

By Representative Bense

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House Resolution

A resolution to the Congress and the President of the United States urging support and the commitment of funding necessary for the continued development, permanent establishment, and future operation of the Center for Coastal and Maritime Security by the Coastal Systems Station of the United States Navy.

WHEREAS, on September 11, 2001, the United States of America was the victim of a cowardly attack conducted by terrorists supported by foreign nations, and

WHEREAS, these attacks have placed our nation's military on high alert in order to protect our citizens and visitors to the United States from future aggression, and

WHEREAS, our nation has over 12,000 miles of coastline, over 2,000 miles of which are found in the State of Florida, and

WHEREAS, 14 active seaports, thousands of miles of rivers and inland waterways, countless marinas, and the center of the world's marine cruise industry are located in Florida, and

WHEREAS, the vastness of our nation's coastline increases the probability that future attackers could enter the country at our seaports, maritime commerce centers, energy facilities, and marine recreational centers, and

WHEREAS, for more than 50 years, the United States Navy's Coastal Systems Station in Panama City, Florida, has provided unequalled training, mission planning, and equipment development in the area of coastal operations and systems to all branches of the United States military, and

1 WHEREAS, the Coastal Systems Station is a field
2 activity of the Naval Sea Systems Command and is one of the
3 major research, development, test, and evaluation laboratories
4 of the United States Navy, with a wide base of expertise in
5 engineering and scientific disciplines, and

6 WHEREAS, the Coastal Systems Station is the Navy's
7 premier organization for the comprehensive support of mission
8 areas within coastal environments, which include mine warfare,
9 amphibious warfare, special warfare, diving and life support,
10 and coastal operations, and

11 WHEREAS, the United States Navy's Coastal Systems
12 Station is currently in the process of developing, and seeks
13 to permanently establish, the Center for Coastal and Maritime
14 Security, the purpose of which is to provide specialized
15 training and technology for civilian and military personnel to
16 defend our nation against maritime terrorist threats, and

17 WHEREAS, given the events of September 11, 2001, it is
18 now a matter of the highest importance that the numerous means
19 of ingress to this country provided through the nation's vast
20 coastal areas be secured and made invulnerable to any form of
21 malicious breach, and

22 WHEREAS, to that end, it is essential that the Center
23 for Coastal and Maritime Security be fully developed,
24 permanently established, and operated by the United States
25 Navy Coastal Systems Station, NOW, THEREFORE,

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27 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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29 That the President of the United States and the United
30 States Congress are urged to support and commit necessary
31 funding for the continued development, permanent

1 establishment, and future operation of the Center for Coastal
2 and Maritime Security.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution
4 be sent to the President of the United States, the President
5 of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States
6 House of Representatives, and to each member of the Florida
7 Delegation to the United States Congress.

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