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H.Res. 201—Recognizing Beverly Eckert’s service to the Nation and particularly to the survivors and families of the September 11, 2001, attacks. (*Slaughter, D-NY*)

Order of Business: H.Res. 201 is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, March 4, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 201 would recognize that the House of Representatives:

- Acknowledges Beverly Eckert’s service to the Nation and particularly to the survivors and families of the September 11, 2001, attacks;
- “Recognizes Beverly Eckert’s work to help bring about implementation of the 9/11 Commission recommendations to prepare, prevent, and respond to acts of terrorism; and
- “Extends its deepest condolences to the family of Beverly Eckert and the families of all those who lost their lives due to the crash of Continental Connection Flight 3407.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “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 Washington, DC;

- “The passengers and crew aboard United 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;
- “Thousands of innocent men, women, and children were brutally murdered in the attacks of September 11, 2001;
- “Pursuant to Public Law 107-306, the 9/11 Commission was formed to ascertain, evaluate, and report on the evidence regarding the terrorist attacks;
- “The 9/11 Commission was also required in Public Law 107-306 to make a full and complete accounting of the circumstances surrounding the terrorist attacks, report on the United States’ preparedness for, and immediate response to, terrorist attacks, and make findings conclusions, and recommendations for corrective measures that could be taken to prevent, prepare, and respond to acts of terrorism;
- “The 9/11 Commission stated in its report that it “interviewed more than 1,200 individuals” to assist in making its recommendations;
- “One of the groups representing the victims, ‘Voices of September 11’, testified before the 9/11 Commission;
- “Beverly Eckert was the widow of Mr. Sean Rooney, who died in the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and following her husband’s death, Beverly Eckert co-founded ‘Voices of September 11’, an advocacy group for survivors and 9/11 families;
- “Beverly Eckert was instrumental in the development and growth of this important advocacy group, which now claims more than 5,500 members;
- “Beverly Eckert worked admirably with the 110th Congress and was a key proponent in the final passage of the “Implementing the 9/11 Commission Recommendations Act of 2007” as the legislation to effectuate the recommendations of the 9/11 Commission to prevent, prepare, and respond to acts of terrorism; and
- “The United States will forever be grateful for the services of Beverly Eckert and mourn her loss:”

Committee Action: H.Res. 201 was introduced on March 2, 2009 and referred to the House Committee on Homeland Security, which took no further public action.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy (SAP) is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution would not authorize any additional expenditures.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: Though the bill contains no earmarks, and there’s no accompanying committee report, the earmarks rule (House Rule XXI, Clause 9(a)) does not apply, by definition, to legislation considered under suspension of the rules.

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**H.Res. 195—Recognizing and honoring the employees of the
Department of Homeland Security on its sixth anniversary for their
continuous efforts to keep the Nation safe (Bilirakis, R-FL)**

Order of Business: H.Res. 195 is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, March 4, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 195 would recognize that the House of Representatives:

- “Honors the employees of the Department of Homeland Security on its sixth anniversary for their continuous efforts to keep the Nation safe.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “The Department of Homeland Security was created as a result of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, to consolidate our Nation's efforts to prevent, prepare for, protect against, respond to, and mitigate against threats to the homeland, including acts of terrorism, natural disasters, and other emergencies;
- “The Department of Homeland Security marks its sixth year of full-scale operations on March 1, 2009;
- “More than 223,000 employees of the Department of Homeland Security work diligently to deter, detect, and prevent acts of terrorism and stand ready to respond to a terrorist attack, natural disaster, or other emergency;
- “The employees of the Department of Homeland Security are dedicated individuals who rarely receive the recognition they deserve;
- “The employees of the Department of Homeland Security work tirelessly to protect our Nation, frequently working long hours and sacrificing time with their loved ones;
- “The employees of the Department of Homeland Security support the Department's mission to secure the borders, protect critical infrastructure, share information, facilitate safe and lawful travel and trade, and work with States and localities to enhance preparedness;
- “The employees of the Department of Homeland Security deserve the best in training and resources to accomplish their vital mission;
- “The United States has not been attacked since September 11, 2001, and this is due in large part to the dedicated service of the employees of the Department of Homeland Security; and
- “The Nation owes a debt of gratitude to the employees of the Department of Homeland Security for their continued and steadfast efforts to secure the homeland:”

Committee Action: H.Res. 195 was introduced on February 26, 2009 and referred to the House Committee on Homeland Security, which took no further public action.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy (SAP) is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution would not authorize any additional expenditures.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: Though the bill contains no earmarks, and there's no accompanying committee report, the earmarks rule (House Rule XXI, Clause 9(a)) does not apply, by definition, to legislation considered under suspension of the rules.

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H.Con.Res. 14—Supporting the goals and ideals of Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week (*Lee, D-CA*)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Wednesday, March 4, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 47 would express that the House of Representatives:

- “Supports the goals and ideals of Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week;
- “Encourages the President to issue a proclamation in support of the goals and ideals of Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week;
- “Encourages States, territories, possessions of the United States, and localities to support the goals and ideals of Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week by issuing proclamations designating Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week;
- “Encourages media organizations to participate in Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week and help educate the public about multiple sclerosis;
- “Commends the efforts of the States, territories, and possessions of the United States who support the goals and ideals of Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week;
- “Recognizes and reaffirms our Nation's commitment to combating multiple sclerosis by promoting awareness about its causes and risks and by promoting new education programs, supporting research, and expanding access to medical treatment; and
- “Recognizes all people in the United States living with multiple sclerosis, expresses gratitude to their family members and friends who are a source of love and encouragement to them, and salutes the health care professionals and medical

researchers who provide assistance to those so afflicted and continue to work to find cures and improve treatments.”

