

107<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. CON. RES. 459

Recognizing rescue crews for their outstanding effort and cooperation resulting in the safe rescue on July 27, 2002, of trapped miners Randy Fogle, Thomas Foy, Harry B. Mayhugh, John Unger, John Phillippi, Ronald Hileman, Dennis Hall, Robert Pugh, and Mark Popernack and the miners for their stamina and courage.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 4, 2002

Mr. GIBBONS (for himself, Mr. MURTHA, Mrs. CUBIN, Mr. HOLDEN, and Mr. MATHESON) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

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## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Recognizing rescue crews for their outstanding effort and cooperation resulting in the safe rescue on July 27, 2002, of trapped miners Randy Fogle, Thomas Foy, Harry B. Mayhugh, John Unger, John Phillippi, Ronald Hileman, Dennis Hall, Robert Pugh, and Mark Popernack and the miners for their stamina and courage.

Whereas throughout history, mining products have shaped the course of civilization with the earliest known copper smelting furnace created in 6000 B.C. and Charlemagne ending the dark ages through a mining revival in 800 A.D.;

Whereas from the establishment of the United States of America, mining has contributed more to the high standard of living than any other industry because mining makes it possible for high-speed transportation, sophisticated infrastructure, amazing communication abilities, modern medicine, and consumer goods from stereos to Oreo cookies;

Whereas the nation's mining industry has an annual impact to the United States economy of \$492,000,000,000, providing jobs and income for nearly 3,000,000 Americans;

Whereas every American uses more than 47,000 pounds of mined material each year to enjoy a high quality of life;

Whereas the coal mining industry, specifically, is the leading mining industry with direct impacts on the economy of \$16,815,000,000 and indirect impacts of \$161,412,000,000;

Whereas coal generates more than half of domestic electricity, providing millions of Americans with energy for their homes and 38 percent of the world's electric power;

Whereas an average of 7,600 pounds of coal per person per year is used in the United States;

Whereas coal miners are among the most productive of all American workers producing 7 tons of coal per miner per day, which results in coal consistently being the most cost-effective choice for generating electricity in the United States;

Whereas Pennsylvania is the fourth largest coal producing State in the United States producing 76,400,000 short tons per year;

Whereas 9 Pennsylvania coal miners, Randy Fogle, Thomas Foy, Harry B Mayhugh, John Unger, John Phillippi,

Ronald Hileman, Dennis Hall, Robert Pugh, and Mark Popernack, were trapped in a coal mine, 240 feet below the surface in water that was 55 degrees Fahrenheit for 77 hours;

Whereas the Mine Safety and Health Administration, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, the Pennsylvania Bureau of Deep Mine Safety and local rescue crews worked relentlessly to save these 9 miners; and

Whereas these 9 men were safely rescued on July 27, 2002, due to outstanding rescue skills and perseverance: Now, therefore, be it

1        *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*  
2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that—

3            (1) the rescue crews should be recognized for  
4            their outstanding effort and cooperation resulting in  
5            the safe rescue of the trapped miners; and

6            (2) Randy Fogle, Thomas Foy, Harry B.  
7            Mayhugh, John Unger, John Phillippi, Ronald  
8            Hileman, Dennis Hall, Robert Pugh, and Mark  
9            Popernack, should be recognized for their stamina  
10          and steadfast courage that allowed them to per-  
11          severe in extreme conditions for 3 days and 5 hours.

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