



H.Res. 991 – Recognizing the exceptional sacrifice of the 69th Infantry Regiment, known as the Fighting 69th, in support of the Global War on Terror

FLOOR SITUATION

H.Res. 991 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Steve Israel (D-NY) on February 14, 2008. The resolution was referred to the House Committee on Armed Services, but was not considered.

H.Res. 991 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on March 12, 2008.

SUMMARY

H.Res. 991 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- Recognizes the 69th Infantry Regiment, or the Fighting 69th, as one of the great regiments in American military history;
- Recognizes that America owes a tremendous debt for the exceptional service, patriotism, and fidelity of the soldiers of the Fighting 69th;
- Recognizes that the Fighting 69th has continually participated in the Global War on Terror since the attack on September 11, 2001; and
- Acknowledges that as the 69th Infantry Regiment deploys to Afghanistan to fight in the central front in the Global War on Terror, that the proud traditions of the regiment will be respected and that the sacrifices of one of America's most storied combat units will not go unnoticed.

BACKGROUND

The 69th Infantry Regiment was formed in 1851 as the 69th New York Militia. The "Fighting 69th" has served in four wars and nineteen campaigns including the Civil War, World War I, World War II, and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

This National Guard Unit was deployed to Iraq as "Task Force Wolfhound" and performed combat patrols in areas around Baghdad and are responsible for securing the "Route Irish," the road connecting the Green Zone in Baghdad with the airport and Camp Victory. During Operation Wolfhound, nineteen members of the Fighting 69th were killed in action and 78 were wounded.

Congress has awarded six members of this regiment with the Congressional Medal of Honor. In addition, the Fighting 69th leads the New York St. Patrick's Day Parade each year.

STAFF CONTACT

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