

in the past and who are departed from this world. Forgive their offenses as well as their omissions now, and reward them for all their efforts in public service on behalf of others.

Because You are the glory of believers, the life of the just and the consolation for all who mourn, Lord, grant Your peace to all the faithful departed that they may now enter Your eternal kingdom where You live and reign forever and ever.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. WALZ) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WALZ led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

DON'T BE FOOLED BY THE PELOSI-CARE HEALTH BILL

(Mr. BOOZMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, don't be fooled by the introduction of the newest health care bill supported by Speaker PELOSI. It is no more than the same bill millions of Americans spoke against in August but reintroduced with a different name and a different number.

No matter what it is called, the disguise hasn't tricked the residents of the Third District of Arkansas. Over the weekend, I received over 200 e-mails, and the overwhelming majority of those are from my constituents who are very much in opposition to this plan.

Instead of creating taxes, entitlement programs and redtape to reform health care, we need to let families and businesses buy health insurance across State lines; allow small businesses to pool together to buy health insurance at a lower cost; and end lawsuits that contribute to the costs because of doctors being forced to practice defensive medicine.

Mr. Speaker, we can and need to do a better job for the American people. Let's create real reform, not more problems to fix down the road.

HEALTH CARE

(Mr. COLE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise again today to speak against the Democrats' proposed health care plan. Frankly, it's hard to understand who my colleagues on the other side of the aisle are listening to. Certainly, it's not my constituents.

Their concerns, like those of millions of Americans, have been ignored as this bill has been written. The same provisions that caused the concerns and the fears that I heard in August town hall meetings are still in the "new bill."

Overwhelmingly, the American people have said "no" to government-run health insurance, but it's still in the bill. Also in the "new bill" are the same higher taxes for employers and individuals, taxes which will kill jobs. These are the very employers and individuals suffering from double-digit unemployment in many States today.

Maybe after several months, Mr. Speaker, some have found it easy to forget what they heard in August, but I haven't. This new bill is just more of the same, more backroom-brokered deals deciding the fate of millions of Americans. The only noticeable change in this bill is the addition of an extra 1,000 pages or so.

Americans deserve health care reform. Hopefully, they will get it.

THE PELOSI PLAN FOR THE GOVERNMENT TAKEOVER OF HEALTH CARE

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, now comes the Pelosi plan for the government takeover of health care. It is a freight train of runaway spending, bloated bureaucracy, mandates, and higher taxes. If the liberals in Washington, D.C. have their way, they will forever change the relationship between government and we, the people, as it pertains to the health care of this Nation.

Now, the Republicans in Congress who are standing in the gap can't do this alone, but I often tell my colleagues: a minority in Congress plus the American people equals a majority. We, the people, have the power to stop the Pelosi health care plan in an effort to nationalize one-sixth of our Nation's economy. We, the people, have the ability to protect the finest health care system the world has ever known and to demand real health care reform that will reduce the cost of health care without growing government.

I appeal to my fellow Americans, not as Republicans or Democrats: if you cherish freedom, if you fear the crushing weight of Big Government, debt, mandates, and taxes, this is your moment. Now is your time; let your voice be heard.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following commu-

nication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, October 30, 2009.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, The Capitol, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on October 30, 2009, at 9:33 a.m.:

That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 1299.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3606.

That the Senate concurred to the House amendment to the bill S. 1929.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bills were signed by the Speaker on Friday, October 30, 2009:

H.R. 2996, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes;

H.R. 3606, to amend the Truth in Lending Act to make a technical correction to an amendment made by the Credit CARD Act of 2009;

S. 1929, to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on the motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

MILITARY SPOUSES RESIDENCY RELIEF ACT

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 475) to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to guarantee the equity of spouses of military personnel with regard to matters of residency, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 475

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Military Spouses Residency Relief Act".

