

sometimes we have heated debates, but quite often those debates are not about the fundamentals but are instead about details, and today we are talking about something that is very fundamental, and that is showing respect to a country that has a democratically elected government. We show our respect to that country by tipping our hat and greeting the First Lady of that country who is visiting with us, a lady who has herself endured many, many crises and challenges in her life and demonstrates a courage, and a lady who is married to a man who was elected the first really democratically elected leader of a Chinese people and a man now who represents the republic there in Taiwan and is a good friend to the United States.

So I would urge my colleagues to join me in voting for H. Res. 533.

Mr. WU. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome Ms. Wu Sue-jen, Taiwan's First Lady, in her visit to Washington, DC, and in strong support of H. Res. 533, a resolution welcoming Madam First Lady to the Capitol of the United States.

Throughout her life, Ms. Wu has been a reliable partner for President Chen Shui-bien and a determined fighter for democratic development in Taiwan. While she has been paralyzed from the waist down since 1985, Ms. Wu has nonetheless remained politically engaged and continued to play a key role in Taiwanese politics. She was elected and served as a member of Taiwan's Legislative Yuan in 1986, and has played a great role in President Chen's ascension first to the Mayor of Taipei, and later, Taiwan's presidency.

While I am not able to welcome President Chen in Washington, DC today, it is a great pleasure to welcome Ms. Wu to our nation's capital. I believe it is critically important to America's commitment to democracy for the U.S. Congress to welcome representatives of a democratic and free people to our capital, and I look forward to future opportunities to welcome democratically elected leaders of the Taiwanese people.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support for H. Res. 533, a resolution welcoming Madame Chen Wu Sue-jen, the first lady of Taiwan, to Washington, D.C.

First Lady Chen has sacrificed so much for the freedom of her countrymen and women. Her efforts to establish political pluralism in Taiwan led to a botched assassination attempt that left her permanently paralyzed from the waist down. Yet she continues to work tirelessly for the ideals that she so strongly believes in—self determination, the rule of law and human rights.

Self-determination is a right that the Taiwanese should not be deprived of, and it is in our interests to demand that communist China immediately stop threatening Taiwan when its leaders simply state a fact of truth . . . Taiwan is independent and it should be a full-fledged member of the United Nations. Taiwan's courageous leaders have every right to express their people's desire to be independent . . . especially from the gruesome dictatorship in Beijing. As President Chen so bravely articulated: "Taiwan's future and destiny can only be decided by the 23 million people living on the island."

We support the efforts of the Bush Administration to clearly articulate a policy on Taiwan

that places more emphasis on Taiwan's interests and less on our concerns with the People's Republic of China. Accordingly, it was disappointing to learn that our U.S. representative to Taiwan recently criticized the government there for viewing "the mainland through the prism of economic threat." It makes no sense to shrug aside Taiwan's fears that their businessmen may be inadvertently assisting the communists to build up their military resources.

We need to work closely with our Administration so that there is a single strong focused unambivalent message from the United States that our government understands the aspirations and the fears of the people of Taiwan. Madame Chen is an inspiration to all of us and we heartily welcome her here to the United States.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JEFF MILLER of Florida). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRABACHER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 533.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. 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 HEROISM AND COURAGE DISPLAYED BY AIRLINE FLIGHT ATTENDANTS

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 110) honoring the heroism and courage displayed by airline flight attendants on a daily basis.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. CON. RES. 110

Whereas over 100,000 men and women in the United States serve as flight attendants;

Whereas flight attendants dedicate themselves to serving and protecting their passengers;

Whereas flight attendants react to dangerous situations as the first line of defense of airline passengers;

Whereas safety and security are the primary concerns of flight attendants;

Whereas flight attendants evacuate passengers from an airplane in emergency situations;

Whereas flight attendants defend passengers against hijackers, terrorists, and abusive passengers;

Whereas flight attendants handle in-flight medical emergencies;

