

Whereas following the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on September 11, 2001, first responders reacted immediately in evacuating and rescuing innocent people from the buildings;

Whereas first responders also arrived quickly at the crash site of United Airlines flight 93 in southwestern Pennsylvania;

Whereas if it were not for the heroic efforts of first responders immediately after the terrorist attacks, numerous additional casualties would have resulted from the attacks;

Whereas as the first emergency personnel to arrive at the scenes of the terrorist attacks, first responders risked their lives in their efforts to save others;

Whereas while first responders were bravely conducting the evacuation and rescue after the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, the 2 towers of that complex collapsed, and many first responders themselves became victims of the attacks;

Whereas the everyday well-being, security, and safety of Americans depend upon the official duties of first responders;

Whereas in addition to their official duties, first responders around the Nation participate in planning, training, and exercises to respond to terrorist attacks;

Whereas emergency managers, public health officials, and medical care providers also invest significant time in planning, training, and exercises to better respond to terrorist attacks in the United States;

Whereas the Nation has not forgotten the heroic efforts of first responders after the bombing of the World Trade Center on February 26, 1993, and the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on April 19, 1995;

Whereas there are numerous Federal programs that help prepare first responders from across the Nation, including the Domestic Preparedness Program and other training and exercise programs administered by the Department of Justice;

Whereas there are also domestic preparedness programs administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, which together with the programs of the Department of Justice support State and local first responders with funding, training, equipment acquisition, technical assistance, exercise planning, and execution;

Whereas many of the first responders who participate in such programs do so on their own time;

Whereas an effective response of local first responders to a terrorist attack saves lives; and

Whereas in response to a terrorist attack, first responders are exposed to a high risk of bodily harm and death as the first line of defense of the United States in managing the aftermath of the attack: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) expresses its profound sorrow for the deaths and injuries suffered by first responders as they endeavored to save innocent people in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on September 11, 2001;

(2) expresses its deepest sympathies to the families and loved ones of the fallen first responders;

(3) honors and commends the first responders who participated in evacuating and rescuing the innocent people in the World Trade Center and the Pentagon after the terrorist attacks;

(4) encourages the President to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to pay respect to the first responder community for their service in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks and their continuing efforts to save lives; and

(5) encourages all levels of government to continue to work together to effectively coordinate emergency preparedness by providing the infrastructure, funding, and inter-agency communication and cooperation necessary to ensure that if an attack occurs, first responders will be as prepared as possible to respond effectively.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMERICAN AIRLINES FLIGHT 587

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Con. Res. 87, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 87) expressing the sense of Congress regarding the crash of American Airlines Flight 587.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution and preamble be agreed to en bloc, the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, and any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 87) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The concurrent resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. CON. RES. 87

Whereas American Airlines Flight 587 en route from John F. Kennedy Airport in Queens County, New York to Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic crashed on the Rockaway Peninsula in Queens County, New York on November 12, 2001;

Whereas the crash resulted in the tragic loss of life by an estimated at 266 persons, including passengers, crew members, and people on the ground;

Whereas New York City has strong cultural, familial, and historic ties to the Dominican Republic;

Whereas many of the passengers were of Dominican origin residing in the Washington Heights community, a vibrant neighborhood that is an integral part of our national cultural mosaic;

Whereas the Rockaway community has already suffered greatly as a result of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City on September 11, 2001, as the Rockaway community has long been home to one of the highest concentrations of the firefighters of New York City, many of whom lost their lives responding to those attacks on the World Trade Center;

Whereas many Rockaway residents, ignoring the risks of being harmed by fire or other hazards at the site of the plane crash, rushed to the site in an effort to help;

Whereas the people of Rockaway have served as an inspiration through their resilience in the face of adversity and their faith in and practice of community; and

Whereas the professional emergency personnel of New York on the ground at the crash site performed emergency services valiantly, thereby limiting the devastation of this tragedy: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

The Congress—

(1) sends its heartfelt condolences to the families, friends, and loved ones of the victims of the crash of American Airlines Flight 587 on November 12, 2001;

(2) sends its sympathies to the people of the Dominican Republic and to the Dominican community in the City of New York who have been so tragically affected by the loss of loved ones aboard that flight;

(3) sends its sympathies to the people of the Rockaway community who have suffered immense personal loss as a combined result of the crash on November 12, 2001, and the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001; and

(4) commends the heroic actions of the rescue workers, volunteers, and State and local officials of New York who responded to these tragic events with courage, determination, and skill.

SEC. 2. TRANSMISSION OF THE ENROLLED RESOLUTION.

The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the President of the Dominican Republic and to the Mayor of New York City.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2001

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until the hour of 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, December 11; that immediately following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate proceed to executive session; further, that the Senate recess from 12:30 to 2:15 p.m. for the weekly party conferences.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Madam President, at 9:30 tomorrow the Senate will conduct three rollcall votes on judicial nominations. Following these votes Senator HARKIN will proceed, along with Senator LUGAR, to manage consideration of the farm bill.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. REID. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

December 10, 2001

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE

S12815

There being no objection, the Senate,
at 5:42 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday,
December 11, 2001, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nomination received by
the Senate December 10, 2001:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CHRISTOPHER JAMES CHRISTIE, OF NEW JERSEY, TO
BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF
NEW JERSEY FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE
FAITH S. HOCHBERG, RESIGNED.