

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 311

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Honoring the memory of Detective John Michael Gibson and Private First Class Jacob Joseph Chestnut of the United States Capitol Police for their selfless acts of heroism at the United States Capitol on July 24, 1998.

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Whereas the Capitol is the people's house, and, as such, it
has always been and will remain open to the public;

Whereas millions of people visit the Capitol each year to ob-
serve and study the workings of the democratic process;

Whereas the Capitol is the most recognizable symbol of lib-
erty and democracy throughout the world and those who
guard the Capitol guard our freedom;

Whereas Private First Class Jacob “J.J.” Chestnut and Detective John Michael Gibson sacrificed their lives to protect the lives of hundreds of tourists, staff, and Members of Congress;

Whereas if not for the quick and courageous action of those officers, many innocent people would likely have been injured or killed;

Whereas through their selfless acts, Detective Gibson and Private First Class Chestnut underscored the courage, honor, and dedication shown daily by every member of the United States Capitol Police and every law enforcement officer;

Whereas Private First Class Chestnut, a Vietnam veteran who spent 20 years in the Air Force, was an 18-year veteran of the Capitol Police, and was married to Wen Ling and had five children, Joseph, Janece, Janet, Karen, and William;

Whereas Detective Gibson, assigned as Representative Tom DeLay’s bodyguard for the last three years, was an 18-year veteran of the Capitol Police, and was married to Evelyn and had three children, Kristen, John, and Daniel;

Whereas Private First Class Chestnut and Detective Gibson were the first United States Capitol Police officers ever killed in the line of duty;

Whereas Private First Class Chestnut and Detective Gibson, and all those who helped apprehend the gunman, assist the injured, and evacuate the building, are true heroes of democracy, and every American owes them a deep debt of gratitude: Now, therefore, be it

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

3 (1) Congress hereby honors the memory of De-
4 tective John Michael Gibson and Private First Class
5 Jacob Joseph Chestnut of the United States Capitol
6 Police for the selfless acts of heroism they displayed
7 on July 24, 1998, in sacrificing their lives in the line
8 of duty so that others might live; and

9 (2) when the House of Representatives adjourns
10 on this date and when the Senate adjourns or re-
11 cesses on this date, they shall do so out of respect
12 to the memory of Detective John Michael Gibson
13 and Private First Class Jacob Joseph Chestnut.

Passed the House of Representatives July 27, 1998.

Attest:

Clerk.