

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. CON. RES. 19

Affirming the importance of a national day of prayer and fasting, and expressing the sense of Congress that March 17, 2003, should be designated as a national day of prayer and fasting.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 12, 2003

Mr. SANTORUM (for himself and Mr. BROWNBACK) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Affirming the importance of a national day of prayer and fasting, and expressing the sense of Congress that March 17, 2003, should be designated as a national day of prayer and fasting.

Whereas the President has sought the support of the international community in responding to the threat of terrorism, violent extremist organizations, and states that permit or host organizations that are opposed to democratic ideals;

Whereas a united stance against terrorism and terrorist regimes will likely lead to an increased threat to the armed forces and law enforcement personnel of those states that oppose these regimes of terror, and that take an active role in rooting out these enemy forces;

Whereas Congress has aided and supported a united response to acts of terrorism and violence inflicted upon the United States, our allies, and peaceful individuals all over the world;

Whereas President Abraham Lincoln, at the outbreak of the Civil War, proclaimed that the last Thursday in September 1861 should be designated as a day of humility, prayer, and fasting for all people of the Nation;

Whereas it is appropriate and fitting to seek guidance, direction, and focus from God in times of conflict and in periods of turmoil;

Whereas it is through prayer, self-reflection, and fasting that we can better examine those elements of our lives that can benefit from God's wisdom and love;

Whereas prayer to God and the admission of human limitations and frailties begins the process of becoming both stronger and closer to God;

Whereas becoming closer to God helps provide direction, purpose, and conviction in those daily actions and decisions we must take;

Whereas our Nation, tested by civil war, military conflicts, and world wars, has always benefited from the grace and benevolence bestowed by God; and

Whereas dangers and threats to our Nation persist, and in this time of peril it is appropriate that the people of the United States, leaders and citizens alike, seek guidance, strength, and resolve through prayer and fasting: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*
- 2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that—

1 (1) March 17, 2003, should be designated as a
2 day for humility, prayer, and fasting for all people
3 of the United States; and

4 (2) all people of the United States should—

5 (A) observe this day as a day of prayer
6 and fasting;

7 (B) seek guidance from God to achieve
8 greater understanding of our own failings;

9 (C) learn how we can do better in our ev-
10 eryday activities; and

11 (D) gain resolve in how to confront those
12 challenges which we must confront.

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