

# VARIOUS BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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## MARKUP

BEFORE THE

### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED TENTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

ON

**H.R. 3096, H.R. 1567, H.R. 1302, H.R. 2185,  
H.R. 3062, H. Res. 32, H. Res. 34, H. Res. 238,  
H. Res. 508, H. Res. 518, H. Res. 548,  
H. Res. 557, H. Res. 564, H. Res. 575 and  
H. Res. 583**

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JULY 31, 2007

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## VARIOUS BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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TUESDAY, JULY 31, 2007

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,  
*Washington, DC.*

The committee met, pursuant to notice, at 10:05 a.m. in room 2172, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Tom Lantos (chairman of the committee) presiding.

Chairman LANTOS. Committee will come to order. Before we begin our regular work, the chairman is pleased to recognize Mr. Payne for a brief statement.

Mr. PAYNE. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I have been given to understand from staff that there are some concerns that the timing may not be right to move ahead with consideration of H.R. 2003, the Ethiopia Democracy and Accountability Act of 2007, at today's markup. As I am sure you are aware, the bill was reported out of subcommittee without objection earlier this month and currently has 83 co-sponsors. While I am disappointed that the bill will not be acted on today, I look forward to it moving in September and would quickly like to make two points. One, I am sensitive about the ongoing dialogue between the Government of Ethiopia and the opposition related to the release of political prisoners. As you know, they have been in prison for close to 2 years. And we saw the release of 38 after they signed a letter saying they were responsible for the problem, which I questioned however. My awareness of the status of the dialogue is part of the reason I delayed the introduction of the bill earlier this year and agreed to postpone markup of the bill by the full committee last month.

Secondly, I would like to point out to my colleagues that the Ethiopia Democracy and Accountability Act addresses much more than detention of political prisoners. Its purpose is not to punish the Ethiopian Government but to promote accountability for the killing of nearly 200 innocent civilians by government security forces, build institutions of democracy, provide meaningful support for human rights, provide support for the healthcare, provide support for infrastructure and water.

So this is not just about one issue. It is a benefit to Ethiopia, concluding brutal acts committed on behalf of the government against the political opposition have gone unpunished. This is deplorable. Congress cannot remain silent in the face of impunity. Regardless of whether the government actually follows through with the release of political prisoners this week, much more needs to be done in order to promote the rule of law and respect for fundamental

freedoms in Ethiopia, an ally of ours, and we can no longer continue to allow them to do what they are doing.

So, Mr. Chairman, I appreciate your co-sponsorship of the bill. I appreciate the support that you have shown for the bill as I have brought it forward. You have shown the best of intentions by scheduling a markup twice. Mr. Chairman, I look forward to seeking this legislation to be moved when we reconvene in September when hopefully the timing will not be so delicate. I appreciate your support up to this time. Thank you.

Chairman LANTOS. I want to thank my friend from New Jersey for his thoughtful and carefully crafted statement.

The chair is pleased to recognize the ranking member for a statement. You will pass? Okay.

Pursuant to notice, I call up the bill, H.R. 3096, Vietnam Human Rights Act of 2007, for purposes of markup and move its favorable recommendation to the House. Without objection, the amendment in the nature of a substitute before the members will be treated as the base text for purposes of amendment. It will be considered as read and will be open for amendment at any point.

[The information referred to follows:]

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3096

To promote freedom and democracy in Vietnam.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 19, 2007

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. WOLF, Mr. ROYCE, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. SALI, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, and Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## A BILL

To promote freedom and democracy in Vietnam.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the  
5 “Vietnam Human Rights Act of 2007”.

6 (b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for  
7 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Findings.

Sec. 3. Purpose.

TITLE I—PROHIBITION ON NONHUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO  
THE GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM

Sec. 101. Bilateral nonhumanitarian assistance.

TITLE II—ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT DEMOCRACY IN VIETNAM

Sec. 201. Assistance.

TITLE III—UNITED STATES PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

Sec. 301. Radio Free Asia transmissions to Vietnam.

Sec. 302. United States educational and cultural exchange programs with Vietnam.

TITLE IV—UNITED STATES REFUGEE POLICY

Sec. 401. Refugee resettlement for nationals of Vietnam.

TITLE V—ANNUAL REPORT ON PROGRESS TOWARD FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY IN VIETNAM

Sec. 501. Annual report.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) The relationship between the United States  
4 and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has grown  
5 substantially over the past 12 years, with annual  
6 trade between the 2 countries reaching over  
7 \$9,000,000,000 per year.

8 (2) The Government of Vietnam's transition to-  
9 ward greater economic freedom and trade has not  
10 been matched by greater political freedom and sub-  
11 stantial improvements in human rights for many Vi-  
12 etnamese.

13 (3) The United States Congress agreed to Viet-  
14 nam becoming an official member of the World  
15 Trade Organization (WTO) in 2006, amidst assur-  
16 ances that the Vietnamese Government was steadily

1 improving its human rights record and would con-  
2 tinue to do so.

3 (4) Vietnam remains a one-party state, ruled  
4 and controlled by the Communist Party of Vietnam  
5 (CPV), which continues to deny the right of citizens  
6 to change their government.

7 (5) Although in recent years the National As-  
8 sembly of Vietnam has played an increasingly active  
9 role as a forum for highlighting local concerns, cor-  
10 ruption, and inefficiency, the National Assembly re-  
11 mains subject to the direction of the CPV and the  
12 CPV maintains control over the selection of can-  
13 didates in national and local elections.

14 (6) The Government of Vietnam forbids public  
15 challenge to the legitimacy of the one-party state, re-  
16 stricts freedoms of opinion, the press, and associa-  
17 tion and tightly limits access to the Internet and  
18 telecommunication.

19 (7) Since Vietnam's accession to the WTO on  
20 January 11, 2007, the Vietnamese Government arbi-  
21 trarily arrested and imprisoned several individuals  
22 for their peaceful advocacy of democracy, including  
23 Father Nguyen Van Ly and human rights lawyers  
24 Nguyen Van Dai and Le Thi Cong Nhan.

1           (8) The Government of Vietnam continues to  
2       detain, imprison, place under house arrest, convict,  
3       or otherwise restrict persons for the peaceful expres-  
4       sion of dissenting political or religious views, includ-  
5       ing Bui Kim Thanh, Hang Tan Phat, Truong Quoc  
6       Huy, Vu Hoang Hai, Nguyen Ngoc Quang, Pham  
7       Ba Hai, Dr. Le Nguyen Sang, Huynh Nguyen Dao,  
8       Nguyen Bac Truyen, Tran Quoc Hien, Nguyen Tan  
9       Hoanh, Tran Thi Le Hang, Doan Huu Chuong,  
10      Doan Van Dien, Le Ba Triet, Nguyen Tuan, Tran  
11      Thi Thuy Trang, Nguyen Phong, Nguyen Binh  
12      Thanh, Hoang Thi Anh Dao, Le Thi Le Hang, Tran  
13      Khai Thanh Thuy, Ho Thi Bich Khuong, Hong  
14      Trung, Danh Tol, Kim Muot, Thach Thuong, Ly  
15      Suong, Ly Hoang, Nguyen Van Tho, Le Van Soc,  
16      Nguyen Van Thuy, Duong Thi Tron, and Truong  
17      Minh Duc, among others.

18           (9)(A) The Government of Vietnam continues  
19      to limit freedom of religion and restrict the oper-  
20      ation of religious organizations.

