

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 369

By Naifeh

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the members of the United States Armed Forces who brought Osama Bin Laden to justice.

WHEREAS, nearly ten years ago, the United States of America experienced the worst terrorist attack in our nation's history when Al Qaeda, a terrorist organization headed by Osama Bin Laden, hijacked four planes and murdered nearly 3,000 innocent men, women, and children; and

WHEREAS, throughout the ensuing years, the heroic members of the United States Armed Forces, our dedicated intelligence professionals, and our elected officials worked tirelessly to disrupt terrorist attacks and capture or kill those responsible; and

WHEREAS, scores of terrorists were apprehended and brought to Guantanamo Bay, including Abu Faraj al Libi and Khalid Sheik Muhammad, the mastermind of the 9/11 terrorist attacks; and

WHEREAS, eventually, the detainees provided key information regarding a courier who had worked with both Mr. Muhammad and Mr. al Libi; and

WHEREAS, after locating the courier's region of operation and tracking his discrete movements, the operatives at the Central Intelligence Agency discovered that Osama Bin Laden, who was long believed to have been hiding in a cave in the mountainous region along the Afghanistan and Pakistan boarder, was in fact concealed in a million-dollar compound, complete with eighteen-foot walls topped with barbed wire, in the Pakistani city of Abbottabad; and

WHEREAS, while the intelligence community continued to monitor the target and gather information, the United States Navy's SEALs Team Six devoted countless hours to preparing for their mission in a replica of the compound inside the United States; and

WHEREAS, on Sunday, May 1, 2011, President Obama, as the Commander in Chief, determined that there was a sufficient amount of intelligence to justify the raid and authorized the operation to bring Osama Bin Laden to justice; and

WHEREAS, arriving on two helicopters from Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC), the team of Navy SEALs flew in low from Afghanistan during the dead of night; and

WHEREAS, exemplifying the courage and conviction of true patriots, the valiant Navy SEALs stormed the compound and engaged Osama Bin Laden and his men in a firefight; and

WHEREAS, two of Osama Bin Laden's couriers were killed, as was his son, and a woman reportedly used as a human shield, and when the most wanted terrorist in the world refused to lay down his weapon, the courageous Americans killed him, avenging the deaths of the victims of 9/11, striking an immutable blow against his terrorist organization, and inspiring freedom-loving people throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, believing in the justice of their cause to protect our national security and defend our way of life, these gallant patriots performed their duties with the utmost skill, dedication, and professionalism and are most deserving of the thanks of a grateful nation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend the valiant members of the United States Armed Forces who successfully brought Osama Bin Laden to justice, recognize their unwavering courage in the face of grave danger, and applaud their willingness to sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to ensure our individual and collective freedom.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we thank President Obama for his decisive leadership, the United States' intelligence community, including the CIA, for its intrepid work, and the Navy SEALs for their professionalism in bringing Osama Bin Laden to justice.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.