

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 115

Expressing the sense of Congress that the insurrection at the United States Capitol involved acts of domestic terrorism, and condemning the instigating role of the Proud Boys in these acts.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 11, 2021

Mr. ESPAILLAT (for himself and Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress that the insurrection at the United States Capitol involved acts of domestic terrorism, and condemning the instigating role of the Proud Boys in these acts.

Whereas the Proud Boys are a White supremacist, anti-immigrant, anti-LGBTQ, anti-Semitic, neofascist, misogynistic, chauvinist, extremist organization that frequently attacks and intimidates those who oppose their tenets;

Whereas leaders and members of the Proud Boys have frequently confirmed that they are an organized entity with rituals, a leadership structure, and chapters around the United States;

Whereas the Proud Boys frequently and haughtily employ violent tactics to target marginalized communities;

Whereas during the Presidential debate on September 30, 2020, when asked by moderator Chris Wallace to condemn “white supremacists and militia groups”, former President Donald Trump responded by saying that the Proud Boys organization should “stand back and stand by”;

Whereas during the insurrection at the United States Capitol on January 6, 2021, members of the Proud Boys organization openly led a preplanned, treasonous attempt to overturn the results of a legitimate, democratic Presidential election;

Whereas photographic and video evidence indicate that members of the Proud Boys, including some wearing tactical gear and earpieces, violently desecrated the Capitol and threatened the lives of Members of Congress, congressional employees, law enforcement, and innocent bystanders;

Whereas several members of the Proud Boys organization have been charged by Federal officials for their roles in the insurrection at the United States Capitol;

Whereas, as described in a Federal complaint recently filed against Proud Boys leader Dominic “Spaz” Pezzola, in the days following the attack he and “other members of the group” talked about how they would have “killed then-Vice President Pence and Speaker Nancy Pelosi if they had the chance”;

Whereas for their roles in other violent acts, members of the Proud Boys have been tried and convicted in the United States court system for “gang assaults”; and

Whereas violent political acts carried about by the Proud Boys around the country have left numerous people seriously injured, including police officers and peaceful protesters: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) determines that the Proud Boys have en-
3 gaged in acts of domestic terrorism, including at the
4 United States Capitol;

5 (2) adjudges that the insurrection at the United
6 States Capitol on January 6, 2021, involved acts of
7 domestic terrorism as the term is defined in section
8 2331(5) of title 18, United States Code;

9 (3) underscores and condemns the instigating
10 role of the Proud Boys organization in the insurrec-
11 tion;

12 (4) condemns the use of violence to advance po-
13 litical ideologies;

14 (5) condemns violent and discriminatory behav-
15 ior;

16 (6) urges the Department of Justice and State
17 and local law enforcement entities to recognize and
18 address the threat posed by the Proud Boys and
19 other individuals and organizations that espouse and
20 promote White supremacy; and

21 (7) encourages the Department of Justice and
22 State and local law enforcement entities to intensify

1 efforts to hold members of the Proud Boys legally
2 accountable for their violent actions at the United
3 States Capitol and elsewhere.

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