21           (B) Despite reported progress in church open-  
22      ings and legal registrations of religious venues, the  
23      Government of Vietnam has halted most positive ac-  
24      tions since the Department of State lifted the “coun-

1 try of particular concern” (CPC) designation for  
2 Vietnam in November 2006.

3 (C) Unregistered ethnic minority Protestant  
4 congregations suffer severe abuses because of actions  
5 by the Government of Vietnam, which have included  
6 forced renunciations of faith, the arrest and harass-  
7 ment of pastors, the withholding of social programs  
8 provided for the general population, confiscation and  
9 destruction of property, and subjection to severe  
10 beatings.

11 (D) The Unified Buddhist Church of Vietnam  
12 (UBCV) suffers persecutions as the Government of  
13 Vietnam continues to restrict contacts and move-  
14 ment of senior UBCV clergy, including the Most  
15 Venerable Thich Huyen Quang, and the Most Vener-  
16 able Thich Quang Do for refusing to join the state-  
17 sponsored Buddhist organizations, and the Govern-  
18 ment also continues to place leaders under “pagoda”  
19 and house arrest, destroy religious property, and  
20 harass and threaten local practicing Buddhists.

21 (E) The Government of Vietnam continues to  
22 suppress the activities of other religious adherents,  
23 including Cao Dai and Hoa Hao who lack official  
24 recognition or have chosen not to affiliate with the

1 state-sanctioned groups, including through the use  
2 of detention and imprisonment.

3 (F) During Easter weekend in April 2004,  
4 thousands of Montagnards gathered to protest their  
5 treatment by the Government of Vietnam, including  
6 the confiscation of tribal lands and ongoing restric-  
7 tions on religious activities. Credible reports indicate  
8 that the protests were met with violent response as  
9 many demonstrators were arrested, injured, went  
10 into hiding, and that others were killed. Many of  
11 these Montagnards are still serving long sentences  
12 for their involvement in peaceful demonstrations in  
13 2001 and 2004.

14 (G) Ethnic minority Hmong in the Northwest  
15 Highlands of Vietnam also suffer restrictions,  
16 abuses, and persecution by the Government of Viet-  
17 nam, and although the Government is now allowing  
18 some Hmong Protestants to organize and conduct  
19 religious activity, some government officials continue  
20 to deny or ignore additional applications for reg-  
21 istration.

22 (10) The Government of Vietnam controls all  
23 print and electronic media, including access to the  
24 Internet, jams the signals of some foreign radio sta-  
25 tions, including Radio Free Asia, and has detained

1 and imprisoned individuals who have posted or sent  
2 democracy-related materials via the Internet.

3 (11) People arrested in Vietnam because of  
4 their political or religious affiliations and activities  
5 often are not accorded due legal process as they lack  
6 full access to lawyers of their choice, may experience  
7 closed trials, have often been detained for years  
8 without trial, and have been subjected to the use of  
9 torture to admit crimes they did not commit or to  
10 falsely denounce their own leaders.

11 (12)(A) United States refugee resettlement pro-  
12 grams, including the Humanitarian Resettlement  
13 (HR) Program, the Orderly Departure Program  
14 (ODP), Resettlement Opportunities for Vietnamese  
15 Returnees (ROVR) Program, general resettlement of  
16 boat people from refugee camps throughout South-  
17 east Asia, the Amerasian Homecoming Act of 1988,  
18 and the Priority One Refugee resettlement category  
19 have helped rescue Vietnamese nationals who have  
20 suffered persecution on account of their associations  
21 with the United States as well as Vietnamese nation-  
22 als who have been persecuted because of race, reli-  
23 gion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in  
24 a particular social group.

1           (B) While previous programs have served their  
2 purposes well, a significant number of eligible refu-  
3 gees from Vietnam were unfairly denied or excluded,  
4 including Amerasians, in some cases by vindictive or  
5 corrupt Vietnamese officials who controlled access to  
6 the programs, and in others by United States per-  
7 sonnel who imposed unduly restrictive interpreta-  
8 tions of program criteria. In addition, the Govern-  
9 ment of Vietnam has denied passports to persons  
10 who the United States has found eligible for refugee  
11 admission.

12           (C) The Department of State has agreed to ex-  
13 tend the September 30, 1994, registration deadline  
14 for former United States employees, “re-education”  
15 survivors, and surviving spouses of those who did  
16 not survive “re-education” camps to sign up for  
17 United States refugee programs, as well as the Viet-  
18 namese In Country Priority One Program in Viet-  
19 nam to provide protection to victims of recent perse-  
20 cution on account of race, religion, nationality, polit-  
21 ical opinion, or membership in a particular social  
22 group.

23           (D) The former United States Immigration and  
24 Naturalization Service agreed to resume the pro-  
25 cessing of former United States employees under the

1 U11 program, which had been unilaterally sus-  
2 pended by the United States Government, as well as  
3 to review applications of Amerasians, children of  
4 American servicemen left behind in Vietnam after  
5 the war ended in April 1975, for resettlement to the  
6 United States under the Amerasian Homecoming  
7 Act of 1988.

8 (13) Congress has passed numerous resolutions  
9 condemning human rights abuses in Vietnam, indi-  
10 cating that although there has been an expansion of  
11 relations with the Government of Vietnam, it should  
12 not be construed as approval of the ongoing and se-  
13 rious violations of fundamental human rights in  
14 Vietnam.

15 (14) Enhancement of relations between the  
16 United States and Vietnam has proved an oppor-  
17 tunity for a human rights dialogue and could lead to  
18 future progress on human rights issues in Vietnam.

19 **SEC. 3. PURPOSE.**

20 The purpose of this Act is to promote the develop-  
21 ment of freedom and democracy in Vietnam.

1 **TITLE I—PROHIBITION ON NON-**  
2 **HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE**  
3 **TO THE GOVERNMENT OF**  
4 **VIETNAM**

5 **SEC. 101. BILATERAL NONHUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE.**

6 (a) ASSISTANCE.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in sub-  
8 section (b), United States nonhumanitarian assist-  
9 ance may not be provided to the Government of  
10 Vietnam—

11 (A) for fiscal year 2008 unless not later  
12 than 30 days after the date of the enactment of  
13 this Act the President determines and certifies  
14 to Congress that the requirements of subpara-  
15 graphs (A) through (D) of paragraph (2) have  
16 been met during the 12-month period ending on  
17 the date of the certification; and

18 (B) for each subsequent fiscal year unless  
19 the President determines and certifies to Con-  
20 gress in the most recent annual report sub-  
21 mitted pursuant to section 501 that the re-  
22 quirements of subparagraphs (A) through (E)  
23 of paragraph (2) have been met during the 12-  
24 month period covered by the report.

1           (2) REQUIREMENTS.—The requirements of this  
2 paragraph are that—

3           (A) the Government of Vietnam has made  
4 substantial progress toward releasing all polit-  
5 ical and religious prisoners from imprisonment,  
6 house arrest, and other forms of detention;

7           (B)(i) the Government of Vietnam has  
8 made substantial progress toward respecting  
9 the right to freedom of religion, including the  
10 right to participate in religious activities and in-  
11 stitutions without interference by or involve-  
12 ment of the Government; and

13           (ii) the Government of Vietnam has made  
14 substantial progress toward returning estates  
15 and properties confiscated from the churches;

16           (C) the Government of Vietnam has made  
17 substantial progress toward allowing Viet-  
18 nameese nationals free and open access to  
19 United States refugee programs;

20           (D) the Government of Vietnam has made  
21 substantial progress toward respecting the  
22 human rights of members of all ethnic minority  
23 groups; and

24           (E)(i) neither any official of the Govern-  
25 ment of Vietnam nor any agency or entity whol-

1 ly or partly owned by the Government of Viet-  
2 nam was complicit in a severe form of traf-  
3 ficking in persons; or

4 (ii) the Government of Vietnam took all  
5 appropriate steps to end any such complicity  
6 and hold such official, agency, or entity fully  
7 accountable for its conduct.

