

should do our part to protect Americans from this national threat.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this bill.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN).

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise to take this opportunity to thank our colleagues, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER), the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Science, and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH) for bringing this piece of legislation to the floor today.

This reauthorization addresses many of the concerns of today's firefighters and prepares them for the challenges ahead. I am pleased to cast my vote today in favor of the reauthorization of the Fire Administration. We trust America's firefighters with the lives of our families and the protection of our property, our homes, forests, and communities. In turn, they trust us with the protection of their lives by expecting us to provide them with the resources and training necessary to face the dangers ahead.

This legislation protects and prepares our Nation's firefighters for the critical challenges they face in our world today. This is a vital piece of legislation, preventing fires and protecting families and is ensuring our firefighters with the necessary funding to provide training and to enable them to gather information. By increasing funding by almost 40 percent, this reauthorization will assist Federal, State, and local firefighters in their efforts to develop and complete fire profiling, data analysis and reporting projects. It will provide today's firefighters with anti-terrorism training and develop a curriculum for fire and emergency services personnel.

Moreover, the bill requires the U.S. Fire Administration to develop a comprehensive mission statement which will cover the administration's major functions and operations in training, research, data collection and analysis, and public education and allows fire companies to identify the fire-related activities of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the Department of Defense, and other Federal agencies, and open discussion of how those activities can be coordinated with and contribute to the achievement of these goals and objectives of the U.S. Fire Administration.

This reauthorization prepares today's firefighters by providing them with the up-to-date information that they sorely need by allowing them to input their ideas into national fire prevention efforts and giving them the funding support that will protect them as they face the challenges ahead.

Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to fully support this measure.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY).

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding me the time and for her leadership on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, the Fire Administration Authorization Act contains an important provision which closes the loophole specific to New York City, the area that I represent.

In 1993, a provision was slipped into a technical amendments bill which exempted New York City from the national requirement that all multi-family housing built using Federal funds must have fire sprinklers installed. This loophole allowed Federally funded multi-family housing only in New York City to be exempted from this requirement if the structure had "an equivalent level of safety." Yet it did not define what "an equivalent level of safety" was. And, as we have learned, there is absolutely no substitute to sprinklers when it comes to limiting fires and saving lives.

After a terrible string of fires in New York City apartment buildings, the City Council this year passed a very strict fire safety law which made sprinklers mandatory in multi-family housing. But with this loophole in place, if a developer receives any Federal funding, they can apply to be exempt from this fire safety requirement.

I introduced a stand-alone bill, H.R. 1126, to close this loophole; and the gentleman from New York (Mr. WEINER), an original cosponsor, added it as an amendment to this legislation.

I would like to publicly thank the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. JAMES SENSENBRENNER) for supporting this provision and for making certain that apartment buildings in New York City are as safe from fire as they are in the rest of the country. I thank them for including the amendment.

Mr. LARSON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Texas for yielding me this time, and I rise today in support of the Fire Administration Authorization Act.

First, I wish to thank our Chairman, the gentleman from Wisconsin, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, for his work on this bill and the ranking member of our committee, the gentleman from California Mr. GEORGE BROWN, and my colleagues who have sponsored and introduced this legislation, the gentleman from Michigan, Mr. SMITH, and the gentlewoman from Texas, Ms. JOHNSON, for graciously accepting the amendment I offered during mark-up.

Fewer than two weeks ago we approved this bill in the Committee on Science. The bill, among other things, requires the United States Fire Administration to create a five-year plan laying out the agency's overall goals and program activities. My amendment added a provision to assess, within the strategic plan, the benefits of providing fire education to local fire departments through distance learning.

Under my amendment, the Fire Administration's strategic plan must now include full con-

sideration of how the Internet is currently used and could be used more effectively in the future to deliver National Fire Academy training courses at remote sites. It also asks the Fire Administration to review its current training activities over the Internet and assess the benefits and problems associated with Internet use for training. Finally, it requires an inquiry into the availability of federal facilities with advanced tele-communications capabilities which could be used as remote settings for Fire Academy courses.

The question that prompted me to propose this amendment is whether the National Fire Academy has carefully considered how best to make use of the Internet. At an authorization hearing on the Fire Administration in the Science Committee earlier this year, I learned that on-campus courses at the Academy are heavily oversubscribed and that distance learning is one mechanism to provide needed training for the fire services community. I believe that by assessing the viability of instituting this mechanism, we take a first step toward facilitating this needed training for our valued fire services community, who will stand to benefit from this practical application of information technology.

