

By Representatives Hogan and Crow

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House Resolution

A resolution extending condolences to the family of Spc. Marc A. Anderson.

WHEREAS, "never surrender, and never leave a fallen comrade behind" are the words that sum up the creed of the United States Army Rangers and are the words by which Spc. Marc Anderson served his comrades and lived the last hours of his life, and

WHEREAS, Marc Anderson, a Florida State University honor graduate, track and field All-American, and recipient of the Golden Torch awarded to the top student athlete of the year, was a popular seventh grade math teacher at Fort Myers Middle School Academy when he enlisted in the Army in 1998, and quickly became one of its elite soldiers, serving in a special operations group prepared for deployment anywhere in the world on 18 hours' notice, and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2002, Spc. Marc Anderson, 30, was one of a six-member fire team, part of a helicopter rescue team sent to retrieve the body of a Navy SEAL killed in combat against al-Qaida and Taliban forces, and, on March 4, 2002, Spc. Marc Anderson was one of six United States soldiers who died in the snow-capped mountains of east Afghanistan, the result of enemy fire, and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2002, six months after the tragic events that sent Spc. Marc Anderson to his death on foreign soil, approximately 600 family members, friends, and comrades-in-arms gathered at St. Raphael Catholic Church in St. Petersburg to express their grief, among them, United States Representative C. W. Young, whose vote to send American

1 soldiers to war against terrorism, he stated, made him "feel a
2 personal responsibility" for Marc's death, and

3 WHEREAS, several hundred mourners made the 70-mile trip
4 from St. Petersburg to the National Cemetery near Bushnell in
5 Central Florida to stand on a hillside during the final
6 ceremony as one last tribute to a fallen hero before he was
7 laid to rest, NOW, THEREFORE,

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9 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
10 Florida:

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12 That the House of Representatives pauses in its
13 deliberations to extend its heartfelt condolences to the
14 family and friends of Spc. Marc Anderson.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution
16 be presented to David and Judith Anderson, parents of the late
17 Spc. Marc Anderson.

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