8 (b) EXCEPTION.—

9 (1) CONTINUATION OF ASSISTANCE IN THE NA-  
10 TIONAL INTEREST.—Notwithstanding the failure of  
11 the Government of Vietnam to meet the require-  
12 ments of subsection (a)(2), the President may waive  
13 the application of subsection (a) for any fiscal year  
14 if the President determines that the provision to the  
15 Government of Vietnam of nonhumanitarian assist-  
16 ance would promote the purpose of this Act or is  
17 otherwise in the national interest of the United  
18 States.

19 (2) EXERCISE OF WAIVER AUTHORITY.—The  
20 President may exercise the authority under para-  
21 graph (1) with respect to—

22 (A) all United States nonhumanitarian as-  
23 sistance to Vietnam; or

24 (B) one or more programs, projects, or ac-  
25 tivities of such assistance.

1 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

2 (1) SEVERE FORMS OF TRAFFICKING IN PER-  
3 SONS.—The term “severe form of trafficking in per-  
4 sons” means any activity described in section 103(8)  
5 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000  
6 (Public Law 106–386 (114 Stat. 1470); 22 U.S.C.  
7 7102(8)).

8 (2) UNITED STATES NONHUMANITARIAN AS-  
9 SISTANCE.—The term “United States nonhumani-  
10 tarian assistance” means—

11 (A) any assistance under the Foreign As-  
12 sistance Act of 1961 (including programs under  
13 title IV of chapter 2 of part I of that Act, relat-  
14 ing to the Overseas Private Investment Cor-  
15 poration), other than—

16 (i) disaster relief assistance, including  
17 any assistance under chapter 9 of part I of  
18 that Act;

19 (ii) assistance which involves the pro-  
20 vision of food (including monetization of  
21 food) or medicine; and

22 (iii) assistance for refugees; and

23 (B) sales, or financing on any terms, under  
24 the Arms Export Control Act.

1 **TITLE II—ASSISTANCE TO SUP-**  
2 **PORT DEMOCRACY IN VIET-**  
3 **NAM**

4 **SEC. 201. ASSISTANCE.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President is authorized to  
6 provide assistance, through appropriate nongovernmental  
7 organizations and the Human Rights Defenders Fund, for  
8 the support of individuals and organizations to promote  
9 internationally recognized human rights in Vietnam.

10 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
11 are authorized to be appropriated to the President to carry  
12 out subsection (a) \$2,000,000 for each of the fiscal years  
13 2008 and 2009.

14 **TITLE III—UNITED STATES**  
15 **PUBLIC DIPLOMACY**

16 **SEC. 301. RADIO FREE ASIA TRANSMISSIONS TO VIETNAM.**

17 (a) POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES.—It is the pol-  
18 icy of the United States to take such measures as are nec-  
19 essary to overcome the jamming of Radio Free Asia by  
20 the Government of Vietnam.

21 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addi-  
22 tion to such amounts as are otherwise authorized to be  
23 appropriated for the Broadcasting Board of Governors,  
24 there are authorized to be appropriated to carry out the

1 policy under subsection (a) \$9,100,000 for the fiscal year  
2 2008 and \$1,100,000 for fiscal year 2009.

3 **SEC. 302. UNITED STATES EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL**  
4 **EXCHANGE PROGRAMS WITH VIETNAM.**

5 It is the policy of the United States that programs  
6 of educational and cultural exchange with Vietnam should  
7 actively promote progress toward freedom and democracy  
8 in Vietnam by providing opportunities to Vietnamese na-  
9 tionals from a wide range of occupations and perspectives  
10 to see freedom and democracy in action and, also, by en-  
11 suring that Vietnamese nationals who have already dem-  
12 onstrated a commitment to these values are included in  
13 such programs.

14 **TITLE IV—UNITED STATES**  
15 **REFUGEE POLICY**

16 **SEC. 401. REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT FOR NATIONALS OF**  
17 **VIETNAM.**

18 (a) **POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES.**—It is the pol-  
19 icy of the United States to offer refugee resettlement to  
20 nationals of Vietnam (including members of the  
21 Montagnard ethnic minority groups) who were eligible for  
22 the Humanitarian Resettlement (HR) Program, the Or-  
23 derly Departure Program (ODP), Resettlement Opportu-  
24 nities for Vietnamese Returnees (ROVR) Program, the  
25 Amerasian Homecoming Act of 1988, or any other United

1 States refugee program and who were deemed ineligible  
2 due to administrative error or who for reasons beyond the  
3 control of such individuals (including insufficient or con-  
4 tradictory information or the inability to pay bribes de-  
5 manded by officials of the Government of Vietnam) were  
6 unable or failed to apply for such programs in compliance  
7 with deadlines imposed by the Department of State.

8 (b) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITY.—Of the amounts au-  
9 thorized to be appropriated to the Department of State  
10 for Migration and Refugee Assistance for each of the fiscal  
11 years 2008, 2009, and 2010, such sums as may be nec-  
12 essary are authorized to be made available for the protec-  
13 tion (including resettlement in appropriate cases) of Viet-  
14 namese refugees and asylum seekers, including  
15 Montagnards in Cambodia.

16 **TITLE V—ANNUAL REPORT ON**  
17 **PROGRESS TOWARD FREE-**  
18 **DOM AND DEMOCRACY IN**  
19 **VIETNAM**

20 **SEC. 501. ANNUAL REPORT.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the  
22 date of the enactment of this Act and every 12 months  
23 thereafter, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Con-  
24 gress a report on the following:

1           (1)(A) The determination and certification of  
2 the President that the requirements of subpara-  
3 graphs (A) through (E) of section 101(a)(2) have  
4 been met, if applicable.

5           (B) The determination of the President under  
6 section 101(b)(1), if applicable.

7           (2) Efforts by the United States Government to  
8 secure transmission sites for Radio Free Asia in  
9 countries in close geographical proximity to Vietnam  
10 in accordance with section 301(a).

11           (3) Efforts to ensure that programs with Viet-  
12 nam promote the policy set forth in section 302 and  
13 with section 105 of the Human Rights, Refugee, and  
14 Other Foreign Policy Provisions Act of 1996 regard-  
15 ing participation in programs of educational and cul-  
16 tural exchange.

17           (4) Steps taken to carry out the policy under  
18 section 401(a).

19           (5) Lists of persons believed to be imprisoned,  
20 detained, or placed under house arrest, tortured, or  
21 otherwise persecuted by the Government of Vietnam  
22 due to their pursuit of internationally recognized  
23 human rights. In compiling such lists, the Secretary  
24 shall exercise appropriate discretion, including con-  
25 cerns regarding the safety and security of, and ben-

1       efit to, the persons who may be included on the lists  
2       and their families. In addition, the Secretary shall  
3       include a list of such persons and their families who  
4       may qualify for protections under United States ref-  
5       ugee programs.

