

**Statement of Rep. Henry A. Waxman  
Menendez Substitute Amendment to  
H.R. 10, The 9/11 Recommendations Implementation Act  
October 7, 2004**

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of the substitute amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. *Menendez*).

The Republican bill is fundamentally flawed. There are 41 recommendations made by the 9/11 Commission, but the Republican bill implements only 11. Instead of implementing the 9/11 Commission recommendations, the Republican bill includes 50 extraneous provisions, many of them poison pills.

There is a better way and it is this substitute. The substitute is bipartisan. It implements all of the recommendations made by the 9/11 Commission, not just 11 of the 41 recommendations, and it includes no poison pills.

I want to point out to my colleagues, the substitute has the support of the 9/11 Commission and the family steering committee of the victims from 9/11. It has the support of Senate Republicans, Senate Democrats, House Democrats and President Bush.

As we consider this legislation, let us remember the loss of the families of the 9/11 victims. These family members have found strength through their terrible losses. We have a moral obligation to pass legislation that honors the sacrifices that they have made. That is why we need to pass the substitute.

But Members who are watching and the public who are paying attention to this issue may want to take note of the fact that when Congress voted to set up the September 11 Commission, so far all of the Republicans that have talked against the Menendez substitute, not a single one of them voted for the Commission in the first place. A number of them, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. *Hoekstra*), the gentleman from California (Mr. *Hunter*), the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. *Hyde*) voted against setting up the Commission.

Well, Congress voted to set up that Commission. They worked hard, and they unanimously recommended we adopt what is the Menendez substitute.