

1 INTERIM RESOLUTION 2011-009

2
3 OPPOSING THE STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY ISSUED BY THE
4 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND
5 BUDGET, CONCERNING H.R. 4310, THE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION
6 ACT FOR FY2013, SPECIFICALLY SECTION 552 GRANTING PURPLE HEART
7 AWARDS TO THE VICTIMS OF THE SHOOTING INCIDENTS IN LITTLE ROCK,
8 ARKANSAS, AND FORT HOOD, TEXAS, AND CALLING FOR THE SIGNING INTO
9 PUBLIC LAW SUCH LEGISLATION THAT WOULD CONFER THE PURPLE HEART
10 AWARD TO THE VICTIMS OF THESE INCIDENTS.
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12 WHEREAS, on July 28, 2011, Rep. Tim Griffin of Arkansas introduced H.R.
13 2683, the Honoring Ezeagwula and Long Act, also known as the HEAL Act, with
14 Reps. Rick Crawford, Steve Womack and Mike Ross of Arkansas as original co-
15 sponsors; and
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17 WHEREAS, on November 17, 2011, Sen. John Boozman of Arkansas introduced
18 S. 1899, the Honoring Ezeagwula and Long Act, also known as the HEAL Act,
19 with Sen. Mark Pryor of Arkansas as the original co-sponsor; and
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21 WHEREAS, Section 2 of the HEAL Act read: "For purposes of all
22 applicable Federal laws, regulations, and policies, the members of the Armed
23 Forces who were killed or wounded in the attack that occurred at a recruiting
24 station in Little Rock, Arkansas, on June 1, 2009, shall be deemed to have
25 been killed or wounded in a combat zone as the result of an act of an enemy
26 of the United States;" and
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28 WHEREAS, on June 1, 2009, Abdulhakim Mujahid Muhammad, aka Carlos Leon
29 Bledsoe, used a semi-automatic rifle to shoot two uniformed soldiers—Pvt.
30 William A. Long and Pvt. Quinton Ezeagwula—outside a Little Rock military
31 recruiting station, killing Pvt. Long; and
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33 WHEREAS, on January 10, 2010, Abdulhakim Mujahid Muhammad, aka Carlos
34 Leon Bledsoe, claimed to be a "soldier of Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula,"
35 and called the shooting a "Jihadi attack on the infidel forces," and
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1 WHEREAS, on July 25, 2011, Abdulhakim Mujahid Muhammad, aka Carlos Leon
2 Bledsoe, plead guilty to the capital murder of Pvt. William A. Long and the
3 attempted capital murder of Pvt. Quinton Ezeagwula and was sentenced in
4 Pulaski County to life in prison with no opportunity for parole; and
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6 WHEREAS, H.R. 4310, the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2013
7 was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives on March 29, 2012; and
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9 WHEREAS, H.R. 4310, the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2013
10 was reported, as amended, by the House Armed Services Committee on May 11,
11 2012; and
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13 WHEREAS, H.R. 4310, the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2013
14 was passed by the U.S. House of Representatives with a bipartisan vote of
15 299-120 on May 18, 2012; and
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17 WHEREAS, H.R. 4310, the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2013,
18 contains Section 552, entitled "Award of Purple Heart to Members of the Armed
19 Forces Who Were Victims of the Attacks at Recruiting Station in Little Rock,
20 Arkansas, and at Fort Hood, Texas;" and
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22 WHEREAS, Section 552 of H.R. 4310, the National Defense Authorization
23 Act for FY 2013, reads "The Secretary of the military department concerned
24 shall award the Purple Heart to the members of the Armed Forces who were
25 killed or wounded in the attacks that occurred at the recruiting station in
26 Little Rock, Arkansas, on June 1, 2009, and at Fort Hood, Texas, on November
27 5, 2009;" and
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29 WHEREAS, on May 15, 2012, the Executive Office of the President, Office
30 of Management and Budget issued a Statement of Administration Policy
31 concerning H.R. 4310, the National Defense Authorization Act for FY2013; and
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33 WHEREAS, in the Statement of Administration Policy concerning H.R.
34 4310, the National Defense Authorization Act for FY2013, the Executive Office
35 of the President, Office of Management and Budget, the Obama administration
36 objected to Section 552, stating "the criminal acts that occurred in Little

1 Rock were tried by the State of Arkansas as violations of the State criminal
2 code rather than as acts of terrorism; as a result, this provision could
3 create appellate issues;" and
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5 WHEREAS, on April 27, 2012, Rep. Peter King of New York introduced H.R.
6 5144, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the award
7 of the Purple Heart to members of the Armed Forces who are killed or wounded
8 in a terrorist attack perpetrated within the United States, with Reps. Tim
9 Griffin and Mike Ross of Arkansas joining 11 other representatives as
10 original co-sponsors; and
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12 WHEREAS, on May 8, 2012, Sen. Joseph Lieberman of Connecticut
13 introduced S. 2885, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide
14 for the award of the Purple Heart to members of the Armed Forces who are
15 killed or wounded in a terrorist attack perpetrated within the United States,
16 with Sens. John Boozman and Mark Pryor of Arkansas among the original co-
17 sponsors; and
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19 WHEREAS, members of the United States armed forces injured in the
20 attacks of September 11, 2001, were awarded the Purple Heart,
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23 NOW THEREFORE,

24 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE EIGHTY-EIGHTH
25 GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS--
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27 (1) disagrees with the Statement of Administration Policy issued by
28 the Executive Office of the President on May 15, 2012;
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30 (2) applauds the members of the Arkansas delegation to the United
31 States Congress for their leadership and diligent efforts to pass appropriate
32 legislation to award the Purple Heart to Pvt. Quinton Ezeagwula and the
33 family of Pvt. William A. Long as the result of an act of an enemy of the
34 United States;
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36 (3) calls on members of the Arkansas delegation to the United States

1 Congress to continue their efforts to pass appropriate legislation to award
2 the Purple Heart to Pvt. Quinton Ezeagwula and the family of Pvt. William A.
3 Long as the result of an act of an enemy of the United States;

4
5 (4) calls on the United States House of Representatives and the United
6 States Senate to pass appropriate legislation to award the Purple Heart to
7 Pvt. Quinton Ezeagwula and the family of Pvt. William A. Long as the result
8 of an act of an enemy of the United States; and

9
10 (5) calls upon the President of the United States of America to sign
11 into law such legislation that awards the Purple Heart to Pvt. Quinton
12 Ezeagwula and the family of Pvt. William A. Long as the result of an act of
13 an enemy of the United States.

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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon adoption of this resolution, a copy of this
16 resolution shall be transmitted to the President of the United States of
17 America, members of the Arkansas delegation to the United States Congress and
18 the Governor of the State of Arkansas.

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20 Respectfully submitted,

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24 Representative Terry Rice
25 District 62

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30 By: DLP/PAT
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