106TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

H. RES. 225

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives condemning the arson at three Sacramento, California, area synagogues on June 18, 1999, and affirming its opposition to all forms of hate crimes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

June 25, 1999

Mr. Matsui (for himself, Mr. Ose, Mr. Pombo, Mr. Doolittle, Mr. Herger, Mr. Thompson of California, and Mr. Condit) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives condemning the arson at three Sacramento, California, area synagogues on June 18, 1999, and affirming its opposition to all forms of hate crimes.

Whereas in the dark of night on June 18, 1999, the houses of worship of Congregation B'Nai Israel, Congregation Beth Shalom, and Kenesset Israel Torah Center were struck with malicious acts of arson;

Whereas a coordinated, destructive, and violent attack on three synagogues is an act of intolerance, prejudice, and hatred; Whereas a hate-driven attack upon any group of Americans is an affront to everyone who cherishes the freedoms of America and the values that sustain our democracy;

Whereas crimes of hate against any group are crimes against us all; and

Whereas every Member of Congress has a responsibility to honor and protect all of the religious and cultural traditions which make our Nation great: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 Resolved, That the House of Representatives—
- 2 (1) condemns the cowardly hate crimes that oc-
- 3 curred in Sacramento, California, at Congregation
- 4 B'Nai Israel, Congregation Beth Shalom, and
- 5 Kenesset Israel Torah Center on June 18, 1999;
- 6 (2) applauds the strength and unity displayed
- 7 by the people of Sacramento, California, in coming
- 8 together to condemn these acts and to renew their
- 9 community;
- 10 (3) reaffirms the determination of all of its
- Members to oppose any individuals or organizations
- which seek to divide Americans on the grounds of
- race, religion, or ethnic origin;
- 14 (4) denounces all those who practice or promote
- racism, anti-Semitism, prejudice, or religious or
- 16 other intolerance;
- 17 (5) implores the Sacramento and Federal law
- enforcement agencies to aggressively pursue their in-

vestigation to find the perpetrators of these hate crimes and bring them swiftly to justice; and (6) calls upon all Americans to reject the forces of hatred and bigotry wherever and in whatever form

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they may manifest.

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