

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: CS/HM 47 War on Terror

SPONSOR(S): Abruzzo

TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:**

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF
1) Federal Affairs Subcommittee	11 Y, 1 N, As CS	Camechis	Camechis
2) State Affairs Committee	15 Y, 0 N	Camechis	Hamby

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

Osama bin Laden led the al-Qaeda terrorist organization and was responsible for terrorist attacks throughout the world, including the September 11, 2001, attacks on the United States. On May 1, 2011, bin Laden was killed by U.S. Navy Seals in Abbottabad, Pakistan.

This memorial recognizes the death of bin Laden as a positive step forward in the war on terrorism and declares a continuing unity of commitment with other states and nations against terrorism, its crimes against humanity, and al-Qaeda.

Copies of the memorial will be provided to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and each member of the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.

The memorial does not have a fiscal impact on state or local governments.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Background¹

According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Osama bin Laden had openly declared war on the U.S. and was committed to killing innocents well before 2001. The al-Qaeda organization, under his leadership, was responsible for the 1998 bombings of the U.S. Embassies in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania and Nairobi, which killed over 200 people. On June 7, 1999, bin Laden was added to the FBI's Top Ten fugitives list, and the U.S. offered a \$25 million reward for information that would lead to his apprehension or conviction.

On September 11, 2001, a small group of al-Qaeda members hijacked four commercial passenger aircraft in the U.S., two of which were flown into the World Trade Center towers. Another aircraft was flown into the Pentagon in Arlington, Virginia. A fourth plane was successfully retaken by passengers before crashing in Pennsylvania. The intended target of the fourth aircraft was believed to be the United States Capitol. The attack killed nearly 3,000 civilians. Intelligence agencies quickly learned that the attacks were carried out by al-Qaeda. In October 2001, bin Laden's name was added to the U.S. Department of State's Most Wanted Terrorists List. In 2004, bin Laden released a videotaped message claiming responsibility for the September 11 attacks.

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Effect of Proposed Changes

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B. SECTION DIRECTORY: None.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues: None.

2. Expenditures: None.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues: None.

¹ Information for this background was obtained from http://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/2011/may/binladen_050211/binladen_050211 and <http://www.biography.com/people/osama-bin-laden-37172>.

2. Expenditures: None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR: None.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS: None.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision: Not applicable.

2. Other: None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY: None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS: None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/ COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

On November 16th, 2011, the Federal Affairs Subcommittee adopted one amendment to this memorial. The amendment adds that former President George W. Bush, President Barak Obama, the intelligence organizations, and the men and women of the armed forces acted in a collective effort. The memorial was reported favorably as a committee substitute.