6               (6) A description of the development of the rule  
7       of law in Vietnam, including, but not limited to—

8                       (A) progress toward the development of in-  
9       stitutions of democratic governance;

10                      (B) processes by which statutes, regula-  
11       tions, rules, and other legal acts of the Govern-  
12       ment of Vietnam are developed and become  
13       binding within Vietnam;

14                      (C) the extent to which statutes, regula-  
15       tions, rules, administrative and judicial deci-  
16       sions, and other legal acts of the Government of  
17       Vietnam are published and are made accessible  
18       to the public;

19                      (D) the extent to which administrative and  
20       judicial decisions are supported by statements  
21       of reasons that are based upon written statutes,  
22       regulations, rules, and other legal acts of the  
23       Government of Vietnam;

24                      (E) the extent to which individuals are  
25       treated equally under the laws of Vietnam with-

1 out regard to citizenship, race, religion, political  
2 opinion, or current or former associations;

3 (F) the extent to which administrative and  
4 judicial decisions are independent of political  
5 pressure or governmental interference and are  
6 reviewed by entities of appellate jurisdiction;  
7 and

8 (G) the extent to which laws in Vietnam  
9 are written and administered in ways that are  
10 consistent with international human rights  
11 standards, including the requirements of the  
12 International Covenant on Civil and Political  
13 Rights.

14 (b) CONTACTS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS.—In  
15 preparing the report under subsection (a), the Secretary  
16 shall, as appropriate, seek out and maintain contacts with  
17 nongovernmental organizations and human rights advo-  
18 cates (including Vietnamese-Americans and human rights  
19 advocates in Vietnam), including receiving reports and up-  
20 dates from such organizations and evaluating such re-  
21 ports. The Secretary shall also seek to consult with the  
22 United States Commission on International Religious  
23 Freedom for appropriate sections of the report.

○

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
TO H.R. 3096  
OFFERED BY MR. SMITH OF NEW JERSEY**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

2 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
3 “Vietnam Human Rights Act of 2007”.

4 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for  
5 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Findings.

Sec. 3. Purpose.

TITLE I—PROHIBITION ON NONHUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO  
THE GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM

Sec. 101. Bilateral nonhumanitarian assistance.

TITLE II—ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT DEMOCRACY IN VIETNAM

Sec. 201. Assistance.

TITLE III—UNITED STATES PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

Sec. 301. Radio Free Asia transmissions to Vietnam.

Sec. 302. United States educational and cultural exchange programs with Vietnam.

TITLE IV—UNITED STATES REFUGEE POLICY

Sec. 401. Refugee resettlement for nationals of Vietnam.

TITLE V—ANNUAL REPORT ON PROGRESS TOWARD FREEDOM  
AND DEMOCRACY IN VIETNAM

Sec. 501. Annual report.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) The relationship between the United States  
4 and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has grown  
5 substantially over the past 12 years, with annual  
6 trade between the 2 countries reaching over  
7 \$9,000,000,000 per year.

8 (2) The Government of Vietnam's transition to-  
9 ward greater economic freedom and trade has not  
10 been matched by greater political freedom and sub-  
11 stantial improvements in human rights for many Vi-  
12 etnamese.

13 (3) The United States Congress agreed to Viet-  
14 nam becoming an official member of the World  
15 Trade Organization (WTO) in 2006, amidst assur-  
16 ances that the Vietnamese Government was steadily  
17 improving its human rights record and would con-  
18 tinue to do so.

19 (4) Vietnam remains a one-party state, ruled  
20 and controlled by the Communist Party of Vietnam  
21 (CPV), which continues to deny the right of citizens  
22 to change their government.

23 (5) Although in recent years the National As-  
24 sembly of Vietnam has played an increasingly active  
25 role as a forum for highlighting local concerns, cor-  
26 ruption, and inefficiency, the National Assembly re-

1 mains subject to the direction of the CPV and the  
2 CPV maintains control over the selection of can-  
3 didates in national and local elections.

4 (6) The Government of Vietnam forbids public  
5 challenge to the legitimacy of the one-party state, re-  
6 stricts freedoms of opinion, the press, and associa-  
7 tion and tightly limits access to the Internet and  
8 telecommunication.

9 (7) Since Vietnam's accession to the WTO on  
10 January 11, 2007, the Vietnamese Government arbi-  
11 trarily arrested and imprisoned several individuals  
12 for their peaceful advocacy of democracy, including  
13 Father Nguyen Van Ly and human rights lawyers  
14 Nguyen Van Dai and Le Thi Cong Nhan.

15 (8) The Government of Vietnam continues to  
16 detain, imprison, place under house arrest, convict,  
17 or otherwise restrict persons for the peaceful expres-  
18 sion of dissenting political or religious views, includ-  
19 ing Bui Kim Thanh, Hang Tan Phat, Truong Quoc  
20 Huy, Vu Hoang Hai, Nguyen Ngoc Quang, Pham  
21 Ba Hai, Dr. Le Nguyen Sang, Huynh Nguyen Dao,  
22 Nguyen Bac Truyen, Tran Quoc Hien, Nguyen Tan  
23 Hoanh, Tran Thi Le Hang, Doan Huu Chuong,  
24 Doan Van Dien, Le Ba Triet, Nguyen Tuan, Tran  
25 Thi Thuy Trang, Nguyen Phong, Nguyen Binh

1 Thanh, Hoang Thi Anh Dao, Le Thi Le Hang, Tran  
2 Khai Thanh Thuy, Ho Thi Bich Khuong, Hong  
3 Trung, Danh Tol, Kim Muot, Thach Thuong, Ly  
4 Suong, Ly Hoang, Nguyen Van Tho, Le Van Soc,  
5 Nguyen Van Thuy, Duong Thi Tron, Truong Minh  
6 Duc, and Dr. Pham Hong Son, among others.

7 (9)(A) The Government of Vietnam continues  
8 to limit freedom of religion and restrict the oper-  
9 ation of religious organizations.

10 (B) Despite reported progress in church open-  
11 ings and legal registrations of religious venues, the  
12 Government of Vietnam has halted most positive ac-  
13 tions since the Department of State lifted the “coun-  
14 try of particular concern” (CPC) designation for  
15 Vietnam in November 2006.

16 (C) Unregistered ethnic minority Protestant  
17 congregations suffer severe abuses because of actions  
18 by the Government of Vietnam, which have included  
19 forced renunciations of faith, the arrest and harass-  
20 ment of pastors, the withholding of social programs  
21 provided for the general population, confiscation and  
22 destruction of property, and subjection to severe  
23 beatings.

24 (D) The Unified Buddhist Church of Vietnam  
25 (UBCV) suffers persecutions as the Government of

1 Vietnam continues to restrict contacts and move-  
2 ment of senior UBCV clergy, including the Most  
3 Venerable Thich Huyen Quang, and the Most Vener-  
4 able Thich Quang Do for refusing to join the state-  
5 sponsored Buddhist organizations, and the Govern-  
6 ment also continues to place leaders under “pagoda”  
7 and house arrest, destroy religious property, and  
8 harass and threaten local practicing Buddhists.

9 (E) The Government of Vietnam continues to  
10 suppress the activities of other religious adherents,  
11 including Cao Dai and Hoa Hao who lack official  
12 recognition or have chosen not to affiliate with the  
13 state-sanctioned groups, including through the use  
14 of detention and imprisonment.

15 (F) During Easter weekend in April 2004,  
16 thousands of Montagnards gathered to protest their  
17 treatment by the Government of Vietnam, including  
18 the confiscation of tribal lands and ongoing restric-  
19 tions on religious activities. Credible reports indicate  
20 that the protests were met with violent response as  
21 many demonstrators were arrested, injured, went  
22 into hiding, and that others were killed. Many of  
23 these Montagnards are still serving long sentences  
24 for their involvement in peaceful demonstrations in  
25 2001 and 2004.

