

108TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. RES. 312

Commending the bravery of the initial responders in the Baltimore Harbor  
water taxi accident of March 6, 2004.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 9, 2004

Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself and Mr. SARBANES) submitted the following  
resolution; which was considered and agreed to

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## RESOLUTION

Commending the bravery of the initial responders in the  
Baltimore Harbor water taxi accident of March 6, 2004.

- 1 Whereas on Saturday, March 6, 2004, a water taxi over-
- 2 turned in Baltimore Harbor during a sudden and vi-
- 3 cious storm;
- 4 Whereas 25 passengers were thrown into the Harbor, into
- 5 frigid 43 degree water, with little chance of survival;
- 6 Whereas tragically, 1 person died and 3 people are pre-
- 7 sumed to be dead;
- 8 Whereas if not for the immediate action of the initial re-
- 9 sponders, more lives would certainly have been lost;

1 Whereas the initial responders demonstrated extraor-  
2 dinary bravery in their heroic response in rescuing the  
3 passengers;

4 Whereas after noticing the accident, the initial responders  
5 rushed to the scene, piloting their vessel to the acci-  
6 dent site and immediately diving into the frigid waters  
7 in their street clothes and boots to help those clinging  
8 for their lives;

9 Whereas the initial responders not only saved those  
10 clinging to the boat for survival but used their excep-  
11 tional skills and ingenuity to elevate the capsized boat  
12 to rescue those passengers trapped beneath;

13 Whereas the team of initial responders worked together  
14 to pull the passengers out of the water, identify those  
15 who needed immediate medical attention, turn the  
16 Fort McHenry Drill Hall into a triage center to iden-  
17 tify the victims who were most in need, and provide  
18 all with dry clothing and warm blankets;

19 Whereas it was a team effort to rescue and save those  
20 stranded in the freezing Chesapeake waters that in-  
21 volved rescuers in the water, on the pier, and at Fort  
22 McHenry;

23 Whereas we commend the courage and resolution of Mary-  
24 land's outstanding initial responders whose quick re-  
25 action to this terrible accident saved lives; and

1 Whereas we praise these initial responders—the Navy Re-  
2 servists, Coast Guard, Maritime Fire Department,  
3 Baltimore Fire Department, Bowleys Quarters Search  
4 and Rescue Team, and the emergency medical team—  
5 who worked together as a team to rescue people and  
6 save lives: Now, therefore, be it

7 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

8 (1) pays tribute to the victims of this terrible  
9 accident and expresses its condolences to their fami-  
10 lies;

11 (2) commends the initial responders in the Bal-  
12 timore water taxi accident of March 6, 2004, for  
13 their bravery, quick thinking, courage, and ingenuity  
14 in rescuing the passengers of the water taxi that  
15 capsized after a sudden and vicious storm swept over  
16 the Baltimore Harbor; and

17 (3) commends the team of initial responders for  
18 this extraordinary demonstration of their ongoing  
19 commitment and dedication to saving lives.

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