My amendment marks an important step in ensuring that the Government keeps pace with the uses and applications of the technological advances taking place in the world as we approach the next millennium. It also represents a continuation of my efforts in Congress to ensure that the Federal Government will be at the forefront of these technological changes.

Again, I wish to thank my colleagues on the committee for supporting the amendment and encourage all my colleagues in the House to support this bill.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I have no further questions for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1550, as amended.

The question was taken.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### HONORING AND RECOGNIZING SLAIN LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 165) acknowledging the dedication and sacrifice made by the men and women who have lost their lives while serving as law enforcement officers.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 165

Whereas the well-being of all citizens of this country is preserved and enhanced as a

direct result of the vigilance and dedication of law enforcement personnel;

Whereas more than 700,000 men and women, at great risk to their personal safety, presently serve their fellow citizens in their capacity as guardians of peace;

Whereas peace officers are the front line in preserving our children's right to receive an education in a crime-free environment that is too often threatened by the insidious fear caused by violence in schools;

Whereas 158 peace officers lost their lives in the performance of their duty in 1998, and a total of more than 15,000 men and women have now made that supreme sacrifice; and

Whereas every year 1 in 9 officers is assaulted, 1 in 25 officers is injured, and 1 in 4,400 officers is killed in the line of duty: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that—

(1) all peace officers slain in the line of duty should be honored and recognized; and

(2) the President should issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to honor and recognize slain peace officers with appropriate ceremonies and respect.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT).

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, as the eyes of most Americans are fixed on events in Yugoslavia and the brave service of our military forces there, it is easy to overlook the courageous service of another group of men and women who protect us much closer to home.

Over 700,000 law enforcement officers, serving at every level of government and in communities of every size, stand guard over our lives and our property every single day. These officers patrol our streets. They pursue those who threaten our security. They are just a phone call away.

Today, with the consideration of this resolution, we honor the dedication and devotion of America's law enforcement community. But, in particular, we honor the sacrifice of a specific heroic group of law enforcement officers. We honor those who have given their lives in the service to the rule of law.

Mr. Speaker, mere words cannot fully express the significance of this sacrifice. How do we adequately express our appreciation for those who are willing to die to protect us and our families? Police officers enjoy life just as much as the rest of us. They long to see their children grow up and be successful and to some day hold their grandchildren, just like all of us do. And yet they are willing to risk all of their hopes and all of their dreams for us to ensure the safety and well-being of our communities.

It is far too easy for us to take for granted their devotion to duty. It is for this reason that we bring H.Res. 165 to

the floor today. It is to honor the 158 peace officers who lost their lives in the performance of their duties just last year. It is also to commemorate the more than 15,000 officers who have made the supreme sacrifice over the course of our Nation's history.

The names of these heroes are now enshrined on the Law Enforcement Memorial Wall only a few blocks away from this very House Chamber. That wall and this simple resolution are among the many ways that we can encourage all Americans to remember, to never forget, the extraordinary service of these extraordinary public servants.

This Saturday, Mr. Speaker, we will celebrate Law Enforcement Officer Memorial Day. The main event will be a ceremony in memory of peace officers killed in the line of duty in 1998 held on the West Lawn of the Capitol. This resolution calls on the President to issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to honor and recognize slain peace officers with ceremonies similar to Saturday's event. I am pleased that this Congress has the honor of hosting the annual memorial service.

Last night, in my hometown of Cincinnati, Ohio, I had the privilege of speaking at our local police memorial service. Over the last year, our community has suffered the tragic loss of three officers: Cincinnati Officer Daniel Pope and Specialist Ronald Jeter, and Officer Michael Partin from neighboring Covington, Kentucky, just across the river. Now today we honor officers from throughout the country who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

I want to thank the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY) for introducing this resolution and taking the lead in ensuring that this House expresses its profound appreciation for the commitment and sacrifice of America's law enforcement officers.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY) for his work on this important issue and for sponsoring the resolution to honor the men and women in law enforcement who each day proudly put their lives on the line to protect and serve communities across the Nation.

I also want to commend the Law Enforcement Caucus, particularly the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. STUPAK), for making sure that the concerns of law enforcement officers and their families are heard in Congress.