1           (G) Ethnic minority Hmong in the Northwest  
2 Highlands of Vietnam also suffer restrictions,  
3 abuses, and persecution by the Government of Viet-  
4 nam, and although the Government is now allowing  
5 some Hmong Protestants to organize and conduct  
6 religious activity, some government officials continue  
7 to deny or ignore additional applications for reg-  
8 istration.

9           (10) The Government of Vietnam controls all  
10 print and electronic media, including access to the  
11 Internet, jams the signals of some foreign radio sta-  
12 tions, including Radio Free Asia, and has detained  
13 and imprisoned individuals who have posted or sent  
14 democracy-related materials via the Internet.

15           (11) People arrested in Vietnam because of  
16 their political or religious affiliations and activities  
17 often are not accorded due legal process as they lack  
18 full access to lawyers of their choice, may experience  
19 closed trials, have often been detained for years  
20 without trial, and have been subjected to the use of  
21 torture to admit crimes they did not commit or to  
22 falsely denounce their own leaders.

23           (12)(A) United States refugee resettlement pro-  
24 grams, including the Humanitarian Resettlement  
25 (HR) Program, the Orderly Departure Program

1 (ODP), Resettlement Opportunities for Vietnamese  
2 Returnees (ROVR) Program, general resettlement of  
3 boat people from refugee camps throughout South-  
4 east Asia, the Amerasian Homecoming Act of 1988,  
5 and the Priority One Refugee resettlement category  
6 have helped rescue Vietnamese nationals who have  
7 suffered persecution on account of their associations  
8 with the United States as well as Vietnamese nation-  
9 als who have been persecuted because of race, reli-  
10 gion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in  
11 a particular social group.

12 (B) While previous programs have served their  
13 purposes well, a significant number of eligible refu-  
14 gees from Vietnam were unfairly denied or excluded,  
15 including Amerasians, in some cases by vindictive or  
16 corrupt Vietnamese officials who controlled access to  
17 the programs, and in others by United States per-  
18 sonnel who imposed unduly restrictive interpreta-  
19 tions of program criteria. In addition, the Govern-  
20 ment of Vietnam has denied passports to persons  
21 who the United States has found eligible for refugee  
22 admission.

23 (C) The Department of State has agreed to ex-  
24 tend the September 30, 1994, registration deadline  
25 for former United States employees, “re-education”

1 survivors, and surviving spouses of those who did  
2 not survive “re-education” camps to sign up for  
3 United States refugee programs, as well as the Viet-  
4 nameese In Country Priority One Program in Viet-  
5 nam to provide protection to victims of recent perse-  
6 cution on account of race, religion, nationality, polit-  
7 ical opinion, or membership in a particular social  
8 group.

9 (D) The former United States Immigration and  
10 Naturalization Service agreed to resume the proc-  
11 essing of former United States employees under the  
12 U11 program, which had been unilaterally sus-  
13 pended by the United States Government, as well as  
14 to review applications of Amerasians, children of  
15 American servicemen left behind in Vietnam after  
16 the war ended in April 1975, for resettlement to the  
17 United States under the Amerasian Homecoming  
18 Act of 1988.

19 (13) Congress has passed numerous resolutions  
20 condemning human rights abuses in Vietnam, indi-  
21 cating that although there has been an expansion of  
22 relations with the Government of Vietnam, it should  
23 not be construed as approval of the ongoing and se-  
24 rious violations of fundamental human rights in  
25 Vietnam.

1           (14) Enhancement of relations between the  
2           United States and Vietnam has proved an oppor-  
3           tunity for a human rights dialogue and could lead to  
4           future progress on human rights issues in Vietnam.

5 **SEC. 3. PURPOSE.**

6           The purpose of this Act is to promote the develop-  
7           ment of freedom and democracy in Vietnam.

8 **TITLE I—PROHIBITION ON NON-**  
9 **HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE**  
10 **TO THE GOVERNMENT OF**  
11 **VIETNAM**

12 **SEC. 101. BILATERAL NONHUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE.**

13           (a) ASSISTANCE.—

14           (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in sub-  
15           section (b), United States nonhumanitarian assist-  
16           ance may not be provided to the Government of  
17           Vietnam in an amount exceeding the amount so pro-  
18           vided for fiscal year 2007—

19           (A) for fiscal year 2008 unless not later  
20           than 30 days after the date of the enactment of  
21           this Act the President determines and certifies  
22           to Congress that the requirements of subpara-  
23           graphs (A) through (D) of paragraph (2) have  
24           been met during the 12-month period ending on  
25           the date of the certification; and

1 (B) for each subsequent fiscal year unless  
2 the President determines and certifies to Con-  
3 gress in the most recent annual report sub-  
4 mitted pursuant to section 501 that the re-  
5 quirements of subparagraphs (A) through (E)  
6 of paragraph (2) have been met during the 12-  
7 month period covered by the report.

8 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—The requirements of this  
9 paragraph are that—

10 (A) the Government of Vietnam has made  
11 substantial progress toward releasing all polit-  
12 ical and religious prisoners from imprisonment,  
13 house arrest, and other forms of detention;

14 (B)(i) the Government of Vietnam has  
15 made substantial progress toward respecting  
16 the right to freedom of religion, including the  
17 right to participate in religious activities and in-  
18 stitutions without interference by or involve-  
19 ment of the Government; and

20 (ii) the Government of Vietnam has made  
21 substantial progress toward returning estates  
22 and properties confiscated from the churches;

23 (C) the Government of Vietnam has made  
24 substantial progress toward allowing Viet-

1 nameese nationals free and open access to  
2 United States refugee programs;

3 (D) the Government of Vietnam has made  
4 substantial progress toward respecting the  
5 human rights of members of all ethnic minority  
6 groups; and

7 (E)(i) neither any official of the Govern-  
8 ment of Vietnam nor any agency or entity whol-  
9 ly or partly owned by the Government of Viet-  
10 nam was complicit in a severe form of traf-  
11 ficking in persons; or

12 (ii) the Government of Vietnam took all  
13 appropriate steps to end any such complicity  
14 and hold such official, agency, or entity fully  
15 accountable for its conduct.

16 (b) EXCEPTION.—

17 (1) CONTINUATION OF ASSISTANCE IN THE NA-  
18 TIONAL INTEREST.—Notwithstanding the failure of  
19 the Government of Vietnam to meet the require-  
20 ments of subsection (a)(2), the President may waive  
21 the application of subsection (a) for any fiscal year  
22 if the President determines that the provision to the  
23 Government of Vietnam of increased nonhumani-  
24 tarian assistance would promote the purpose of this

1 Act or is otherwise in the national interest of the  
2 United States.

3 (2) EXERCISE OF WAIVER AUTHORITY.—The  
4 President may exercise the authority under para-  
5 graph (1) with respect to—

6 (A) all United States nonhumanitarian as-  
7 sistance to Vietnam; or

8 (B) one or more programs, projects, or ac-  
9 tivities of such assistance.

10 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

11 (1) SEVERE FORMS OF TRAFFICKING IN PER-  
12 SONS.—The term “severe form of trafficking in per-  
13 sons” means any activity described in section 103(8)  
14 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000  
15 (Public Law 106–386 (114 Stat. 1470); 22 U.S.C.  
16 7102(8)).