SEC. 2. GUARANTEE OF RESIDENCY FOR SPOUSES OF MILITARY PERSONNEL FOR VOTING PURPOSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 705 of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. App. 595) is amended—

(1) by striking “For” and inserting the following:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—For”;

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(b) SPOUSES.—For the purposes of voting for any Federal office (as defined in section 301 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 431)) or a State or local office, a person who is absent from a State because the person is accompanying the person’s spouse who is absent from that same State in compliance with military or naval orders shall not, solely by reason of that absence—

“(1) be deemed to have lost a residence or domicile in that State, without regard to whether or not the person intends to return to that State;

“(2) be deemed to have acquired a residence or domicile in any other State; or

“(3) be deemed to have become a resident in or a resident of any other State.”; and

(3) in the section heading, by inserting “**AND SPOUSES OF MILITARY PERSONNEL**” before the period at the end.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of such Act (50 U.S.C. App. 501) is amended by striking the item relating to section 705 and inserting the following new item:

“Sec. 705. Guarantee of residency for military personnel and spouses of military personnel.”.

(c) APPLICATION.—Subsection (b) of section 705 of such Act (50 U.S.C. App. 595), as added by subsection (a) of this section, shall apply with respect to absences from States described in such subsection (b) on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, regardless of the date of the military or naval order concerned.

SEC. 3. DETERMINATION FOR TAX PURPOSES OF RESIDENCE OF SPOUSES OF MILITARY PERSONNEL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 511 of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. App. 571) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking “A servicemember” and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A servicemember”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) SPOUSES.—A spouse of a servicemember shall neither lose nor acquire a residence or domicile for purposes of taxation with respect to the person, personal property, or income of the spouse by reason of being absent or present in any tax jurisdiction of the United States solely to be with the servicemember in compliance with the servicemember’s military orders if the residence or domicile, as the case may be, is the same for the servicemember and the spouse.”;

(2) by redesignating subsections (c), (d), (e), and (f) as subsections (d), (e), (f), and (g), respectively;

(3) by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsection:

“(c) INCOME OF A MILITARY SPOUSE.—Income for services performed by the spouse of a servicemember shall not be deemed to be income for services performed or from sources within a tax jurisdiction of the United States if the spouse is not a resident or domiciliary of the jurisdiction in which the income is earned because the spouse is in the jurisdiction solely to be with the servicemember serving in compliance with military orders.”; and

(4) in subsection (d), as redesignated by paragraph (2)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “or the spouse of a servicemember” after “The personal property of a servicemember”; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “or the spouse’s” after “servicemember’s”.

(b) APPLICATION.—Subsections (a)(2) and (c) of section 511 of such Act (50 U.S.C. App. 571), as added by subsection (a) of this section, and the amendments made to such section 511 by subsection (a)(4) of this section, shall apply with respect to any return of State or local income tax filed for any taxable year beginning with the taxable year that includes the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 4. SUSPENSION OF LAND RIGHTS RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT FOR SPOUSES OF MILITARY PERSONNEL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 508 of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. App. 568) is amended in subsection (b) by inserting “or the spouse of such servicemember” after “a servicemember in military service”.

(b) APPLICATION.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to servicemembers in military service (as defined in section 101 of such Act (50 U.S.C. App. 511)) on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. CARSON) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana.

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Senator RICHARD BURR of North Carolina for introducing Senate bill 475, the Military Spouses Residency Relief Act. The House version of this legislation was introduced by Mr. CARTER of Texas.

As many of my colleagues know, the sacrifices that military children and spouses have to make in order to stay as one united family are difficult. This is especially true at a time when our country is fighting to protect freedom at home and abroad.

Senate bill 475 seeks to provide military spouses with the option to keep the same voting rights and tax conditions as afforded in their home States or to allow them to change to the new States where they will be reunited with a servicemember.

A military spouse who often accompanies a servicemember from one duty station to another is required to pay income and personal property taxes of the State in which they currently reside. On the other hand, the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act provides our men and women in uniform the option of paying taxes to the States where they originated prior to military service or to pay taxes to the States in which they currently reside due to military service, lessening the need to hire accountants to review tax regulations of their home States, which can at times be multiple States. This will help keep their tax preparation simple and familiar, reducing the stress family members encounter when filing State taxes.

Mr. Speaker, the intent of this legislation is very simple. We need to recog-

nize that military families serve too. It is only fitting to provide military spouses with the ability to retain certain State residency benefits which are already afforded to our men and women in uniform under the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act.

Again, I would like to thank my colleagues in the Senate for working on this legislation so we may provide relief for our military families. I urge all of my colleagues to join me in support of this bill.

