

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 152

Expressing the appreciation of the Nation to the members of the Armed Forces serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom and encouraging communities across the Nation to prepare appropriate homecoming ceremonies to welcome the members of the Armed Forces returning from those operations and to recognize their contributions to homeland security and expansion of freedoms around the globe and to prepare days of remembrance to commemorate the brave service and selfless sacrifice of the members of the Armed Forces who do not return.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 11, 2003

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (for himself and Ms. HARMAN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the appreciation of the Nation to the members of the Armed Forces serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom and encouraging communities across the Nation to prepare appropriate homecoming ceremonies to welcome the members of the Armed Forces returning from those operations and to recognize their contributions to homeland security and expansion of freedoms around the globe and to prepare days of remembrance to commemorate the brave service and selfless sacrifice of the members of the Armed Forces who do not return.

Whereas support in the United States and territories for the United States forces overseas who are engaged in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom is critical for the positive morale of those engaged in the war effort;

Whereas more than 380,000 members of the United States Armed Forces, a total force comprised of active component forces, National Guard personnel, and Reserve personnel, are deployed thousands of miles from home as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom;

Whereas many Guard and Reserve members were required to take indefinite leave from places of employment and all servicemembers, active and reserve component, have left loved ones behind;

Whereas in the execution of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, the Armed Forces have suffered a number of casualties, including deaths, injuries, and capture of a number of United States servicemembers who are held as prisoners-of-war;

Whereas following their deployment for Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom and related activations, Reservists and National Guard personnel will return to their hometowns to continue their civilian roles and the active forces will continue their mission to defend the United States;

Whereas following victory and the successful completion of their mission, the Nation has traditionally welcomed returning members of the Armed Forces home with appropriate homecoming ceremonies;

Whereas servicemembers returning home from service in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam conflict were in many cases not welcomed home and the Nation is committed not to repeat that mistake; and

Whereas the Nation has also recognized the service and sacrifice of those members of the Armed Forces who were killed or missing-in-action with appropriate tributes and days of remembrance: Now, therefore, be it

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

3 (1) expresses the appreciation of the Nation to
4 the members of the Armed Forces serving in Oper-
5 ation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Free-
6 dom; and

7 (2) calls upon communities across the Nation—

8 (A) to prepare appropriate homecoming
9 ceremonies to honor and welcome home the
10 members of the Armed Forces participating in
11 Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Endur-
12 ing Freedom upon their return from service in
13 the theater of war and to recognize their con-
14 tributions to homeland security and expansion
15 of freedoms around the globe; and

16 (B) to prepare appropriate ceremonies to
17 commemorate with tributes and days of remem-

- 1 brance the service and sacrifice of those
- 2 servicemembers killed or missing-in-action.

