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Monday, August 10, 2009

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Reps. Doris Matsui and Peter King Introduce Legislation Recognizing 9/11 As First-Ever National Day of Service and Remembrance

Bi-Partisan Legislation Will Honor September 11th By Encouraging Community Service Activities Across The Country

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Representatives Doris O. Matsui (D-CA) and Peter T. King (R-NY) announced today that they have introduced legislation in the House of Representatives that will annually recognize September 11th as a National Day of Service and Remembrance. The bi-partisan resolution calls upon all Americans to engage in community service and contribute to local projects in their neighborhood on September 11th in tribute to those who selflessly served their communities during the attacks, when strangers came together to help those in need, and to reignite the national sense of service that our country felt immediately following the horrific events of 9/11.

“On September 11th, we remember the thousands of innocent Americans who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks, and pay tribute to the brave men and women who rose to service in a heroic attempt to protect the lives of those still at risk,” said Congresswoman Matsui, a Co-Chair of the National Service Caucus. “Across the nation, thousands of first responders, rescue and recovery workers, and volunteers who helped others in their time of need, embody the spirit of service and compassion that makes our nation great. This year we will honor them not only by

remembering their heroism, but by recommitting ourselves to bettering our communities and our country.”

The Senator Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act that was passed by both Houses of Congress and signed into-law by President Obama earlier this year laid the groundwork for September 11th to become a national day not just of remembrance, but also of service. The Matsui/King resolution announced today in combination with the national activities Members of Congress are planning in coordination with the White House, the Corporation for National and Community Service, non-profit organizations and many 9/11 families, are designed to encourage Americans to take part in projects to strengthen in their communities – in every corner of every state in the country.

“For many years, Representative Doris Matsui and Representative Peter King have been two of our strongest supporters of the 9/11 National Day of Service, and without their help, vision and leadership, creating this wonderful, forward-looking legacy would not have been possible,” said David Paine, President and Founder of MyGoodDeed.org, the nonprofit group that championed the effort to establish September 11 as a National Day of Service and Remembrance initiative. “We fully support and welcome their bi-partisan call for all Americans to observe 9/11 this year by engaging in volunteerism, good deeds, and other forms of charitable service.”

“The terrorist attacks of 9/11 are some of the deadliest and most horrific events our nation has ever seen, yet in the midst of that tragedy our nation came together – stronger than ever before,” said King. “By making 9/11 a national day of service, Americans can unite as they did eight years ago in the spirit and memory of the heroes and victims lost in these tragic attacks.”

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