

as well as her continuing efforts to promote Jamaica's interests and support its development. She continues her service to this island nation as president of American Friends of Jamaica. This organization is helping to bring greater prosperity and educational opportunities to the people of Jamaica.

Sue, this well-deserved award is a testament to your strength of character and to your determination, and we in South Florida are indeed fortunate to call you our neighbor. Congratulations to Sue Cobb.

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 motions 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 p.m. today.

COMMEMORATING SEPTEMBER 11

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1610) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the terrorist attacks launching against the United States on September 11, 2001.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1610

Whereas on the morning of September 11, 2001, terrorists hijacked and destroyed four civilian aircraft, crashing two of them into the towers of the World Trade Center in New York City and a third into the Pentagon outside of Washington, D.C.;

Whereas the passengers and crew aboard the fourth civilian aircraft, United Airlines Flight 93, acted heroically to prevent the terrorist hijackers from taking additional American lives, by crashing the plane in Shanksville, Pennsylvania, and sacrificing their own lives instead;

Whereas thousands of innocent men, women, and children were brutally murdered in the attacks of September 11, 2001;

Whereas nine years later, the United States continues to mourn the lives lost on September 11, 2001;

Whereas by targeting symbols of American strength and prosperity, the attacks were intended to assail the principles and values of the American people and to intimidate the Nation and its allies;

Whereas the United States remains steadfast in its determination to defeat, disrupt, and destroy terrorist organizations and seeks to harness all elements of national power, including its military, economic, and diplomatic resources, to do so;

Whereas Congress has passed, and the President has signed, numerous laws to protect the Nation, prevent terrorism at home and abroad, assist victims of terrorism, and support, in the field and upon return, the members of the Armed Forces who courageously defend the United States;

Whereas the terrorist attacks that have occurred around the world since September

11, 2001, serve as reminders that the hateful inhumanity of terrorism poses a common threat to the free world, to people everywhere, and to democratic values;

Whereas the United States has worked cooperatively with the nations of the free world to capture terrorists and bring them to justice;

Whereas the United States remains committed to building strong and productive counterterrorism alliances;

Whereas immediately following September 11, 2001, the Armed Forces moved swiftly against al-Qaeda and the Taliban, which the President and Congress had identified as enemies of the United States;

Whereas in doing so, brave members of the Armed Forces left loved ones in order to defend the Nation and, in some cases, sustained serious injuries or made the ultimate sacrifice by giving their lives; and

Whereas many members of the Armed Forces remain abroad, defending the Nation from further terrorist attacks and continuing to battle al-Qaeda and the Taliban: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes September 11 as a day to mourn and remember those taken from their loved ones and fellow citizens, and as a day for the people of the United States to recommit to the Nation and to each other;

(2) once again extends its deepest sympathies to the friends, families, and loved ones of the innocent victims of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks;

(3) honors the heroic service and sacrifices of first responders, law enforcement personnel, State and local officials, volunteers, and others who aided the victims and, in so doing, bravely risked and often sacrificed their own lives and health;

(4) expresses gratitude to the foreign leaders and citizens of all nations who have assisted and continue to stand in solidarity with the United States against terrorism in the aftermath of the attacks;

(5) recognizes the heroic service of United States personnel, including members of the Armed Forces, intelligence agencies, the diplomatic service, the law enforcement and homeland security communities, and their families, who have sacrificed much, including their lives and health, to defend their country against terrorists;

(6) vows that it will continue to defend the people of the United States and to identify, intercept, and defeat terrorists, including providing the Armed Forces, intelligence agencies, the diplomatic service, and the law enforcement and homeland security communities with the resources and support necessary to effectively accomplish this mission; and

(7) reaffirms that the American people will never forget the sacrifices made on and since September 11, 2001.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, this bipartisan resolution pays tribute to the lives lost on September 11, 2001, and recognizes the anniversary as not only a time of solemn commemoration, but also a demonstration of America's great resolve in combating terrorism.

Memorials like those at the Pentagon in northern Virginia and the Grove Garden in Fairfax County have been constructed throughout the region and the Nation to commemorate the events of 9/11. It is one of the many ways in which we continue to pay tribute to the people who perished on that fateful day.

This House resolution extends our enduring and deepest condolences to the friends, families, and loved ones of the innocent victims of the terrorist attacks and recognizes the heroism of U.S. service men and women who defend our country today. It honors the Nation's first responders and others whose valiant efforts did credit to their country on that horrible day and who continue to help keep us safe. It expresses gratitude to the leaders and citizens of other countries who assisted, supported and stood by the United States in the aftermath of those attacks.

Clearly, the threat of terrorism is still very real, but one of the lasting legacies of 9/11 has been the notion of being prepared for any type of emergency, whether it is a widespread event like a terrorist attack, a natural disaster, an epidemic, or even an individualized event, like a fire, car crash or power outage.

The events of 9/11 tested our abilities beyond our imagination, and a number of trying experiences since then have further honed our skills. In America's modern and fragmented society, collective memories are few, but each of us remembers where we were precisely on that fateful day when we heard the news.

This is a time when we must transcend partisan politics and stand together as one Nation to recall a moment when terrorists targeted the very symbols of America's strength.

Our values and our very foundation were under attack, and yet we persevered. And we will carry on the fight against extremists who seek to do us harm.

In this battle, the global realities of the 21st century require that we use not only our military, but all of the tools available to us—economic, financial, diplomatic, and cultural resources—to promote a better alternative to extremism and to protect our national interests and our national security.

Madam Speaker, none of us will forget what happened 9 years ago. We will always remember the victims of 9/11 and the loved ones who survived them.