The resolution lists a number of findings including:

- “Multiple sclerosis can impact men and women of all ages, races, and ethnicities;
- “More than 400,000 Americans live with multiple sclerosis;
- “Approximately 2,500,000 people worldwide have been diagnosed with multiple sclerosis;
- “Every hour of every day, someone is newly diagnosed with multiple sclerosis;
- “It is estimated that between 8,000 and 10,000 children and adolescents are living with multiple sclerosis;
- “The exact cause of multiple sclerosis is still unknown;
- “The symptoms of multiple sclerosis are unpredictable and vary from person to person;
- “There is no diagnostic laboratory test available for multiple sclerosis;
- “Multiple sclerosis is not genetic, contagious, or directly inherited, but studies show there are genetic factors that indicate certain individuals are susceptible to the disease;
- “Multiple sclerosis symptoms occur when an immune system attack affects the myelin in nerve fibers of the central nervous system, damaging or destroying it and replacing it with scar tissue, thereby interfering with or preventing the transmission of nerve signals;
- “In rare cases multiple sclerosis is so progressive it is fatal;
- “The goals of Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week are to invite people to join the movement to end multiple sclerosis, encourage everyone to do something to demonstrate their commitment to moving toward a world free of multiple sclerosis, and to acknowledge those who have dedicated their time and talent to help promote multiple sclerosis research and programs; and
- “This year Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week is recognized during the week of March 2, 2009 through March 8, 2009:”

Committee Action: H.Con.Res. 14 was introduced on January 8, 2009 and referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, which took no subsequent public action.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy (SAP) is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution would not authorize any additional expenditures.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: Though the bill contains no earmarks, and there's no accompanying committee report, the earmarks rule (House Rule XXI, Clause 9(a)) does not apply, by definition, to legislation considered under suspension of the rules.

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H.Res. 45 - Raising awareness and promoting education on the criminal justice system by establishing March as 'National Criminal Justice Month' (Poe, R-TX)

Order of Business: H.Res. 45 is scheduled to be considered on March 4, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.Res. 45 expresses the sense of the House of Representatives that:

- “National Criminal Justice Month provides an opportunity to educate Americans on the criminal justice system;
- “Americans should be aware of the causes and consequences of crime, how to prevent crime, and how to respond to crime; and
- “The House of Representatives urges policymakers, criminal justice officials, educators, victim service providers, nonprofits, community leaders, and others to promote awareness of how to prevent and respond to crime through National Criminal Justice Month.”

The resolution lists a number of finding including:

- “There are approximately three million Americans employed within the justice system;
- “Approximately seven million adults are on probation, parole, or are incarcerated;
- “Millions of Americans have been victims of crime and, consequently, lost income, incurred medical expenses, and suffered emotionally;
- “The cost of crime to individuals, communities, businesses, and the various levels of government exceeds the billions of dollars spent each year in administering the criminal justice system;
- “In 2006, fifty percent of Americans admitted they fear that their home would be burglarized when they are not home; thirty-four percent of American women feared that they would be sexually assaulted; and forty-four percent of Americans feared they would be a victim of a terrorist attack;
- “Approximately thirty-five percent of Americans have very little or no confidence in the criminal justice system and the negative effects of crime in regard to confidence in governmental agencies and overall social stability are immeasurable;

- “Crime rates have dropped since the early 1990s, but most Americans believe that the rate of crime is increasing;
- “Federal, State, and local governments increased their spending for police protection, corrections, judicial, and legal activities in fiscal year 2005 by 5.5 percent or \$204 billion; and
- “There is a need to educate Americans and to promote awareness within American society as to the causes and consequences of crime, as well as the strategies and developments for preventing and responding to crime.”

Committee Action: On February 9, 2009, the resolution was referred to the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, which took no subsequent public action.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy was provided.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution would not authorize any additional expenditures.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: Though the bill contains no earmarks, and there’s no accompanying committee report, the earmarks rule (House Rule XXI, Clause 9(a)) does not apply, by definition, to legislation considered under suspension of the rules.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable for H.Res. 45.

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H.R. 1127 - To extend certain immigration programs (Lofgren, D-CA)

Order of Business: H.R. 1127 is scheduled to be considered on March 4, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 1127 extends from March 6, 2009 to September 30, 2009:

- the special immigrant non-minister worker program; and
- the waiver of foreign country residence requirement with respect to international medical graduates.

The religious work program allows religious denominations in the U.S. to bring in needed religious workers. It includes a non-minister category, added in 1990. Congress has extended the program's authorization multiple times since then.

The waiver of foreign country residence requirement with respect to international medical graduates has been in existence since 1994 and has been extended numerous times since then. Aliens (on J visas) who participate in medical residencies in the U.S. typically leave the U.S. at the end of their residencies for two years before they are eligible to return. This program waives this requirement.

Committee Action: On February 23, 2009, the bill was referred to the House Judiciary Committee, which took no subsequent public action.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy was provided.

Cost to Taxpayers: No CBO score is available.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: Though the bill contains no earmarks, and there's no accompanying committee report, the earmarks rule (House Rule XXI, Clause 9(a)) does not apply, by definition, to legislation considered under suspension of the rules.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable for H.R. 1127.

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