Whereas flight attendants perform routine safety and service duties on board the aircraft;

Whereas 25 flight attendants lost their lives aboard 4 hijacked flights on September 11, 2001;

Whereas 5 flight attendants helped to prevent United Flight 93 from reaching its intended target on September 11, 2001;

Whereas flight attendants provided assistance to passengers across the United States who had their flights diverted on September 11, 2001;

Whereas flight attendants on American Airlines Flight 63 helped to subdue Richard Reid on December 22, 2001, thereby preventing him from detonating an explosive device in his shoe intended to bring down the airplane and kill all 185 passengers and 12 crew members on board; and

Whereas flight attendants helped to prevent Pablo Moreira, a Uruguayan citizen, from breaking into the cockpit on February 7, 2002, during United Flight 855 from Miami to Buenos Aires: Now therefore be it

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

(1) expresses its profound gratitude for the faithful service provided by flight attendants to make air travel safe;

(2) honors the courage and dedication of flight attendants;

(3) supports all the flight attendants who continue to display heroism on a daily basis, as they had been doing before, during, and after September 11, 2001; and

(4) shall send a copy of this resolution to a family member of each of the flight attendants killed on September 11, 2001.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MICA) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MATHESON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MICA).

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

Mr. Speaker, this afternoon we take up as a body Senate Concurrent Resolution 110. That resolution addresses a long overdue requirement of this House, and that is to honor the heroism and also the courage displayed by our flight attendants not only on September 11 but on a daily basis.

Mr. Speaker, on September 11, 2001, more than 3,000 innocent people lost their lives. This devastating number includes some 25 flight attendants who were on board the four hijacked aircraft on that day. As a result of the tragic events of that fateful day, the vital role that these men and women play as a very first line of defense became painfully evident. Flight attendants react and they also provide essential guidance to passengers during emergency situations. Flight attendants are in fact responsible and primarily concerned with passenger safety. Once the aircraft door is closed, they not only provide safety for the traveling public but also become our very first line of defense in aircraft security. They also guarantee that there are in fact additional eyes and ears on guard for suspicious and threatening behavior.

Examples of their acts of heroism and service include the actions of the 25 flight attendants who lost their lives on September 11 in the four aircraft that were hijacked that day. Mr. Speaker, we have honored firefighters, police, pilots, and ordinary citizens. Today it is fitting that we take some time to recognize those flight attendants who served both the aviation industry, the public, and America so

well. It is also important to note that we also have the remarkable assistance that these flight attendants provide every day and particularly on the day that those flights around the Nation and around the world were diverted.

The flight attendants on American Airlines Flight 63 last December recognized the terrible threat that that aircraft faced. It was not security guards. It was not air marshals. It was not a large force. It was flight attendants who helped subdue the attempted and now somewhat infamous shoe bomber, Richard Reid. They acted. They saved the lives of countless passengers on that aircraft. We are indebted to those flight attendants.

Also flight attendants helped prevent another tragedy on a flight. United Flight 855 in February of this year, a deranged individual attempted to break into a cockpit. I believe that was on a flight from South America to Miami. They also acted with heroism.

In recognition of their vital role as a first line of defense, the House voted in July to strengthen the flight attendant training program, and those reforms are long overdue because sometimes these flight attendants are left at bay to fight these terrorist acts and other disruptions on aircraft. H.R. 4635, which is primarily devoted to arming pilots and allowing pilots to defend themselves, also requires that flight attendants receive much needed hands-on training in self-defense so they too can defend themselves, the passengers, the aircraft, and again serve as a first line of defense.

As H.R. 4635 demonstrates, the House supports these brave men and women and wants to ensure their safety and their security along with that of the flying public.

