

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

# S. RES.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself and Mr. SARBANES) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on

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# RESOLUTION

Commending the bravery of the initial responders in the Baltimore Harbor water taxi accident of March 6, 2004.

Whereas on Saturday, March 6, 2004, a water taxi overturned in Baltimore Harbor during a sudden and vicious storm;

Whereas 25 passengers were thrown into the Harbor, into frigid 43 degree water, with little chance of survival;

Whereas tragically, 1 person died and 3 people are presumed to be dead;

Whereas if not for the immediate action of the initial responders, more lives would certainly have been lost;

Whereas the initial responders demonstrated extraordinary bravery in their heroic response in rescuing the passengers;

Whereas after noticing the accident, the initial responders rushed to the scene, piloting their vessel to the accident site and immediately diving into the frigid waters in their street clothes and boots to help those clinging for their lives;

Whereas the initial responders not only saved those clinging to the boat for survival but used their exceptional skills and ingenuity to elevate the capsized boat to rescue those passengers trapped beneath;

Whereas the team of initial responders worked together to pull the passengers out of the water, identify those who needed immediate medical attention, turn the Fort McHenry Drill Hall into a triage center to identify the victims who were most in need, and provide all with dry clothing and warm blankets;

Whereas it was a team effort to rescue and save those stranded in the freezing Chesapeake waters that involved rescuers in the water, on the pier, and at Fort McHenry;

Whereas we commend the courage and resolution of Maryland's outstanding initial responders whose quick reaction to this terrible accident saved lives; and

Whereas we praise these initial responders—the Navy Reservists, Coast Guard, Maritime Fire Department, Baltimore Fire Department, Bowleys Quarters Search and Rescue Team, and the emergency medical team—who worked together as a team to rescue people and save lives: Now, therefore, be it

1        *Resolved*, That the Senate—

1           (1) pays tribute to the victims of this terrible  
2           accident and expresses its condolences to their fami-  
3           lies;

4           (2) commends the initial responders in the Bal-  
5           timore water taxi accident of March 6, 2004, for  
6           their bravery, quick thinking, courage, and ingenuity  
7           in rescuing the passengers of the water taxi that  
8           capsized after a sudden and vicious storm swept over  
9           the Baltimore Harbor; and

10          (3) commends the team of initial responders for  
11          this extraordinary demonstration of their ongoing  
12          commitment and dedication to saving lives.