



HR0333

LRB097 11837 GRL 55158 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, On the evening of May 1, 2011, members of the elite United States Navy SEALs, under direct orders from President Barack Obama, conducted a daring raid of a guarded compound in the city of Abbottabad, Pakistan, where it was believed that a high value target in the U.S. War on Terror was hiding; and

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WHEREAS, The purpose of the mission was to capture or kill Osama bin Laden, the leader of the international terrorist organization known throughout the world as al-Qaeda; and

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WHEREAS, The Navy SEALs conducted their mission with bravery, precision, and skill, finding and eliminating Osama bin Laden while limiting civilian casualties; and

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WHEREAS, The terrorist Osama bin Laden is widely credited with being the mastermind of the September 11, 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and United Airlines Flight 93, where more than 3,000 men, women, and children were murdered in a series of deadly suicide attacks; and

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WHEREAS, Under bin Laden's leadership, al-Qaeda conducted several other bombings and similar attacks in the United States and other nations, resulting in the deaths of countless

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1 civilians of all races, religions, and ethnicities; and

2 WHEREAS, More than any other terrorist organization,
3 al-Qaeda and Osama bin Laden have been the central target in
4 the War on Terror, a general term used to describe the efforts
5 of the U.S. military and its allies to bring to justice those
6 responsible for murdering civilians in the name of religious
7 extremism; and

8 WHEREAS, The effort to bring the terrorist bin Laden to
9 justice was the direct result of the efforts of President
10 Barack Obama and his predecessor, President George W. Bush, who
11 both focused the nation's intelligence resources on finding
12 leaders of al-Qaeda, extracting valuable information, and
13 using that information to ultimately find and kill Osama bin
14 Laden; and

15 WHEREAS, President Obama made a risky and daring decision
16 to send in special forces, rather than bomb the facility in
17 question, to ensure that American citizens would know for sure
18 that the terrorist bin Laden had been eliminated and justice
19 had been done; and

20 WHEREAS, The brave men and women of the U.S. armed forces
21 and military intelligence institutions, in particular the
22 members of the Central Intelligence Agency, National Security

1 Agency, Navy SEALs, and their commanders, deserve the majority
2 of the praise and credit for years of hard work in tracking,
3 locating and ultimately eliminating the most wanted criminal in
4 American history; therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
6 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
7 we congratulate Presidents Barack Obama and George W. Bush, as
8 well as the military and civilian leadership under them, who
9 worked tirelessly to bring justice to the man most responsible
10 for the senseless murder of thousands of innocent people and
11 continue to work day and night to disrupt and eliminate the
12 al-Qaeda terrorist network and all similar groups that fight
13 against the ideals of our nation; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That suitable copies be presented to Presidents
15 Barack Obama and George W. Bush as a symbol of our gratitude
16 and respect.