

HR 9095

2014

## 1 House Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing the 60th anniversary of the  
3 addition of "under God" to the Pledge of Allegiance.

4  
5 WHEREAS, President Dwight D. Eisenhower became convinced  
6 that adding the words "under God" to the Pledge of Allegiance  
7 would be the right thing to do after hearing the Reverend George  
8 Docherty preach on February 7, 1954, that the phrase "nation  
9 under God" was used in the Gettysburg Address and was an  
10 appropriate addition to the Pledge of Allegiance because freedom  
11 "is defined by a fundamental belief in God," and

12 WHEREAS, during the week of February 8, 1954, United States  
13 Representative Charles Oakman of Michigan and United States  
14 Senator Homer Ferguson of Michigan introduced a joint resolution  
15 in Congress to amend the Pledge of Allegiance by adding the  
16 words "under God" to the text of the pledge, and

17 WHEREAS, February 8, 1954, had been chosen by  
18 Representative Oakman as the date to introduce the resolution in  
19 recognition of the five-year anniversary of the imprisonment of  
20 Cardinal Jozsef Mindszenty of Hungary, who was imprisoned and  
21 tortured by Communists for his sermons claiming a goal of  
22 Communism was the eradication of all religion, and

23 WHEREAS, speeches were delivered in Congress to honor  
24 Cardinal Mindszenty and emphasize the threat that Communism  
25 posed to the United States, and

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26           WHEREAS, upon introduction of the resolution, Senator  
27 Ferguson commented, "I believe this modification of the pledge  
28 is important because it highlights one of the real fundamental  
29 differences between the free world and the Communist world,  
30 namely, belief in God," adding, "Our nation is founded on a  
31 fundamental belief in God, and the first and most important  
32 reason for the existence of our Government is to protect the  
33 God-given rights of our citizens. Spiritual values are every bit  
34 as important to the defense and safety of our nation as are  
35 military and economic values," and

36           WHEREAS, the first time that the Pledge of Allegiance of  
37 the United States was thus recited was on Flag Day, June 14,  
38 1954, NOW, THEREFORE,

39  
40 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of  
41 Florida:

42  
43           That June 14, 2014, is recognized as the 60th anniversary  
44 of the addition of the words "under God" to the Pledge of  
45 Allegiance of the United States.