

WASHINGTON, DC - Today, U.S. Representative Mike Quigley (D-IL) issued the following statement in support of H. Res 505, condemning the murder of Dr. George Tiller, who was killed in his Wichita church on May 31, 2009:

Dr. Tiller was 67 years old, a father, a husband and a friend, and was killed in his place of worship, a place intended for peace and refuge that in a moment became a place for violence and murder.

As stated in H.Res. 505, in the past ten years, 38 people in the United States have been killed in their place of worship with 30 more sustaining wounds in those same incidents. This violence is deplorable, and never an acceptable avenue for expressing opposing viewpoints.

I join the author of this bill, Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney, in offering my condolences to Dr. Tiller's family, and commit to the American principle that tolerance must always be superior to intolerance, and that violence is never an appropriate response to a difference in beliefs.

It's nearly impossible to find comfort after such a senseless and horrific act, and I extend my deepest condolences to the Tiller family and all those families whose lives he touched. Like many others, Dr. Tiller persevered through decades of threats and attacks, and I condemn anyone who takes action or makes statements to incite violence as an acceptable response.

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