

114TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. RES. 568

Recognizing the invaluable contributions of the towing and recovery industry in the United States, the International Towing & Recovery Hall of Fame & Museum, towing associations around the world, and the members of those towing associations and designating the week of September 9 through 15, 2016, as “National Towing Industry Awareness Week”.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 15, 2016

Mr. CORKER (for himself, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mr. COONS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

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## RESOLUTION

Recognizing the invaluable contributions of the towing and recovery industry in the United States, the International Towing & Recovery Hall of Fame & Museum, towing associations around the world, and the members of those towing associations and designating the week of September 9 through 15, 2016, as “National Towing Industry Awareness Week”.

Whereas, in 1916, Ernest Holmes built the first twin boom wrecker in Chattanooga, Tennessee, for use in his own garage and later agreed to build and sell the units to others;

Whereas the first production wreckers were known as “680’s” because they cost \$680;

Whereas, in service to the United States, the Ernest Holmes Company supplied the W-45 military wrecker for use during World War II;

Whereas, in 1959, the Ernest Holmes Company patented its first tow sling and car dolly;

Whereas, in the early 1970's, Gerald Holmes built the first hydraulic towing equipment, an advancement in the industry;

Whereas, in 1995, the International Towing & Recovery Hall of Fame & Museum (referred to in this preamble as the "Museum") was established in Chattanooga, Tennessee, the birthplace of the tow truck;

Whereas, in 2003, the Museum, having outgrown its original home, moved to 3315 Broad Street in Chattanooga;

Whereas, in 2006, the Museum officially dedicated the Wall of the Fallen, the first monument in the industry to honor towing operators killed in the line of service;

Whereas, in the United States, there are more than 35,000 tow companies and hundreds of thousands of individuals employed in the towing industry, including tow truck operators, dispatchers, safety advisors, and owners;

Whereas more than 1 tow truck operator is killed every 6 days assisting motorists on the roadways of the United States;

Whereas tow truck operators respond to nearly 15,000,000 accidents per year across the United States;

Whereas tow truck operators are an indispensable part of keeping the United States moving by keeping the highways of the United States clear and open for travel;

Whereas most highway crashes require assistance from tow truck operators; and

Whereas the people of the United States have a duty to drive safely and be courteous toward fellow motorists on the roadways as the people of the United States work together toward the common goal of reducing fatal accidents: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2               (1) recognizes the 100th anniversary of the tow  
3       truck;

4               (2) designates the week of September 9 through  
5       15, 2016, as “National Towing Industry Awareness  
6       Week”, to be held in conjunction with the Inter-  
7       national Towing & Recovery Hall of Fame & Mu-  
8       seum Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and the  
9       Wall of the Fallen ceremony, each of which is held  
10      annually at the International Towing & Recovery  
11      Hall of Fame & Museum in Chattanooga, Tennessee;  
12      and

13              (3) encourages the people of the United  
14      States—

15                      (A) to observe the move over and slow  
16                      down laws in the United States; and

17                      (B) to join in the worthy observance of  
18                      National Towing Industry Awareness Week.

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