Today's law enforcement officers face numerous risks as they perform their duties. Last year over 150 law enforcement officers were killed in this country; and it is appropriate that at this time, during Police Week, that Congress take out time to salute these officers and their families.

All week long, thousands of law enforcement officers and their families will take part in events around the

country to honor those who have fallen and to salute the daily heroic efforts of men and women who continue to walk the beat.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution comes at a time when many of us in Congress still feel the loss of two members of the law enforcement community who died last year while protecting the people's House. The names of Special Agent John Gibson and Officer Jacob Chestnut are now listed alongside the names of 15,000 men and women who gave their lives in order to keep our community safe.

I also want to take time to extend my deep appreciation to the law enforcement officers who are currently serving in my home State of Virginia and to the families of those who lost their lives in the line of duty. Their dedication in preserving the safety of communities in Virginia has not gone unnoticed.

This resolution correctly acknowledges the sacrifices of law enforcement officers who have made the keeping of our communities, especially our schools and children, safe. I encourage my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN), the distinguished chairman of the Committee on International Relations.

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today in strong support of the slain peace officers resolution, H.Res. 165.

I want to commend the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY) for introducing this resolution, and I want to thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) for bringing it to the floor at this time, along with the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT), the ranking minority member.

Our law enforcement officials represent an integral part of our society in which we have instilled public trust. As the vanguard of our public safety, we sometimes take for granted the risks that they assume in the course of their duties. Regrettably, we are far too often reminded of those risks.

In 1998, 158 law enforcement officers lost their lives in the line of duty, bringing the total number of slain officers to some 15,000 over the last 10 years. In July of that same year, we were witness to a tragedy here in our Nation's capital as two of our Capitol Police, Officer Jacob Chestnut and Officer John Gibson, were killed in an unforeseen act of violence by a lone, deranged gunman.

This resolution, which expresses the sense of Congress that all peace officers slain in the line of duty should be honored and recognized as well as stating that the President should issue a proclamation calling on the people of our

Nation to honor and recognize slain peace officers with appropriate ceremonies and respect, is an important measure. Properly recognizing and honoring those officers who lost their lives in the fulfillment of their duties is important to our Nation.

□ 1530

On May 15, the annually celebrated Law Enforcement Memorial Day, more than 15,000 law enforcement officers are expected to gather in our Nation's capital with their families to honor their comrades who have been killed in the line of duty. This resolution is an excellent tribute to those officers who have fallen while exercising their solemn duty to ensure the safety and livelihood of all of our citizens.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be an original cosponsor of this vital resolution. I urge my colleagues to join in supporting its passage.

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON).

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I very much thank the gentleman for yielding me this time, and I thank the gentleman from Ohio and the gentleman from Virginia for bringing this very timely and solemn resolution to the floor and the gentleman from Colorado for introducing it.

I rise to pay honor and respect to the officers of this country who have been slain in the line of duty.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Congressional Black Caucus sponsored a compelling hearing on police brutality in this country, which tragically has gone up as crime has gone down, especially in many black and Hispanic communities. The Nation's capital has been number one in police shootings of civilians. These are matters that must be answered and attended to.

At the same time, Mr. Speaker, I reported at that hearing that there is enormous respect and appreciation for police officers in the District of Columbia as residents have clamored for more of them, particularly as we now come out of one of the worst crime epidemics in our history. The depth of the feeling was revealed especially during the 1990s when 11 police officers in the District of Columbia lost their lives in the line of duty. There was deep feeling, as well, in the District and across the Nation at the tragic slayings of Officers Chestnut and Gibson and, of course, of other public safety officers in the District of Columbia and throughout the country.

One of these especially brutal killings in the District led me to introduce, and Congress to pass, the Brian Gibson Tax-Free Pension Equity Act, which allows the family of a slain Federal or local law enforcement officer killed in the line of duty to receive that officer's pension tax free, just as officers for some time who retired on disability could receive their pension tax free. I want to thank the gen-

tleman from Michigan (Mr. STUPAK) and the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. RAMSTAD), who are cochairs of the Congressional Law Enforcement Caucus, and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARCHER) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL), who helped me get this through the Taxpayers Relief Act of 1997.

Mr. Speaker, the next order of business is to build the Visitors Center. I have long had a bill and ultimately named it for Officers Chestnut and Gibson for a Visitors Center. In the wake of the tragedy, an appropriation allowed a Visitors Center to go forward. It would make the Capitol more secure for all of us and especially more secure for the officers. The Visitors Center would help avoid tragedies like the killings of two brave officers in this Capitol in 1997.

