



HM 0429B

2003

House Memorial

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2 A memorial to the Congress of the United States, urging
3 Congress to take all actions necessary to resolve the fate
4 of Captain M. Scott Speicher.

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6 WHEREAS, the Armed Forces of the United States fought
7 admirably, bravely, and successfully during Operation Desert
8 Storm, and

9 WHEREAS, M. Scott Speicher, then a lieutenant commander and
10 now a captain in the United States Navy, flew a Navy FA-18 in a
11 bombing mission over Iraq on January 17, 1991, and

12 WHEREAS, then-Lieutenant Commander Speicher failed to
13 return to his carrier following that mission and was erroneously
14 declared killed in action, and

15 WHEREAS, since that time, intelligence has determined that
16 Captain Speicher ejected from his aircraft, and

17 WHEREAS, in January 2001, in an unprecedented action,
18 Captain Speicher's designation was changed from "Killed in
19 Action" to "Missing in Action," and

20 WHEREAS, the former executive chairman of the United
21 Nations Special Commission, a renowned expert on Iraq, testified
22 before the United States Senate in July 2002 that "we should not
23 give up" on Captain Speicher, and

24 WHEREAS, in October 2002, based upon intelligence
25 confirming that he had been taken captive by the Iraqi
26 government, Captain Speicher's designation was changed from
27 "MIA" to "MIA-Captured," and further intelligence reports make
28 it clear that Iraq is in a position to resolve questions
29 regarding Captain Speicher's fate, and



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30 WHEREAS, this nation has pledged to the members of our
31 armed services that they will not be abandoned, and the State of
32 Florida renews that pledge to Captain Speicher, NOW, THEREFORE,
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34 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
35

36 That the Congress of the United States is requested to take
37 all actions necessary to resolve the fate of Captain M. Scott
38 Speicher, United States Navy, MIA-Captured.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
40 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the
41 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the
42 United States House of Representatives, and to each member of
43 the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.