17 (2) UNITED STATES NONHUMANITARIAN AS-  
18 SISTANCE.—The term “United States nonhumani-  
19 tarian assistance” means—

20 (A) any assistance under the Foreign As-  
21 sistance Act of 1961 (including programs under  
22 title IV of chapter 2 of part I of that Act, relat-  
23 ing to the Overseas Private Investment Cor-  
24 poration), other than—

1 (i) disaster relief assistance, including  
2 any assistance under chapter 9 of part I of  
3 that Act;

4 (ii) assistance which involves the pro-  
5 vision of food (including monetization of  
6 food) or medicine;

7 (iii) assistance for refugees; and

8 (iv) assistance to combat HIV/AIDS,  
9 including any assistance under section  
10 104A of that Act; and

11 (B) sales, or financing on any terms, under  
12 the Arms Export Control Act.

13 **TITLE II—ASSISTANCE TO SUP-**  
14 **PORT DEMOCRACY IN VIET-**  
15 **NAM**

16 **SEC. 201. ASSISTANCE.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President is authorized to  
18 provide assistance, through appropriate nongovernmental  
19 organizations and the Human Rights Defenders Fund, for  
20 the support of individuals and organizations to promote  
21 internationally recognized human rights in Vietnam.

22 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
23 are authorized to be appropriated to the President to carry  
24 out subsection (a) \$2,000,000 for each of the fiscal years  
25 2008 and 2009.

1           **TITLE III—UNITED STATES**  
2           **PUBLIC DIPLOMACY**

3   **SEC. 301. RADIO FREE ASIA TRANSMISSIONS TO VIETNAM.**

4           (a) **POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES.**—It is the pol-  
5   icy of the United States to take such measures as are nec-  
6   essary to overcome the jamming of Radio Free Asia by  
7   the Government of Vietnam.

8           (b) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—In addi-  
9   tion to such amounts as are otherwise authorized to be  
10  appropriated for the Broadcasting Board of Governors,  
11  there are authorized to be appropriated to carry out the  
12  policy under subsection (a) \$9,100,000 for the fiscal year  
13  2008 and \$1,100,000 for fiscal year 2009.

14   **SEC. 302. UNITED STATES EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL**  
15           **EXCHANGE PROGRAMS WITH VIETNAM.**

16           It is the policy of the United States that programs  
17  of educational and cultural exchange with Vietnam should  
18  actively promote progress toward freedom and democracy  
19  in Vietnam by providing opportunities to Vietnamese na-  
20  tionals from a wide range of occupations and perspectives  
21  to see freedom and democracy in action and, also, by en-  
22  suring that Vietnamese nationals who have already dem-  
23  onstrated a commitment to these values are included in  
24  such programs.

1           **TITLE IV—UNITED STATES**  
2                           **REFUGEE POLICY**  
3 **SEC. 401. REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT FOR NATIONALS OF**  
4                           **VIETNAM.**

5           (a) **POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES.**—It is the pol-  
6 icy of the United States to offer refugee resettlement to  
7 nationals of Vietnam (including members of the  
8 Montagnard ethnic minority groups) who were eligible for  
9 the Humanitarian Resettlement (HR) Program, the Or-  
10 derly Departure Program (ODP), Resettlement Opportu-  
11 nities for Vietnamese Returnees (ROVR) Program, the  
12 Amerasian Homecoming Act of 1988, or any other United  
13 States refugee program and who were deemed ineligible  
14 due to administrative error or who for reasons beyond the  
15 control of such individuals (including insufficient or con-  
16 tradictory information or the inability to pay bribes de-  
17 manded by officials of the Government of Vietnam) were  
18 unable or failed to apply for such programs in compliance  
19 with deadlines imposed by the Department of State.

20           (b) **AUTHORIZED ACTIVITY.**—Of the amounts au-  
21 thorized to be appropriated to the Department of State  
22 for Migration and Refugee Assistance for each of the fiscal  
23 years 2008, 2009, and 2010, such sums as may be nec-  
24 essary are authorized to be made available for the protec-  
25 tion (including resettlement in appropriate cases) of Viet-

1 nameese refugees and asylum seekers, including  
2 Montagnards in Cambodia.

3 **TITLE V—ANNUAL REPORT ON**  
4 **PROGRESS TOWARD FREE-**  
5 **DOM AND DEMOCRACY IN**  
6 **VIETNAM**

7 **SEC. 501. ANNUAL REPORT.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the  
9 date of the enactment of this Act and every 12 months  
10 thereafter, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Con-  
11 gress a report on the following:

12 (1)(A) The determination and certification of  
13 the President that the requirements of subpara-  
14 graphs (A) through (E) of section 101(a)(2) have  
15 been met, if applicable.

16 (B) The determination of the President under  
17 section 101(b)(1), if applicable.

18 (2) Efforts by the United States Government to  
19 secure transmission sites for Radio Free Asia in  
20 countries in close geographical proximity to Vietnam  
21 in accordance with section 301(a).

22 (3) Efforts to ensure that programs with Viet-  
23 nam promote the policy set forth in section 302 and  
24 with section 105 of the Human Rights, Refugee, and  
25 Other Foreign Policy Provisions Act of 1996 regard-

1 ing participation in programs of educational and cul-  
2 tural exchange.

3 (4) Steps taken to carry out the policy under  
4 section 401(a).

5 (5) Lists of persons believed to be imprisoned,  
6 detained, or placed under house arrest, tortured, or  
7 otherwise persecuted by the Government of Vietnam  
8 due to their pursuit of internationally recognized  
9 human rights. In compiling such lists, the Secretary  
10 shall exercise appropriate discretion, including con-  
11 cerns regarding the safety and security of, and ben-  
12 efit to, the persons who may be included on the lists  
13 and their families. In addition, the Secretary shall  
14 include a list of such persons and their families who  
15 may qualify for protections under United States ref-  
16 ugee programs.

17 (6) A description of the development of the rule  
18 of law in Vietnam, including, but not limited to—

19 (A) progress toward the development of in-  
20 stitutions of democratic governance;

21 (B) processes by which statutes, regula-  
22 tions, rules, and other legal acts of the Govern-  
23 ment of Vietnam are developed and become  
24 binding within Vietnam;

1           (C) the extent to which statutes, regula-  
2           tions, rules, administrative and judicial deci-  
3           sions, and other legal acts of the Government of  
4           Vietnam are published and are made accessible  
5           to the public;

6           (D) the extent to which administrative and  
7           judicial decisions are supported by statements  
8           of reasons that are based upon written statutes,  
9           regulations, rules, and other legal acts of the  
10          Government of Vietnam;

11          (E) the extent to which individuals are  
12          treated equally under the laws of Vietnam with-  
13          out regard to citizenship, race, religion, political  
14          opinion, or current or former associations;

15          (F) the extent to which administrative and  
16          judicial decisions are independent of political  
17          pressure or governmental interference and are  
18          reviewed by entities of appellate jurisdiction;  
19          and

20          (G) the extent to which laws in Vietnam  
21          are written and administered in ways that are  
22          consistent with international human rights  
23          standards, including the requirements of the  
24          International Covenant on Civil and Political  
25          Rights.

1 (b) CONTACTS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS.—In  
2 preparing the report under subsection (a), the Secretary  
3 shall, as appropriate, seek out and maintain contacts with  
4 nongovernmental organizations and human rights advo-  
5 cates (including Vietnamese-Americans and human rights  
6 advocates in Vietnam), including receiving reports and up-  
7 dates from such organizations and evaluating such re-  
8 ports. The Secretary shall also seek to consult with the  
9 United States Commission on International Religious  
10 Freedom for appropriate sections of the report.

