111TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

H. RES. 1554

Recognizing the services provided by school resource officers and their dedication to the safety, security, and well-being of students, teachers, school support staff, and school communities in the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

July 22, 2010

Mrs. McCarthy of New York (for herself and Ms. Ginny Brown-Waite of Florida) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the services provided by school resource officers and their dedication to the safety, security, and wellbeing of students, teachers, school support staff, and school communities in the United States.

Whereas according to Bureau of Justice Statistics' (BJS)
Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics (LEMAS) Survey-Community Policing Survey,
(2000), there were 6,646 full-time school resource officers in the United States;

Whereas many school systems employ staff such as campus police, security monitors, security guards, security offi-

- cers, campus supervisors, campus monitors, and certified peace officers;
- Whereas school resource officers make schools in the United States safer through their roles as law-related educators, counselors, and local law enforcement officers;
- Whereas many school resource officers, on their own time, support school children beyond their official duties by serving as coaches, activity supervisors, mentors, and leaders of other student support programs;
- Whereas school resource officers play an important role in educating students about school rules, State laws, and student safety in order to prevent disciplinary and criminal incidents in schools;
- Whereas school resource officers have intervened and prevented numerous school shootings, bombings, and other high-profile school violence plots;
- Whereas school resource officers, working with school administrators, have improved the reporting of criminal activities committed on school campuses;
- Whereas school resource officers are a primary resource to educators and school administrators in the development and execution of school emergency preparedness plans;
- Whereas school resource officers are resources to students, educators, and parents for preventing and responding to student bullying, Internet predators, gang violence, cyberbullying, and issues with tobacco, alcohol, and drugs; and
- Whereas school resource officers are viewed favorably by school administrators, teachers, school support staff, students, and parents for their dedication to meeting the needs and interests of youth in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

- (1) encourages greater awareness of school resource officers for their continued dedication to their professional skills and personal commitment to law enforcement, which widely improves the overall climate and safety within United States schools;
- (2) recognizes the role that school resource officers play in building an effective and positive relationship between local law enforcement and youth to help in the reduction and prevention of school-related violence and crime; and
- (3) encourages local school districts to fully integrate school resource officers in the professional development of school staff to improve student safety, discipline, and emergency preparedness, and prevent instances of bullying and cyber-bullying.