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

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

Mr. STEARNS. Parliamentary inquiry, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman may state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. STEARNS. I notice that the gentleman who is advocating on the Democrats’ side is not a member of the Veterans’ Affairs Committee, at least not to my knowledge.

Under the rules of the House, is this appropriate that a Member who is not on the committee in which the bill has passed through and has jurisdiction is the advocate for the Democrats in this case?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Recognition for the motion is in the discretion of the Chair.

Mr. STEARNS. So, if I understand the Speaker, the Chair, at his discretion, can decide who can be the spokesman for the bill even if the person is not on the committee?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair may exercise discretion in recognizing Members to offer such motions.

Mr. STEARNS. A further parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman may state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. STEARNS. Is this customary, or is this an unusual situation? I don’t need a long dissertation, just a “yes” or “no” as to whether it is customary.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The discretion of the chair in recognizing Members is well settled.

Mr. STEARNS. So what you are saying is you can do it, but you are not willing to answer the question as to whether this is customary or not, because I’ve been here 20 years, and I have not seen this in the 20 years I have been here.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. It is customary that the chair use his discretion in recognizing Members to offer such motions.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

I rise in support of S. 475, the Military Spouses Residency Relief Act.

I want to thank the ranking member of the Senate Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Senator BURR, for sponsoring this legislation. I also want to recognize and thank Mr. JOHN CARTER of Texas for his support on this issue by introducing the companion House bill, H.R. 1182. It has 206 bipartisan cosponsors, and I am proud to be one of those.

Mr. Speaker, by its very nature, military service requires a significant sacrifice in terms of the quality of family life, especially of the spouses of servicemembers. Because servicemembers are routinely subject to transfer within and outside the continental United States, often with very short notice, spouses often find it difficult to obtain and/or to retain suitable employment.

However, military spouses are not covered by the same residency protections that are available to the servicemembers under the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. As a result, State laws regarding taxation, voting and ownership of property are often applied differently to the spouse and the servicemember. The SCRA allows servicemembers to determine their permanent residencies or domiciliaries. By allowing this, SCRA protects servicemembers from State taxation, property ownership, and voting laws that are not in their permanent residencies or domiciliaries.

Because the law is silent to spouses in these matters, they do not receive the same protection as servicemembers. Therefore, they can be subject to States which aggressively seek to impose residency related to income and property ownership laws, despite, my colleagues, the fact that they no longer reside in the States due to the spouses' military orders.

S. 475 addresses this issue by giving military spouses a choice to use either their current addresses where they are stationed because of their spouses' military orders or their permanent addresses to determine their residencies or domiciliaries for voting in any municipal, State, or Federal election.

Simply, the bill would allow spouses to determine their residencies in the same manner as servicemembers regarding taxation, voting, and ownership of property with respect to land-use rights on Federal owned or controlled land in the same manner as servicemembers under section 508 of SCRA.

My colleagues, this is a commonsense solution to give military spouses who have already sacrificed so much for the Nation the protection that servicemembers have when it comes to local residency laws related to taxation and voting.

So, again, I want to compliment Senator BURR and also, for the companion bill in the House, Mr. CARTER of Texas, for their sponsorship of this bill; and I urge my colleagues to support it.

I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1415

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers.

I reserve the balance of my time

Mr. STEARNS. It's my honor to yield as much time as he may consume to the author of the companion bill, which is H.R. 1182, the sponsor, Mr. JOHN CARTER of Texas.

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, this is an exciting day for me. I was the author of

this bill. I have been dealing with the gentlewomen who brought this to my attention a long time ago, and it's coming to fruition today, and I am pleased and honored.

I am the author of the identical companion bill, H.R. 1182. I represent Fort Hood, Texas, which is a pretty good-sized military base in the United States, the largest. I rise in support of these military spouses for this Military Spouses Residency Relief Act.

First, I want to thank everyone who has worked on this bill and worked hard to bring it to this point. Senator BURR and Senator FEINSTEIN over on the Senate side took up this cause and shepherded it and got it through the Senate, and this past-due reform is now before us today. I would also like to thank Chairman FILNER for supporting our military spouses and requesting the bill be taken up today.

We greatly appreciate all the VSOs who lent their support, including the Military Officers Association of America, the Air Force Sergeants Association, AMVETS, the VFW, and the Military Spouse Business Association. Above all, I would like to thank all the military spouses who have encouraged me and who encourage their Representatives and Senators to support this bill.

