



Legislative Bulletin.....January 29, 2002

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H.Res. ____—Honoring the life of Dave Thomas and expressing the deepest condolences to his family on his death (Northup)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, January 29th, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: In honoring Dave Thomas, the resolution would state that the House of Representatives:

- “recognizes that America has lost one of its most dedicated and hardest working advocates for adoption, and honors him in his devotion to family, life, and business; and
- “expresses its deep and heartfelt condolences to the family of Dave Thomas on their loss.”

Additional Background: Dave Thomas founded *Wendy’s Old-Fashioned Hamburgers* in Columbus, Ohio, in November of 1969. Though Mr. Thomas dropped out of high school in 1948, he earned his GED certificate and received his high school diploma from a Fort Lauderdale high school in 1993.

An adopted child himself, Mr. Thomas spent decades promoting adoption and founded the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption in 1992. He donated speaking fees and profits from sales of his books to adoption causes and is credited with shaping corporate health policy so that the vast majority of Fortune 1000 companies now offer adoption benefits to their employees.

Mr. Thomas died from liver cancer at the age of 69 on January 8, 2002.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution would authorize no expenditure.

Does the Bill Create New Federal Programs or Rules?: No.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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H.Res. 335—Honoring the contributions of Catholic schools (Schaffer)

Order of Business: The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, January 29th, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: The resolution would express the House of Representatives' support for "the goals of Catholic Schools Week, an event sponsored by the National Catholic Educational Association and the United States Catholic Conference and established to recognize the vital contributions of America's thousands of Catholic elementary and secondary schools."

The resolution would also congratulate Catholic schools, students, parents, and teachers across the nation for their "ongoing contributions to education, and for the key role they play in promoting and ensuring a brighter, stronger future for this Nation."

A similar resolution honoring Catholic schools passed the House by 412-0-1 on February 6, 2001. <http://clerkweb.house.gov/cgi-bin/vote.exe?year=2001&rollnumber=10>

Additional Background: According to the resolution, the total Catholic school student enrollment for the 2000-2001 academic year was more than 2.6 million in 8,146 Catholic schools. The graduation rate of Catholic school students is 95%, and over 25% of enrollees in Catholic schools are minorities. The resolution asserts that Catholic schools save the nation (based on the average public school per pupil cost) more than \$17.2 billion a year in money that would otherwise have to be appropriated from public funds.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution would authorize no expenditure.

Does the Bill Create New Federal Programs or Rules?: No.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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