

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 191

Recognizing and honoring Medal of Honor recipients for their selfless acts for our Nation, and commending IPALCO Enterprises for its contributions to honor each of these American heroes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 26, 1999

Ms. CARSON submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the
Committee on Armed Services

RESOLUTION

Recognizing and honoring Medal of Honor recipients for their selfless acts for our Nation, and commending IPALCO Enterprises for its contributions to honor each of these American heroes.

Whereas a new memorial in downtown Indianapolis, Indiana, will honor every Medal of Honor recipient individually;

Whereas the memorial dedication on Friday, May 28, 1999, will be attended by one of the largest ever gatherings of Medal of Honor recipients;

Whereas the memorial will feature the names of the 3,410 people who have received the Medal of Honor, the Nation's highest military award for valor;

Whereas the Medal of Honor is awarded by the President in the name of Congress, and for this reason is often referred to as the Congressional Medal of Honor;

Whereas since it was first awarded in 1863, 3,410 individuals have been awarded the Medal of Honor;

Whereas 19 individuals have received the Medal of Honor twice;

Whereas 2,363 Medals of Honor have been awarded to members of the Army, 745 to members of the Navy, 295 to members of the Marines, 16 to members of the Air Force, 1 to a member of the Coast Guard, and 19 to unknowns;

Whereas there are 162 living recipients;

Whereas the Medal of Honor is only bestowed on those who have performed an act of “gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of . . . life above and beyond the call of duty”;

Whereas acts of bravery and courage are not unusual among those in uniform, and engaging in direct battle with an enemy or carrying out one’s duties under enemy attack is an act of bravery and courage performed by many members of our Armed Forces;

Whereas the level of heroism cited among those who receive the Medal of Honor is uncommonly high and of a far greater magnitude;

Whereas there are 3 types of Medals of Honor today: the original star shape established in 1861 which the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard have retained; a wreath version designed in 1904 for the Army; and an altered wreath version adopted by the Air Force in 1965;

Whereas IPALCO Enterprises, an Indianapolis-based energy company, has provided the memorial, including design, construction, and future maintenance, as a gift to the Medal of Honor recipients and to the Nation;

Whereas the Congressional Medal of Honor Memorial will be located on the north bank of the Central Canal in White River State Park;

Whereas the location of the memorial is particularly significant, since it is adjacent to Military Park, which served as a training facility during the Civil War;

Whereas nearly half of the Medals of Honor issued, 1,520, were bestowed upon soldiers who fought in the Civil War;

Whereas the memorial will be composed of curved walls of glass, each representing a specific United States military engagement in which the Medal of Honor was awarded;

Whereas the glass walls will bear the names of all 3,410 individuals who have received the Medal of Honor, along with their branch of service and the location of their heroic action;

Whereas steps, benches, and a grassy area will provide seating for visitors, and each day at dusk the memorial's sound system will play the recorded stories of medal recipients or of the conflicts in which they fought;

Whereas the memorial was designed by ROAMworks, an Indianapolis-based landscape architecture firm, the general contractor is Hagerman Construction Corporation, and the electrical contractor is Miller-Eads Company, Inc.;

Whereas IPALCO and the Central Indiana Building Trade Association have agreed that all work on the memorial will be done by labor union members; and

Whereas a majority of the 162 living Medal of Honor recipients will be present to participate in the May 28, 1999, event: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives recog-
2 nizes and honors all recipients of the Medal of Honor for
3 their selfless contributions to our Nation, and commends
4 IPALCO Enterprises for its contributions to honor each
5 of these American heroes.

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