

Calendar No. 1324

82^d CONGRESS }
2^d Session }

SENATE

{ REPORT
No. 1389

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

APRIL 2, 1952.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. McCARRAN, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. J. Res. 382]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the resolution (H. J. Res. 382) directing the President to proclaim a suitable day each year, other than a Sunday, as a National Day of Prayer, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon, without amendment, and recommends that the resolution do pass.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the proposed legislation is to direct the President to proclaim a National Day of Prayer each year.

STATEMENT

From its beginning the United States of America has been a nation fully cognizant of the value and power of prayer. In the early days of colonization, the Pilgrims frequently engaged in prayer. When the delegates to the Constitutional Convention encountered difficulties in the writing and formation of a Constitution for this Nation, prayer was suggested and became an established practice at succeeding sessions. Today, both Houses of the Congress are opened daily with prayer.

Prayer has indeed been a vital force in the growth and development of this Nation. It would certainly be appropriate if, pursuant to this resolution and the proclamation it urges, the people of this country were to unite in a day of prayer each year, each in accordance with his own religious faith, thus reaffirming in a dramatic manner the deep religious conviction which has prevailed throughout the history of the United States.

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