So today we are considering Senate Concurrent Resolution 110. The House passed a similar version of this concurrent resolution earlier this month. The concurrent resolution recognizes the over 100,000 airline flight attendants who have dedicated themselves to serving and protecting our passengers, the flying public, on a daily basis. It also recognizes the courage and heroism of those who lost their lives on September 11. It expresses Congress' profound gratitude to airline flight attendants and it rightfully honors their courage and dedication. For all these reasons and many more, I encourage my colleagues in the House to pass the Senate concurrent resolution so rightfully honoring our flight attendants.

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

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

I want to thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MICA), our subcommittee chairman. I have enjoyed serving on the Subcommittee on Aviation under his leadership, and I appreciate his leadership on this bill today.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 110. It is such an appropriate thing for us to be

doing in terms of recognizing the service and honor and courage of over 100,000 flight attendants that fly in the skies above this country. It is important that we acknowledge their service. And something that has helped us focus on this service is the actions that took place on September 11 and actions that took place subsequent to September 11.

As was mentioned, 25 flight attendants lost their lives that day. That same day let us not forget that all the other planes that were up in the sky were ordered down on the ground by the FAA and a number of flight attendants on all those flights on that day faced some real challenges. They faced the fear that we all felt that day, but they also faced the job of having to work with a number of passengers on all those airplanes that were being diverted and asked to land on emergency notice, and the flight attendants in this country served us well that day in terms of dealing with that difficult situation, and that applies to the days following September 11. We had a public that was nervous, and the flight attendants represented the face of courage. They were the first line of defense, quite frankly, in maintaining security on those airplanes.

We know the stories about how they caught the shoe bomber, Richard Reid. We know that the flight attendants are keeping their eyes open.

So it is appropriate that we honor them in this context, but we ought to honor them also for all the work they have done. Let us face it. When they get on that airplane, they are the face of the airline for which they work. The traveling public at times experiences some frustrations maybe through delays, maybe through the weather or what not. Sometimes those frustrations are unfairly directed towards flight attendants because they are the ones who are there interacting with the public, and I think that as a profession they deal with that situation so well and they certainly deserve our gratitude and our respect.

It is important that we do not forget the folks who lost their lives September 11, those 25 flight attendants, and we owe them a lot. We owe them this resolution today to honor what they have done but we owe them more. We owe them the commitment that we are going to continue to move forward and try to encourage as good a security situation as we can get in our aviation industry. That is the commitment we need to make to the flight attendants as well. They are on the front lines, and we are going to do whatever we can do to back them up to make sure this is a secure situation in our aviation industry.

So it is with great pleasure that I advocate support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 110.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S.Con.Res 110. The women and men who make up America's flight attendant workforce deserve recognition

for their role as safety professionals. As the eyes and ears of the aircraft cabin, flight attendants have historically provided detailed information on countless safety issues.

Flight attendants are a highly-trained, highly-skilled workforce, charged with the safety and security of passengers, other crewmembers, and the aircraft itself.

On September 11, 2001, twenty-five flight attendants onboard the four hijacked flights provided the government with vital information, and with little more than their own ingenuity and bravery, fought the armed hijackers and performed their duties as safety professionals to the end.

Since that day, safety in the air is of paramount concern to millions. We now understand the vulnerability that flight crews have felt for years. But today, more than 12 months after the attacks on our nation, flight attendants are no more prepared to defend the flying public today than they were on the morning of September 11, 2001.

Air Tran flight attendant Susan Cosby began developing her airline's voluntary defense training program within days of September 11. In a visit to my office, Cosby posed this question, "Flight attendants have always been expected to save lives in emergencies. Why should defending the flying public from the threat of terrorism be any different?"

Now more than ever, it is crucial for us to recognize the importance of flight attendants. It is my hope of America's 100,000 flight attendants, that the Congress will quickly pass meaningful security training legislation.

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

Mr. MICA. 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 Florida (Mr. MICA) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate concurrent resolution, S. Con. Res. 110.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on Senate Concurrent Resolution 110.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

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TIMPANOGOS INTERAGENCY LAND EXCHANGE ACT OF 2002

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1240) to provide for the acquisition of land and construction of an