Finally, I would like to extend a very special thanks to Rebecca Poynter and Joanna Williamson, two entrepreneurial spouses who brought this issue to me and devoted so much of their time working with all the Members that are involved to get this bill passed. This is their baby, and they should be recognized.

This small measure will provide invaluable relief to numerous military spouses who regularly uproot their entire lives to accommodate our Armed Forces. When I first heard this story, I was shocked that there was such a difference between husband and wife, the two spouses, as it relates to the benefits we give them in the military.

The Servicemembers Civil Relief Act provides for basic civil relief to our men and women of the armed services in exchange for their voluntary service. These range from relief from adjudication while deployed in combat to maintaining a single State of domicile, regardless of where their military orders may send them.

This State of domicile provides an important stability for our soldiers, airmen, marines, and sailors. Though their orders may send them to numerous places or numerous States, they are able to simplify their State income tax requirements, maintain their property titles, and continue to vote for their Member of Congress or their elected official back home. Without SCRA protections, the servicemembers would have to deal with all those every time they move to military installations located in different States.

But spouses do have to deal with those every time they move to different States, and the spouses deal

with these stresses even while faced with the challenge of moving, finding schools for children, balancing some unsupported relocation costs and the loss of a spouse's earnings as they leave the job to join the servicemember.

This bill would amend the SCRA to allow military spouses to claim the same domicile as the servicemember for the purpose of State income and property taxes, as well as voter registration. Spouses could elect to stand united with their spouse, not only in support of our country, but in sharing the same State as the home base. This reform would prevent a military family from suddenly losing up to 10 percent of their income if they are called upon to relocate to a different State. This is a significant loss of income that occurs as a direct result of governmental orders.

S. 475 would also provide the impetus for military spouses to put their names on deeds and titles, which would build and strengthen their own credit and further ensure their legal protection.

This Veterans Day, which is coming up the 11th of this month, next week, I will ask each and every one of us to not only remember our servicemembers current and past, but take a moment to remember the military spouses who have sacrificed for and supported our soldiers.

Keeping that in mind, I ask my colleagues to grant this valuable relief to our military families and to support the passage of the Military Spouses Residency Relief Act.

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. STEARNS. We have no further speakers.

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 475.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to unanimously support S. 475.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. CARSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 475.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

UNITED STATES SUBMARINE
FORCE

Mr. WALZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 773) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to the United States Submarine Force.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 773

Whereas 100 years ago, American naval officers who witnessed a submarine, the "Holland VI", submerge and surface in the Potomac River knew this was the first successful United States submarine that would inspire the powerful undersea fighting force that would contribute so much to the United States victory in World War II;

Whereas during World War II, the United States Submarine Force served with honor and valor to protect and preserve the freedoms of the United States, as well as those of the allies of the United States;

Whereas the War in the Pacific could not have been won without the efforts of the United States Submarine Force;

Whereas during World War II, the United States Submarine Force comprised less than two percent of the Navy's fleet;

Whereas during World War II, United States submariners were to suffocate Japan's military industry, cut its oil supply, starve it, and prevent mass troop movements by sea, all by sinking the Japanese merchant fleet on which it was so dependent as a nation of islands;

Whereas during World War II, United States submariners sank over 30 percent of the Japanese Navy including eight aircraft carriers, one battleship and 11 cruisers, and more importantly, the Submarine Force sank 1,300 Japanese merchant ships totaling approximately 5,000,000 tons, which was almost 60 percent of the Empire's total merchant ship losses;

Whereas losses inflicted by the United States Submarine Force contributed to the devastation of the Japanese industrial power that effectively eliminated the ability of the enemy to sustain combat forces and replace losses of ships and aircraft;

Whereas World War II diesel-electric submarines had limited underwater speed, range, and endurance and usually sailed on the surface, where they were vulnerable to enemy attack;

Whereas 52 American submarines were lost during World War II, 49 in the Pacific;

Whereas the United States Submarine Force suffered the highest percentage of losses of any branch of the Armed Services;

Whereas during World War II, approximately 3,500 submariners made the ultimate sacrifice;

