

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 5136, AS REPORTED  
OFFERED BY MR. MCMAHON OF NEW YORK**

Page 389, after line 7, insert the following:

1 **SEC. 1025. EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARD-**  
2 **ING THE NAMING OF A NAVAL COMBAT VES-**  
3 **SEL AFTER FATHER VINCENT CAPODANNO.**

4 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-  
5 ings:

6 (1) Father Vincent Capodanno was born on  
7 February 13, 1929, in Staten Island, New York.

8 (2) After attending Fordham University for a  
9 year, he entered the Maryknoll Missionary Seminary  
10 in upstate New York in 1949, and was ordained a  
11 Catholic priest in June 1957.

12 (3) Father Capodanno's first assignment as a  
13 missionary was working with aboriginal Taiwanese  
14 people in the mountains of Taiwan where he served  
15 in a parish and later in a school. After several years,  
16 Father Capodanno returned to the United States for  
17 leave and then was assigned to a Maryknoll school  
18 in Hong Kong.

19 (4) Father Vincent Capodanno volunteered as a  
20 Navy Chaplain and was commissioned a Lieutenant

1 in the Chaplain Corps of the United States Naval  
2 Reserve in December 28, 1965.

3 (5) Father Vincent Capodanno selflessly ex-  
4 tended his combat tour in Vietnam on the condition  
5 he was allowed to remain with the infantry.

6 (6) On September 4, 1967, during a fierce bat-  
7 tle in the Thang Binh District of the Que-Son Valley  
8 in Vietnam, Father Capodanno went among the  
9 wounded and dying, giving last rites and caring for  
10 the injured. He was killed that day while taking care  
11 of his Marines.

12 (7) On January 7, 1969, Father Vincent  
13 Capodanno was awarded the Medal of Honor post-  
14 humously for comforting the wounded and dying  
15 during the Vietnam conflict. For his dedicated serv-  
16 ice, Father Capodanno was also awarded the Bronze  
17 Star, the Purple Heart, the Presidential Unit Cita-  
18 tion, the National Defense Service Medal, the Viet-  
19 nam Service Medal, the Vietnam Gallantry Cross  
20 with Palm, and the Vietnam Campaign Medal.

21 (8) In his memory, the U.S.S. Capodanno was  
22 commissioned on September 17, 1973. It is the only  
23 Naval vessel to date to have received a Papal bless-  
24 ing by Pope John Paul II in Naples, Italy, on Sep-  
25 tember 4, 1981.

1           (9) The U.S.S. Capodanno was decommissioned  
2           on July 30, 1993.

3           (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
4           gress that the Secretary of the Navy should name a com-  
5           bat vessel of the United States Navy the “U.S.S. Father  
6           Vincent Capodanno”, in honor of Father Vincent  
7           Capodanno, a lieutenant in the Navy Chaplain Corps.

