

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 1551

Expressing support for the designation of October 23, 2024, as a national day of remembrance of the tragic 1983 terrorist bombing of the United States Marine Corps barracks in Beirut, Lebanon.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 22, 2024

Mr. PENCE (for himself and Ms. STEFANIK) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, 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

Expressing support for the designation of October 23, 2024, as a national day of remembrance of the tragic 1983 terrorist bombing of the United States Marine Corps barracks in Beirut, Lebanon.

Whereas the United States deployed members of the Armed Forces to Lebanon in 1982 as part of a multinational peacekeeping force;

Whereas, at 6:22 a.m. local time on October 23, 1983, a truck packed with explosives detonated outside of a building at Beirut International Airport that served as quarters for several hundred members of the United States Armed Forces deployed as part of the peacekeeping force;

Whereas 241 members of the Armed Forces lost their lives in the blast;

Whereas the attack killed 220 marines, members of the 1st Battalion, 8th Marines Battalion Landing Team;

Whereas October 23, 1983, was the deadliest day for the Marine Corps since the Battle of Iwo Jima in February 1945 during World War II;

Whereas, in addition to the Marine Corps casualties, 18 Navy sailors and 3 Army soldiers were killed, and more than 100 other members of the Armed Forces were injured;

Whereas members of the Armed Forces from 39 States and Puerto Rico died while serving in Beirut, Lebanon, from 1982 to 1984;

Whereas, on the same day as the bombing of the Marine Corps barracks, another suicide bomber killed 58 French paratroopers housed at another barracks in Beirut;

Whereas this terrorist attack on October 23, 1983, followed a separate tragic suicide bombing, on April 18, 1983, that killed 63 people, including 17 Americans, and injured 120 others in front of the United States Embassy in Beirut; and

Whereas it is fitting and proper that the events of October 23, 1983, and the members of the United States Armed Forces who died in Beirut on that day are recognized and commemorated through the establishment of a national day of remembrance on October 23: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) supports the designation of a national day

3 of remembrance for members of the United States

1 Armed Forces who were killed or injured by the ter-
2 rorist attack on the United States Marine Corps
3 barracks in Beirut, Lebanon, on October 23, 1983;

4 (2) honors the Gold Star Families who lost
5 their loved ones more than three decades ago;

6 (3) remembers the faith and loyalty of the sol-
7 diers, sailors, and marines who laid down their lives
8 to protect our freedoms; and all veterans who have
9 so nobly worn the uniform of our Armed Forces; and

10 (4) encourages the people of the United States
11 to honor the fallen by supporting and participating
12 in appropriate ceremonies, programs, and other ac-
13 tivities in observance of such a national day of re-
14 membrance.

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