

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 823

Honoring and praising Mother Marianne Cope for her legacy of compassionate care and recognizing her example of what it truly means to dedicate one's life in service to others, especially to those she served at the leprosy settlement at Kalaupapa on the island of Molokai.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 29, 2012

Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. HANNA, Ms. HANABUSA, and Ms. BUERKLE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Honoring and praising Mother Marianne Cope for her legacy of compassionate care and recognizing her example of what it truly means to dedicate one's life in service to others, especially to those she served at the leprosy settlement at Kalaupapa on the island of Molokai.

Whereas Mother Marianne Cope, O.S.F. was born Barbara Koob in Heppenheim, Germany, on January 23, 1838, and immigrated to the United States the following year, settling in Utica, New York;

Whereas in 1862, at the age 24, she received the religious habit and became a Sister of St. Francis at the Church of St. Mary of the Assumption in Syracuse, New York;

Whereas in 1863, she professed her vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience as a Sister of the Third Order Regular of Saint Francis based in Syracuse, New York, was given Mary Anna as her religious name, which in time and usage became Marianne, and began serving as a teacher and principal at several New York elementary schools;

Whereas in 1866, the Hawaiian government forcibly sent individuals with leprosy, now known as Hansen's disease, to the Makenalua peninsula on the island of Molokai, commonly known as Kalaupapa, to prevent further spread of the disease;

Whereas in 1866, Mother Marianne was influential in establishing St. Elizabeth Hospital in Utica, New York, and in 1869, Mother Marianne, as administrator and founder of St. Joseph's Hospital in Syracuse, New York, established the importance of sanitation in the practice of caring for the sick;

Whereas in 1883, as head of the community, Mother Marianne led six sisters to the Hawaiian Islands at the request of Father Leonor Fouesnel, emissary for King Kalakaua and Queen Kapiolani who came to Syracuse as part of his search for Sisters to assist in taking care of persons with leprosy;

Whereas in 1884, Mother Marianne established Malulani Hospital, a general hospital at Wailuku, Maui, at the request of the Hawaiian government;

Whereas in 1885, Mother Marianne was awarded the royal medal of Kapiolani by King Kalakaua for her leadership in benevolent works in the Hawaiian Islands at the opening of Kapiolani Home at Kakaako, near Honolulu, Oahu, for the female children of those at Kalaupapa with

leprosy, a project initiated by herself together with the Royal Family of Hawaii;

Whereas in 1886, Mother Marianne ensured special care for Father Damien de Veuster, now Saint Damien of Molokai, during his stay on Oahu, who, after serving the leprosy patients on Molokai, was eventually diagnosed with leprosy and rejected because of this;

Whereas in 1889, following the death of Father Damien, Mother Marianne was officially named by the government leadership to be Father Damien's successor at the Boys' Home at Kalawao on the island of Molokai and led the effort for the building of a new home;

Whereas in 1899, Mother Marianne was appointed the director of the Bishop Home at Kalaupapa by the Hawaii Board of Health and oversaw its expansion and established programs to educate and tend to the spiritual needs of its residents;

Whereas in 1918, Mother Marianne died of natural causes at the St. Elizabeth Convent at Kalaupapa and was buried on the grounds of Bishop Home;

Whereas, on April 19, 2004, Pope John Paul II declared Mother Marianne "Venerable", the first of three steps that lead to sainthood;

Whereas, on February 2, 2005, the remains of Mother Marianne were moved from Kalaupapa, Molokai, to the chapel at St. Anthony Convent and Motherhouse in Syracuse, New York;

Whereas Pope John Paul II ratified the beatification of Mother Marianne and his successor, Pope Benedict XVI, declared her beatification on May 14, 2005, and she was

named “Blessed Marianne Cope”, with her feast day set on January 23, the day Mother Marianne was born; and

Whereas Mother Marianne was canonized as a saint of the Roman Catholic Church on October 21, 2012, by Pope Benedict XVI at St. Peter’s Basilica, Vatican City: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives honors
 2 and praises Saint Marianne Cope for her legacy of com-
 3 passionate care where she promoted the value of every in-
 4 dividual and recognizes her example of what it truly means
 5 to dedicate one’s life in service to others, especially to
 6 those she served at the leprosy settlement at Kalaupapa
 7 on the island of Molokai.

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