Chairman LANTOS. I recognize the sponsor of this legislation, my friend from New Jersey, Mr. Smith, to explain the bill.

Mr. SMITH OF NEW JERSEY. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, this is the third time that this legislation will be coming before this body. Twice it has passed the House overwhelmingly only to suffer what so many of our bills suffer over on the Senate side, and that is whole neglect, indifference and outright opposition, but mostly the former prevented it from ever even getting a vote on the Senate side.

This legislation is an attempt to try to persuade our friends in Hanoi that the path of human rights abuse at least carries some penalty. This legislation would freeze at 2007 levels the non-humanitarian aid that is provided by this government, about \$8 million to \$12 million according to the most recent CRS estimate. It puts the Vietnamese on notice that we find the jamming of Radio Free Asia to be a very inhospitable and a very deleterious act on their part.

It also puts them on notice that we know that their recent crackdown which is truly a snap-back crackdown after they got WTO. After the Vietnamese Government was feted as moving in a new direction, they immediately searched out some of the best, brightest and bravest of Vietnam—men and women who had spoken out on behalf of human rights—and threw them into prison. Kangaroo trials have occurred. Father Ly, for example, got another 8 years in prison. This man with whom I met when he was under house arrest in Hue simply wants democracy.

Last year a human rights manifesto was signed by many of the leading advocates in Vietnam, including Father Ly, called Block 8406. It was the April 8, 2006, declaration. It was a lot like Vaclav Havel's Charter 77, Mr. Chairman, filled with humanitarian human rights hopes and aspirations for that country, all pegged with nonviolence, saying that everything has to be done through democratic means. And that list of those signers has become the roster used by the Vietnamese Government to crack down, to hunt and now incarcerate one political prisoner after another. It is an absolute outrage.

This legislation is modest, but it is very significant in that it is comprehensive. Again, only nonhumanitarian aid would be affected with the freeze. The HIV AIDS program and all the other programs, refugee programs, are completely held harmless, as they should be through this legislation. I yield back to the chairman.

Chairman LANTOS. I thank my friend. Anybody on the Democratic side would like to make a statement on this? If not, I will turn to Ms. Ros-Lehtinen.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Thank you so much, Mr. Chairman. I am proud to be a co-sponsor of Mr. Smith's bill. Chris has been a champion for human rights worldwide, and Vietnam is no exception. As we know, free trade does not guarantee a free society. Sadly, since we granted Vietnam permanent normal trade relations and removed it from the list of countries of particular concern for religious freedom violations, the human rights situation there has gotten worse.

During the first half of this year, we have witnessed a renewed crackdown by Hanoi with detentions, arrests and convictions of

independent religious leaders, peaceful political dissidents and internet activists. The situation of ethnic minorities in the Vietnamese highlands also remains a source of deep concern.

The bill we consider today will address these facts by tying increases in United States nonhumanitarian aid to substantial progress in the protection of human rights, authorizing \$2 million per year to promote human rights in Vietnam, authorizing \$10 million over 2 years to overcome the jamming of Radio Free Asia by the Vietnamese officials and maintaining resettlement options for eligible Vietnamese refugees, and lastly requiring reports to Congress about progress on provisions on this bill. This bill has passed in the House in similar form previously, and it deserves our support today, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman LANTOS. Thank you very much. Mr. Royce of California.

Mr. ROYCE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Human Rights Watch does some very good work, and they characterize this situation going on right now in Vietnam as in their words "one of the worst crackdowns on peaceful dissidents in 20 years." For those of us that have been over there to meet with some of the student activists, some of the religious leaders that are now serving time, the lengths of sentences here are truly draconian. The treatment is horrible.

It is also important to note that Hanoi has ratcheted up its effort to block radio broadcasts from Radio Free Asia. So this tells us I think that not only are these broadcasts having a positive effect in combating state propaganda, but Hanoi is feeling increased pressure. And I think this bill provides the means to overcome radio jamming and the funds for continued broadcasts on that front as well, so I strongly urge its passage. And thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman LANTOS. Thank you very much. Any other comment? Are there any amendments?

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Chairman? Mr. Chairman?

Chairman LANTOS. Mr. Rohrabacher.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Just to be on the record, let me note that I am very grateful to Mr. Smith for the leadership he has provided, Mr. Royce. And, of course, Mr. Chairman, you yourself have been in the forefront of the battle for human rights since the day you entered the United States Congress, if not before.

Today that issue focuses then on Vietnam. And I think Vietnam exemplifies a bigger fight that we have to fight all the time here in Congress, and that is the notion that if we simply engage with an evil government, if we simply engage with a gangster regime, especially if it is economic engagement, that that will in some way soothe the savage beast. Well, that certainly is not what is happening in Vietnam.

I do not believe it has happened in China. I think with all of the building that we have done in China, building up their economy, they have a horrible repression going on in China. And now we see the same thing happening in Vietnam. We engaged Vietnam. I mean, you go down to your store now, you will find clothing that says "Made in Vietnam." We have tried our best to make this strategy of economic engagement, we tried our best to make it real, but it does not work.

The only that is going to work in terms of making sure that tyrants around the world are more respectful of human rights is not us giving them money and making it possible for them to make a profit. What will only work is a moral outrage by the American people and other free people throughout the world, and this is an expression of that outrage. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman LANTOS. Thank you very much. I want to commend all four of my colleagues on the Republican side for their very thoughtful statements. I wish to associate myself with their statements. I want to move on with the question. Are there any amendments?

[No response.]

Chairman LANTOS. If not, the question occurs on the amendment in the nature of a substitute. All in favor will vote aye.

[Chorus of ayes.]

Chairman LANTOS. All opposed will vote no.

[No response.]

Chairman LANTOS. Further proceedings on this measure are postponed until the chair notes the presence of a reporting quorum.

Pursuant to notice, I call up the bill, H.R. 1567, Stop Tuberculosis Now Act of 2007, for purposes of markup and move its favorable recommendation to the House. Without objection, the amendment in the nature of a substitute before the members will be considered as the base text for purposes of amendment, will be considered as read and will be open for amendment at any point.

[The information referred to follows:]

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1567

To amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to provide increased assistance for the prevention, treatment, and control of tuberculosis, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 19, 2007

Mr. ENGEL (for himself, Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico, Mr. SMITH of Washington, and Mr. PAYNE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to provide increased assistance for the prevention, treatment, and control of tuberculosis, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Stop Tuberculosis  
5 (TB) Now Act of 2007”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1           (1) Tuberculosis is one of the greatest infec-  
2           tious causes of death of adults worldwide, killing 1.6  
3           million people per year—one person every 15 sec-  
4           onds.

5           (2) One-third of the world’s population is in-  
6           fected with the tuberculosis bacterium and an esti-  
7           mated 8.8 million individuals develop active tuber-  
8           culosis each year.

9           (3) Tuberculosis is the leading infectious killer  
10          among individuals who are HIV-positive due to their  
11          weakened immune systems, and it is estimated that  
12          one-third of people with HIV infection have tuber-  
13          culosis.

14          (4) Today, tuberculosis is a leading killer of  
15          women of reproductive age.

16          (5) There are 22 countries that account for 80  
17          percent of the world’s burden of tuberculosis. The  
18          People’s Republic of China and India account for 36  
19          percent of all estimated new tuberculosis cases each  
20          year.