Whereas United States submariners were going to war, trusting their lives to a weapon, the torpedo, that, particularly in 1942 through 1943, was unreliable, and could even turn against them by running erratically in a circular path;

Whereas submarines played both humane and special operations roles in their campaign against Japan, and in many of the hardest fought battles of the war, submarine crews rescued unlucky carrier pilots who ended up in the sea, like future United States President George H. W. Bush; and

Whereas members of the Submarine Forces, known as the "silent service", assumed the difficult task of pioneering a new way of fighting so as to protect the liberties and freedoms of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) is committed to promoting and sustaining the spirit of unity shared by members of the United States Submarine Force;

(2) is committed to paying tribute once again to the seven submariners who were awarded the Medal of Honor, including two who were awarded the medal posthumously;

(3) wishes to help keep alive the memory of the Submarine Force veterans and honor their service just as their fellow shipmates do at their gatherings by performing the ceremony known as the "Tolling of the Boats"; and

(4) is committed to keeping alive their memory so that the American people never forget their courage and sacrifice.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. WALZ) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota.

Mr. WALZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Just to the gentleman from Florida, your earlier inquiry, I apologize for not talking to you. The staff built in redundancies. Flying out of Minneapolis has been somewhat of a challenge recently, assuming they get to the airport in the original path, so the staff arranged to have another Member here.

Mr. STEARNS. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. WALZ. Yes.

Mr. STEARNS. Let me just say how delighted I am to have the gentleman on the floor. Mr. WALZ is the highest NCO that has ever served in Congress. He was a command sergeant major, I think an E-9, so it is with a great deal of respect, for anybody who has served in the military like I have in the United States Air Force, that we look to gentlemen like Mr. WALZ.

We appreciate his participation on the Veterans' Affairs Committee. I am delighted he is here and is taking over this jurisdiction, which is important on these 13 bills.

Mr. WALZ. Well, I thank the gentleman for his kind words and, again, appreciate the tireless work he does for the veterans. It's a great testament, and the folks in Florida are lucky to have you there.

The United States Submarine Force was a vital component to winning the war in the Pacific during World War II. The war simply could not have been won without this powerful undersea fighting force.

Although the Submarine Force comprised a little less than 2 percent of the Navy's fleet during World War II, they played a crucial role in effectively eliminating up to 30 percent of the Imperial Japanese Navy, reducing Japan's ability to sustain their combat forces.

Day after day, the submariners entrusted their lives on unreliable torpedos to protect them as they fought to protect the liberties and freedom of the United States. For their courage and valor that runs deep, the United States Submarine Force should be

commended by the House of Representatives.

House Resolution 773 resolves that the House of Representatives is committed to keeping alive their memory so that the American people never forget their courage and sacrifice. We will give honor to the 52 American submariners that were lost during World War II and the 3,500 submariners who have made the ultimate sacrifice to protect the freedoms of this great Nation.

The seven brave submariners who were awarded the Medal of Honor are: John Cromwell, Samuel Dealey, Eugene Fluckey, Howard Gilmore, Richard O'Kane, Lawson Ramage and George Street. Their courageous fighting spirit going above and beyond the call of duty is recognized and highly respected. Servicemembers like them have set the example that our Armed Forces follow.

The contributions of the United States Submarine Force were momentous and critical to winning World War II. They exemplify the legacy of commitment to guard our freedom.

I support House Resolution 773 that expresses the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to the United States Submarine Force. We should be committed to sustain our submariners force of spirit, unity, courage, and sacrifice they have given for this great Nation.

I also want to thank the gentleman from Arkansas for introducing this important piece of remembrance and commemoration.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I also rise in strong support of H. Res. 773, a resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to the United States Submarine Force. This resolution honors these servicemembers who served their country during World War II in the most unique of circumstances.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my colleague Mr. BOOZMAN of Arkansas, as mentioned earlier, for introducing this legislation, and I will shortly yield to him for further remarks on this resolution.

I want to thank the chairman, Mr. FILNER, and also Ranking Member BUYER for moving the bill so promptly to the floor for consideration.

I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 773.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WALZ. I continue to reserve my time, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the author of the bill, Mr. BOOZMAN of Arkansas, for such time as he may consume.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 773, a resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to the valiant service of the United States Submarine Force during World War II.