I salute the Capitol Police and the District of Columbia Police and especially the families of the slain peace officers in this country who have died in the line of duty and whom we honor this week.

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would like to thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) for his leadership in advancing this legislation. I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support this resolution to honor law enforcement officers who were killed in the line of duty. I want to thank my colleague, Mr. HEFLEY, for sponsoring this important legislation. I am pleased to be here to participate in this debate.

Before coming to Congress in 1993, I served for 12 years as a police officer, both as a city officer and as a state trooper. I have known many officers who have given their lives for the people they serve and understand the importance of the House of Representatives taking this step to honor law enforcement officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

In May of 1998, in my district, Traverse City Sgt. Dennis Finch was killed while on duty. A 30 year veteran of the police force, Sgt. Finch was shot during a stand off with an armed gunman. He was survived by his wife and two daughters who will be in Washington this week participating in many of the Police Week activities.

Just last summer everybody in this body was reminded of the extreme sacrifice our nation's law enforcement and public safety officers make to our communities and our nation when Officers Chestnut and Gibson were killed here in the Capitol.

Unfortunately, there were many more officers killed last year. In 1998, 158 officers lost their lives while on the job. This brings the total to more than 15,000 men and women who have given their lives serving the public as law enforcement officers.

This legislation recognizes the value our government places on the work of our public safety officers. It is important that we take time this week to show our respect and recognition for the jobs that police officers do every day in every city and town in America.

Join me to support this resolution. It is the least we can do for those who put their lives on the line every day.

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today for the purpose of honoring those police officers who have given their lives for the sake of others. A reflection on the sacrifice made by these officers can only lead one to feelings of sadness, humility, and pride. These Americans have demonstrated a commitment to the public good that could not be eclipsed, and their courage serves as a profound testament to the strength of our nation and our purpose.

I was privileged last Congress to introduce the Public Safety Memorial Scholarship Act. This bill sought to provide education funding to the families of state and local public safety officers who were killed in the line of duty. I was certainly gratified when legislation which was very similar to my bill was signed into law last year.

In honoring the memories of these fallen officers, we in Congress must continue our efforts to create safer and stronger communities through an active commitment to supporting those in the law enforcement community. I know that I speak for all of my colleagues when I say that our constituents deserve nothing less than our best efforts as we work towards this goal.

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this House Resolution to honor law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty.

This resolution is in recognition of National Peace Officers Memorial Day, which serves as a solemn reminder of the sacrifice and commitment to safety that law enforcement officers make on our behalf every day.

Law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty sacrifice not only their own lives, but also the lives of their spouses, children, parents, and friends. In fact, the whole community suffers a profound loss when a law enforcement officer dies.

Last year, in 1998, 155 of our country's brave law enforcement officers died protecting the citizens of this nation. This resolution serves as a tribute to those fallen officers and their families.

This simple gesture will send a signal across the country that our law enforcement officers deserve our utmost respect for putting their lives on the line day-in and day-out.

Every day, law enforcement officers are at war against criminals that threaten the security of this country. Passing this resolution to honor those officers is the least that we in Congress can do to thank them for their sacrifices.

I am proud to support this resolution that is before us today.

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise as a cosponsor and strong supporter of the important resolution before us today to honor those brave police officers who have given their lives to keep our communities safe.

As co-chair of the bipartisan Law Enforcement Caucus, I applaud the courage and dedication to duty of all peace and police officers serving their communities. These officers put their lives on the line for us, every day they put on the badge. Their courage and sacrifice was demonstrated in a very dramatic way last summer, when shots rang out in the Capitol and two of the U.S. Capitol Police's finest lost their lives.

It is fitting that we consider this resolution during National Police Week. I encourage members of this body and the public to participate in other events this week honoring America's fallen police officers. On May 13, the

11th Annual Candlelight Vigil will take place at 8 p.m. at the National Law Enforcement Memorial grounds, followed by a reading of the 312 names newly engraved on the Memorial. At noon on May 15, the 18th Annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Day Service will take place on the west front of the Capitol, with a wreath-laying ceremony to follow.

