

109TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. RES. 669

Directing the Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives to report to the House on the circumstances surrounding the removal of two individuals from the gallery of the House prior to the beginning of the State of the Union address on January 31, 2006, based on the allegation that the individuals were engaging in protest solely because the individuals wore shirts with printing on the front.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 1, 2006

Mr. STARK submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

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# RESOLUTION

Directing the Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives to report to the House on the circumstances surrounding the removal of two individuals from the gallery of the House prior to the beginning of the State of the Union address on January 31, 2006, based on the allegation that the individuals were engaging in protest solely because the individuals wore shirts with printing on the front.

Whereas at President Bush's fifth State of the Union address on January 31, 2006, two individuals were removed from the Gallery of the House of Representatives for allegedly engaging in "protesting", in spite of the fact that neither of these individuals made any kind of verbal protest or

did anything else to disrupt the proceedings of the House;

Whereas the first individual removed was Cindy Sheehan, who was wearing a shirt with printing on the front stating: “2245 Dead. How many more?”;

Whereas the second individual removed was Beverly Young, the wife of a Member of the House of Representatives, who was wearing a shirt with printing on the front stating: “Support the Troops Defending our Freedom.”;

Whereas nothing in the Rules of House of Representatives or any of the rules governing the Gallery prohibits the wearing of shirts with messages printed on the front or places any other kind of restriction on the apparel worn by individuals in the Gallery, other than a prohibition against the wearing of hats;

Whereas in spite of this both Cindy Sheehan and Beverly Young were removed from the Gallery, and Cindy Sheehan was arrested and charged with unlawful conduct; and

Whereas the use of such tactics by the Sergeant at Arms and the United States Capitol Police is completely contrary to the traditions and values of our Nation and has no place in the operations of the House of Representatives, which is rightfully known and revered as the “people’s House”:  
Now, therefore, be it

1        *Resolved,*

1 **SECTION 1. REPORT ON CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING**  
2 **REMOVAL OF INDIVIDUALS FROM HOUSE**  
3 **GALLERY AT STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS.**

4 Not later than 30 days after the date of the adoption  
5 of this resolution, the Sergeant at Arms of the House of  
6 Representatives shall submit a report to the House on the  
7 circumstances surrounding the removal of Cindy Sheehan  
8 and Beverly Young from the Gallery of the House prior  
9 to the beginning of the President's State of the Union ad-  
10 dress on January 31, 2006, and shall include in the re-  
11 port—

12 (1) an explanation of the laws or rules that  
13 these individuals violated which required them to be  
14 removed and required one of them to be arrested;  
15 and

16 (2) recommendations on actions the Sergeant at  
17 Arms may take to ensure that individuals in the  
18 Gallery who do nothing to disrupt the proceedings of  
19 the House are not removed from the Gallery.

