Steny Hoyer (D-MD) and John Boehner (R-OH) on September 10, 2007.

### **BACKGROUND**

On September 11, 2001, America was attacked by Al Qaeda terrorists who coordinated the hijacking of four commercial airliners; flying two of them into the World Trade Center, one into the Pentagon, and failing in their final attack as the passengers grounded the fourth plane into a field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania. This unparalleled terrorist attack resulted in 2,973 fatalities.

The Republican Congress aggressively responded to these horrific attacks by enacting numerous laws to enhance our abilities in the War on Terror, including:

- The Homeland Security Act of 2002 (P.L. 107-296) – This legislation consolidated the homeland security missions of federal agencies within the Department of Homeland Security.
- The USA Patriot Act (P.L. 107-56) – This legislation enhanced the abilities of law enforcement and intelligence agencies to monitor and disrupt terrorist networks. The Patriot Act also established new crimes and penalties to counter domestic and foreign terrorists.
- Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (P.L. 108-458) – This legislation consolidated the intelligence community and established a Director of National Intelligence.
- REAL ID Act (P.L. 109-13) - This legislation would require minimal standards for any driver’s license or state-issued identifications that are used for federal purposes.
- SAFE Port Act (P.L. 109-347) – This legislation set new standards for increased screening of cargo entering into the United States.

Additional terrorist attacks have occurred in numerous other countries since September 11, 2001, including Egypt, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Spain, Turkey, and the United Kingdom.

## **SUMMARY**

H.Res. 402 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- Recognizes September 11 as both a day to remember those taken from their families, loved ones, and fellow citizens and a day for Americans to recommit to the Nation and to each other;
- Extends its deepest sympathies to the countless innocent victims of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, their families, friends, and loved ones;
- Honors the heroic service, actions and sacrifices of first responders, law enforcement personnel, State and local officials, volunteers, and others who aided the innocent victims and, in doing so, bravely risked their own lives and health;
- Expresses thanks and gratitude to the foreign leaders and citizens of all nations who have assisted and continue to stand in solidarity with the United States against terrorism in the aftermath of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks;
- Rejects, in the strongest possible terms, any effort to confuse the war on terrorism with a war on any people or any faith;
- Honors the heroic service, actions and the sacrifices of United States personnel, including members of the United States Armed Forces, United States intelligence agencies, and the United States diplomatic service, and their families who have sacrificed much, including their lives and health, in defense of their country against terrorists and their supporters;
- Remains resolved in its commitment to defeating terrorists and their supporters who threaten the United States and to providing the United States Armed Forces, United States intelligence agencies, and the United States diplomatic service with the resources and support to do so effectively and safely; and
- Reaffirms that the House of Representatives honors the memory of those who lost their lives as a result of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks and reaffirms its commitment to defend the people of the United States in the face of any and all future challenges.

## **PREVIOUS HOUSE RESOLUTIONS**

[H.Res. 994](#) passed the House on September 13, 2006 by a vote of 395 to 22.

[H.Res. 427](#) passed the House on September 8, 2005 by a vote of 402 to 6.

[H.Res. 757](#) passed the House on September 9, 2004 by a vote of 406 to 16.

[H.Con.Res. 464](#) passed the House on September 11, 2002 by a vote of 370 to 0.

[H.J.Res 61](#) passed the House on September 13, 2001 by a vote of 408 to 0.

**COST**

The Congressional Budget Office has not scored this legislation.

**STAFF CONTACT**

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