In my home state of Minnesota, May 8 was Law Enforcement Appreciation Day at the Metrodome in Minneapolis, where "Top Cops" were honored during the Minnesota Twins game. I encourage my fellow Minnesotans to attend events on May 15, in which uniformed officers will stand in silence all day at the Peace Officers Memorial on the State Capitol grounds. Also, a 5-kilometer "Race to Remember" will be held in St. Paul, and a candlelight service will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the Peace Officers Memorial.

Mr. Speaker, 156 law enforcement officers were killed in the line of duty in 1998, and over 15,000 officers have been killed since our nation began recording their deaths. My home state of Minnesota has lost 207 officers.

On average, a law enforcement officer is killed every other day in America. Each year, one in nine officers is assaulted and one in 25 is injured while on duty. These sacrifices are made daily to fight crime and make our citizens safer.

These law enforcement heroes and their families deserve our gratitude and respect, during National Police Week and throughout the year. We must never forget their sacrifices, including the ultimate sacrifice paid by too many officers.

We must all work for a day when no more names will be added to the Law Enforcement Memorial wall, and a resolution like this will no longer be necessary.

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the 40th annual observance of Peace Officers Memorial Day. Flint Memorial Park is the setting for this observance on May 14 in my hometown of Flint, Michigan. On this day the Flint community will take time to reflect on the loss of some of its finest police officers.

For the past 40 years, Flint Memorial Park has honored Peace Officers that have fallen in the line of duty. A memorial service is held annually to remind us of their bravery and sacrifice. The names of the officers that have been immortalized on the monument at Flint Memorial Park are:

Patrolman Terry Lee Thompson—Burton Police Department July 5, 1983.

Patrolman Russell A. Herrick—Burton Police Department May 8, 1980.

Trooper Norman Killough—Michigan State Police, Detroit Post October 6, 1978.

Deputy Ben R. Walker—Genesee County Sheriff Department April 6, 1971.

Detective Alton C. Fritch—Flint Police Department January 5, 1969.

Trooper Albert Soudien—Michigan State Police, Brighton Post September 3, 1959.

Trooper Burt Pozza—Michigan State Police, Flint Post November 19, 1956.

Patrolman Karl J. Liebengood—Burton Township Police Department January 11, 1955.

Trooper George Lappi—Michigan State Police, Flint Post November 19, 1956.

Detective James McCullough—Flint Police Department February 28, 1952.

Patrolman Neil Krantz—Flint Police Department April 24, 1951.

Deputy James W. Cranston—Genesee County Sheriff Department July 26, 1945.

Patrolman Gerald Leach—Flint Police Department September 21, 1940.

Patrolman John Wopinski—Flint Police Department August 9, 1932.

Detective Matthew Hauer—Flint Police Department April 18, 1924.

Patrolman Avera M. Hudson—Flint Police Department June 28, 1924.

In addition to the memorial to slain Peace Officers a monument to police dogs that have been killed in the line of duty will be unveiled at this year's ceremony. The names of the canines and their handlers are: Aiko—Handler—Trooper Joel Service, Symmon—Handler—Sgt. Richard. E. King, Gillette—Handler—Officer Bruce Burton, Romel—Handler—Sgt. Dan Spaniola, Charlie—Handler—Deputy Dale Glover, Major—Handler—Sgt. Jerry Wilhelm.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to please reflect on these individuals and their families and pay tribute to their ultimate sacrifice. We pay homage these slain officers and all peace officers everywhere that are asked to give so that the rest of us can live in a safer world.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution that pays honor to slain law enforcement officials.

Law enforcement officers place themselves in harms way every day to protect all Americans. Despite these inherent risks, peace officers go out and make our streets, our businesses, and our country safe.

It takes a special person to respond to this call to duty. It takes someone with courage, honor, bravery, integrity, a sense of community, and concern for their fellow man.

Today we come together to honor the memories of those men and women who have fallen while in the line of duty. We gather to remember and honor the memory of those law enforcement agents who made the ultimate sacrifice.

There is no greater sacrifice than to lay down your life for your fellow man.

Their sacrifices came while these brave individuals were doing their duty of protecting us, fighting crime, and making our community a better place.

While today we honor the memories of those persons who have passed away, we must remember and never forget their sacrifice. The duty they felt will always be felt in our hearts, and will be carried on by their fellow officers, friends and family.

