

H. Res. 424

In the House of Representatives, U.S.,

May 22, 2002.

Whereas on September 11, 2001, terrorists hijacked four civilian aircraft, crashing two of them into the towers of the World Trade Center in New York City;

Whereas these attacks were by far the deadliest terrorist attacks ever launched against the United States, claiming the lives of more than 3,000 innocent people;

Whereas in the aftermath of the attacks, without showing any hesitation, public safety officers, steel workers, electricians, construction workers, and thousands of skilled workers and volunteers spent endless days and nights, many without sleep for over 36 hours, risking their own lives to assist in the search for and rescue of anyone that might have survived the devastation at the site of the World Trade Center, which has come to be known as “Ground Zero”;

Whereas the resolve of our nation was strengthened by the courage of the thousands of brave rescue and recovery workers who used their own hands in the hours and days after September 11th to this day to remove rubble from the site to locate those trapped and buried beneath the debris of the World Trade Center;

Whereas these workers inspired the American people with their extraordinary bravery and heroism, often risking their own life and limb to help find the remains of those who perished on September 11th;

Whereas many rescue and recovery workers were not just searching for a stranger but rather their lost son, daughter, aunt, uncle, brother, sister, husband, wife, mother, father, lifelong friend, or co-worker; each of these workers were helping to clear the debris just hoping to come across any one of their loved ones;

Whereas people, not only in New York but across the nation, worked to supply Ground Zero workers with such things as food and water, clothing, and medical supplies, surmounted numerous challenges and difficulties in securing and distributing these goods, and made it happen within hours and continuing still today, never once looked at how difficult it might be to get supplies, but rather went out and did whatever it took to ensure that the needs for those supplies were met;

Whereas local businesses, churches, and citizens opened their doors to police, fire, and other workers with places to sleep, eat, or even simply pray;

Whereas the selflessness displayed by the rescue and recovery workers helped unify our nation, bringing together good people to demonstrate to the forces of terror that good would triumph over evil;

Whereas all involved in the efforts at Ground Zero were working unselfishly beyond the point of exhaustion without regard for food, water, or sleep, simply to save and recover anyone and everyone possible; and

Whereas the recovery effort will conclude after more than nine months of hard work, removing over 1.6 million tons of debris while at the same time taking great care to collect all victims' remains, thereby allowing more than 1,000 families to lay their loved ones to rest: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives pays tribute to the workers in New York City for their rescue, recovery, and clean-up efforts at the site of the World Trade Center, which was destroyed by the terrorist attack of September 11, 2001.

Attest:

Clerk.