

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 8, 2011

Mayor Michael Bloomberg
City Hall
New York, N.Y. 10007

Dear Mayor Bloomberg,

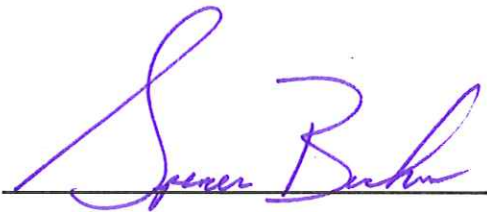
We are writing to urge you to include prayer in New York City's ceremony commemorating the tenth anniversary of the September 11th attacks. Omitting prayer from the event is inappropriate, and we ask that it be added to the program.

On September 11, 2001 and in the days that followed, prayer was an integral part of our nation's healing process. For scores of Americans, turning to God in prayer was instinctive. As people prayed that God would intervene, not only on their own behalf but also in the affairs of their fellow man, our country was united in a remarkable way. To now suggest that including prayer—that powerful uniting force—in the 9/11 commemoration would be divisive is absurd.

On August 31, 2011 Congressman Randy Forbes, Co-Chairman of the Congressional Prayer Caucus, sent a letter asking that prayer be included in the September 11th commemoration ceremony in New York City. Despite his appeal and the requests of others across the country, recent reports indicate that you have not reversed your decision.

As Members of Congress who care deeply about protecting America's right to pray and ensuring that this invaluable practice retains its pivotal place in our society, we strongly request that you add prayer to the commemoration ceremony of the tenth anniversary of the September 11th attacks. Prayer is as appropriate today as it was on that day ten years ago.


Sincerely,



Spencer Bachus



Mike McIntyre



Ronie Lehman



Scott Garrett



Chris Smith



Trent Franks

Don Latham

Jim Walkey

Sam Kincaid

Randy Neugebauer

Virginia Fox

Steve King

T. McTigue

Jan Schmidt

Steve Deen

Jay Pitts

Bill Bay

DiJach

Al J...

Vicky Hartzler

Donald Manzullo

Boyd Miller

Centler

K. Mallory

Jeff Miller

V. Colli Alini

Tom Wilson

Paul C Brown

Gregg Harper

Phil King

Michael A. Ginn

QJ KA

1. Rep. Mike McIntyre (NC-07)
2. Rep. Larry Kissell (NC-08)
3. Rep. Trent Franks (AZ-02)
4. Rep. Louie Gohmert (TX-01)
5. Rep. Randy Neugebauer (TX-19)
6. Rep. Chris Smith (NJ-04)
7. Rep. Scott Garrett (NJ-05)
8. Rep. Spencer Bachus (AL-06)
9. Rep. Gary Miller (CA-42)
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18. Rep. Tim Walberg (MI-07)
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20. Rep. Joe Pitts (PA-16)
21. Rep. Jean Schmidt (OH-02)
22. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter (MI-11)
23. Rep. Steve King (IA-05)
24. Rep. Roscoe Bartlett (MD-06)
25. Rep. Phil Gingrey (GA-11)
26. Rep. Jeff Miller (FL-01)
27. Rep. Joe Wilson (SC-02)
28. Rep. Gregg Harper (MS-03)
29. Rep. Michael Grimm (NY-13)
30. Rep. Todd Akin (MO-02)
31. Rep. Daniel Webster (FL-08)
32. Rep. Paul Broun (GA-10)