Our hearts go out to the family, friends, and colleagues that have had to say good bye to a loved one. We are indebted to every spouse, every child, every parent, sister, brother, grandchild, aunt, uncle, and every friend of all those whom we come here to honor today. We pay tribute not only to those who have died, but to those who have lost them, to their survivors. And we pay tribute to the more than half million law enforcement officers who continue to go to work every day, not knowing for sure if on that day they will be required to make the ultimate sacrifice.

Today, I would say that, more than anything else, we ought to rededicate ourselves to becoming a country worthy of the heroes we come here to honor. Every day, law enforcement officers take the oath to uphold the law and defend citizens. Danger is a constant

companion; still, law enforcement officers go out every day carrying the badge that symbolizes their commitment.

The job of law enforcement is so dangerous today not only because criminals are better armed, but because our society is too often coming apart when it ought to be coming together.

And so today we must dedicate ourselves—all of us—to making America worthy of the sacrifice of the law enforcement officials who have fallen, and those who still risk their lives every day. I ask today that we remember the law enforcement officers and their families who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the men and women of law enforcement who made the ultimate sacrifice in protecting our civil society.

Yesterday, I joined the families and colleagues of Officers Christopher Eney and Jacob Chestnut and Detective John Gibson in dedicating the Capitol Police Headquarters in their honor. Their deaths, as tragic as they were, are only three of more than 15,000 men and women who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

Thousands of law enforcement officers are converging on Washington for the Annual National Law Enforcement Week. This year, the names of Officer Chestnut and Detective Gibson will be read at the Candlelight Vigil along with the names of 156 other officers from around the Nation. The names of those 158 officers will forever be remembered on the walls of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial.

Whether in the Capitol Building, on the highway, or in our neighborhoods, these men and women put on a badge and strapped on a gun, knowing that they risked their lives. No one escapes death. That is a fact that we have known since a young age. Our lives are precious, and a gift that is to be cherished and celebrated to its fullest. Yet, putting duty to their profession ahead of boundless risks, these officers forfeited that gift for what they believed in.

For the 158 officers who lost their lives in 1998, their tragic deaths came too soon and without reasonable cause. In an instant, the families and colleagues of these officers had someone they loved and cared for taken away from them. And in an instant, we lost a dedicated and committed community servant.

Abraham Lincoln once stated that "Those brave men who here gave their lives that that Nation might live." The fallen men and women that we honor today gave their lives upholding the laws vital to maintaining our democratic form of government. Just as President Lincoln honored the fallen heroes of a war between brothers, we honor the brave husbands, wives, fathers and mothers from departments across the country that sacrificed their lives, enforcing the laws of rural towns and urban cities across America.

God bless our fallen officers.

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Police Week to pay tribute to the men and women who serve as Law Enforcement officers across the United States. This includes police officers, sheriff's deputies, correctional officers, parole and probation agents, and pretrial services officers.

Police officers are on the front lines every day protecting our streets, communities, and neighborhoods. So often we overlook the

many duties that police officers perform on a daily basis.

Crime statistics nationwide have shown a dramatic decrease over the past 3 years in homicides, violent crimes, and property crimes. But, until those statistics become nonexistent, we need to support our law enforcement officials at every level of government.

On a federal level, we need to give local law enforcement the support they need to be successful and safe. Programs like the Bulletproof Vest Initiative, has given rural communities the chance to qualify for grants to increase officer safety. Advancements in the Criminal Justice Information Network have given local agencies the ability to better communicate and exchange critical information.

Mr. Speaker, we will also be celebrating Peace Officers Memorial Day this week. Two communities in my district in North Carolina have been leaders in paying tribute to fallen officers. Ann Cannon led the effort in my hometown, Concord, N.C., to erect a memorial in the center of town. Even today, citizens in Albermarle, N.C., are dedicating a memorial to their fallen officers.

I want to highlight the efforts of one local sheriff in my district. Sheriff Tony Frick, of Stanly County, is looking inward to community members to help solve crime problems. Stanly County residents are sponsoring the Save our Sheriff (S.O.S.) Walk-a-thon in support of the Sheriff's Department and updating obsolete equipment.

I would remiss if I did not mention the families of those we recognize today. The families of our peace officers deserve our admiration for their steadfast support of those selfless citizens who willingly make the necessary sacrifices to preserve public safety.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, President John F. Kennedy once remarked, "A man does what he must—in spite of personal consequences, in spite of obstacles and dangers and pressures—and that is the basis of all human morality." These slain officers truly uphold this lofty standard. As responsible defenders of our country, they protected our citizens from mortal danger, and it cost them their very lives.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this House Resolution. This bill expresses the sense of the House that law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty should be honored, their dedication and sacrifice recognized and their service to the nation remembered.

Today, I would like to acknowledge the courage and dedication that these slain officers exemplified in their careers. The resolution before us seeks to honors the memories of these brave men who served their country with the utmost dignity.

Whenever an officer is killed in the line of duty the pall of sorrow falls upon our great Nation. We all pause today to remember our heroes whose lives were prematurely ended. In 1997, some 159-law enforcement officers died in the line of duty.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting that as we pause today to remember our nation's fallen officers, that we remember the two Capitol Hill Police officers who lost their lives in the line of duty. Officer Chestnut and Officer Gibson protected the very core of our American society, our belief in the preservation of life. I am also honored that the names of Officer Chestnut and Gibson will be associated with the building, which houses the Capitol Hill Police. This

small gesture will ensure that we remember their selfless acts of valor.

I offer my utmost sympathy to the families and friends of our fallen heroes who will gather in Washington on May 15, 1999 to honor the memories of their loved ones. Given their loss, I feel that we must ensure the memory of the courage displayed by these fallen officers by supporting this House resolution.

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, House Resolution 165.

The question was taken.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The Speaker pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the chairman of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, which was read and, without objection, referred to the Committee on Appropriations:

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE, CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, April 15, 1999.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,

*Speaker of the House, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Enclosed are copies of resolutions adopted on April 15, 1999 by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. Copies of the resolutions are being transmitted to the Department of the Army.

With kind personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

BUD SHUSTER,

*Chairman.*

Enclosures.

#### RESOLUTION—DOCKET 2592—HUDSON RIVER AT HUDSON, NEW YORK

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, That the Secretary of the Army is requested to review the report of the Chief of Engineers on the Hudson River, New York published as House Document 149, 72nd Congress and other pertinent reports, with a view to determining whether any modifications of recommenda-

tions contained therein are advisable at the present time, in the interest of water resources development including navigation, environmental restoration and protection, and other allied purposes for the Hudson River at Hudson, New York.

Adopted: April 15, 1999.

Attest: Bud Shuster, Chairman.

#### RESOLUTION—DOCKET 2593—VENTURA RIVER, VENTURA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, That the Secretary of the Army is requested to review the report of the Chief of Engineers on the Ventura River, Ventura County, California, published as House Document 323, 77th Congress, 1st Session, and other pertinent reports, with a view to determining whether any modifications of the recommendations contained therein are advisable at this time, in the interest of environmental restoration and protection, and related purposes, with particular attention to restoring anadromous fish populations on Matilija Creek and returning natural sand replenishment to Ventura and other Southern California beaches.

Adopted: April 15, 1999.

Attest: Bud Shuster, Chairman.

#### RESOLUTION—DOCKET 2594—ST. JOSEPH RIVER, LEO-CEDARVILLE, INDIANA

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, That the Secretary of the Army is requested to review the report of the Chief of Engineers on the St. Marys River, Ohio and Indiana, published as House Document 166, 72nd Congress, 1st Session, and other pertinent reports with a view to determining the advisability of providing flood control, erosion control, environmental restoration and protection, and related water resource improvements, including a riverfront master plan, and allied purposes at and in the vicinity of Leo-Cedarville, Allen County, Indiana.

Adopted: April 15, 1999.

Attest: Bud Shuster, Chairman.

#### RESOLUTION—DOCKET 2595—CITY OF SAN BERNARDINO, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, That the Secretary of the Army is requested to review the report of the Chief of Engineers on the Santa Ana River Main Stem, including Santiago Creek, California, published as House Document 20, 99th Congress, 1st Session, and other pertinent reports to determine whether modifications to the recommendations contained therein are advisable at the present time in the interest of reducing the risks to public safety and property caused by flooding from high groundwater conditions, ground liquefaction, related water quality contamination, and environmental damage in the City of San Bernardino, California, and adjacent communities.

Adopted: April 15, 1999.

Attest: Bud Shuster, Chairman.

#### RESOLUTION—DOCKET 2596—PORT OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, That the Secretary of the Army is requested to review the reports of the Chief of Engineers on the New York and New Jersey Channels, published as House Document 133, 74th Congress,