21          (6) Driven by the HIV/AIDS pandemic, inci-  
22          dence rates of tuberculosis in Africa have more than  
23          doubled on average since 1990, making it the only  
24          region in the world in which tuberculosis rates are  
25          not currently stabilized or declining. The problem is

1 so pervasive that in August 2005, African Health  
2 Ministers and the World Health Organization  
3 (WHO) declared tuberculosis to be an emergency in  
4 Africa.

5 (7) The wide extent of drug resistance, includ-  
6 ing both multi-drug resistant tuberculosis (MDR-  
7 TB) and extensively drug resistant tuberculosis  
8 (XDR-TB), represents both a critical challenge to  
9 the global control of tuberculosis and a serious  
10 worldwide public health threat. XDR-TB, which is  
11 characterized as being MDR-TB with additional re-  
12 sistance to multiple second-line anti-tuberculosis  
13 drugs, is associated with worst treatment outcomes  
14 of any form of tuberculosis. XDR-TB is converging  
15 with the HIV epidemic, undermining gains in HIV  
16 prevention and treatment programs and requires ur-  
17 gent interventions. Drug resistance surveillance re-  
18 ports have confirmed the serious scale and spread of  
19 tuberculosis with XDR-TB strains confirmed on six  
20 continents. Demonstrating the lethality of XDR-TB,  
21 an initial outbreak in Tugela Ferry, South Africa  
22 killed 52 of 53 patients with hundreds more cases  
23 reported since. Of the world's regions, sub-Saharan  
24 Africa faces the greatest gap in capacity to prevent,  
25 find, and treat XDR-TB.

1           (8) With more than 50 percent of tuberculosis  
2 cases in the United States attributable to foreign-  
3 born individuals and with the increase in inter-  
4 national travel, commerce, and migration, elimi-  
5 nation of tuberculosis in the United States depends  
6 on efforts to control the disease in developing coun-  
7 tries. Recent research has shown that to invest in  
8 tuberculosis control abroad, where treatment and  
9 program costs are significantly cheaper than in the  
10 United States, would be a cost-effective strategy to  
11 reduce tuberculosis-related morbidity and mortality  
12 domestically.

13           (9) The threat that tuberculosis poses for  
14 Americans derives from the global spread of tuber-  
15 culosis and the emergence and spread of strains of  
16 multi-drug resistant tuberculosis and extensively  
17 drug resistant tuberculosis, which are far more  
18 deadly, and more difficult and costly to treat.

19           (10) DOTS (Directly Observed Treatment  
20 Short-course) is one of the most cost-effective health  
21 interventions available today and is a core compo-  
22 nent of the new Stop TB Strategy.

23           (11) The Stop TB Strategy, developed by the  
24 World Health Organization, builds on the success of  
25 DOTS and ongoing challenges so as to serve all

1 those in need and reach targets for prevalence, mor-  
2 tality, and incidence reduction. The Stop TB Strat-  
3 egy includes six components:

4 (A) Pursuing high-quality expansion and  
5 enhancement of DOTS coverage.

6 (B) Implementing tuberculosis and HIV  
7 collaborative activities, preventing and control-  
8 ling multi-drug resistant tuberculosis, and ad-  
9 dressing other special challenges.

10 (C) Contributing to the strengthening of  
11 health systems.

12 (D) Engaging all health care providers, in-  
13 cluding promotion of the International Stand-  
14 ards for Tuberculosis Care.

15 (E) Empowering individuals with tuber-  
16 culosis and communities.

17 (F) Enabling and promoting research to  
18 develop new diagnostics, drugs, vaccines, and  
19 program-based operational research relating to  
20 tuberculosis.

21 (12) The Global Plan to Stop TB 2006–2015:  
22 Actions for Life is a comprehensive plan developed  
23 by the Stop TB Partnership that sets out the ac-  
24 tions necessary to achieve the millennium develop-  
25 ment goal of cutting tuberculosis deaths and disease

1     burden in half by 2015 and thus eliminate tuber-  
2     culosis as a global health problem by 2050.

3           (13) While innovations such as the Global Tu-  
4     berculosis Drug Facility have enabled low-income  
5     countries to treat a standard case of tuberculosis  
6     with drugs that cost as little as \$16 for a full course  
7     of treatment, there are still millions of individuals  
8     with no access to effective treatment.

9           (14) As the global resource investment in fight-  
10    ing tuberculosis increases, partner nations and inter-  
11    national institutions must commit to a cor-  
12    responding increase in the technical and program as-  
13    sistance necessary to ensure that the most effective  
14    and efficient tuberculosis treatments are provided.

15          (15) The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuber-  
16    culosis and Malaria is an important global partner-  
17    ship established to combat these three infectious dis-  
18    eases that together kill millions of people a year. Ex-  
19    pansion of effective tuberculosis treatment programs  
20    constitutes a major component of Global Fund in-  
21    vestment, along with integrated efforts to address  
22    HIV and tuberculosis in areas of high prevalence.

23          (16) The Centers for Disease Control and Pre-  
24    vention (CDC) is actively involved with global tuber-  
25    culosis control efforts since the global tuberculosis

1 epidemic directly impacts tuberculosis in the United  
2 States, and because Congress has strongly urged the  
3 CDC each year to increase its involvement with  
4 international tuberculosis control efforts.

5 (17) The CDC is assisting countries with a high  
6 burden of tuberculosis to—

7 (A) implement the World Health Organiza-  
8 tion-recommended control strategies by improv-  
9 ing the capacity to diagnose and cure individ-  
10 uals with tuberculosis;

11 (B) improve the capacity to diagnose,  
12 treat, and prevent tuberculosis in HIV-infected  
13 individuals and individuals with multi-drug re-  
14 sistant tuberculosis and extensively drug resist-  
15 ant tuberculosis; and

16 (C) conduct programmatically-relevant  
17 clinical and operational research to identify and  
18 evaluate new diagnostics, treatment regimes,  
19 and interventions to control tuberculosis.

20 **SEC. 3. ASSISTANCE TO COMBAT TUBERCULOSIS.**

21 (a) **POLICY.**—Section 104B(b) of the Foreign Assist-  
22 ance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151b–3(b)) is amended to  
23 read as follows:

24 “(b) **POLICY.**—It is a major objective of the foreign  
25 assistance program of the United States to control tuber-

1 culosis. In all countries in which the Government of the  
2 United States has established development programs, par-  
3 ticularly in countries with the highest burden of tuber-  
4 culosis and other countries with high rates of tuberculosis,  
5 the United States Government should prioritize the  
6 achievement of the following goals by not later than De-  
7 cember 31, 2015:

8           “(1) Reduce by half the tuberculosis death and  
9           disease burden from the 1990 baseline.

10           “(2) Sustain or exceed the detection of at least  
11           70 percent of sputum smear-positive cases of tuber-  
12           culosis and the cure of at least 85 percent of those  
13           cases detected.”.

14           (b) AUTHORIZATION.—Section 104B(c) of the For-  
15 eign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151b–3(c)) is  
16 amended—

17           (1) in the heading, by striking “AUTHORIZA-  
18           TION” and inserting “ASSISTANCE REQUIRED”; and

19           (2) by striking “is authorized to” and inserting  
20           “shall”.

21           (c) PRIORITY TO STOP TB STRATEGY.—Section  
22 104B(e) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C.  
23 2151b–3(e)) is amended—

24           (1) in the heading, to read as follows: “PRI-  
25           ORITY TO STOP TB STRATEGY.—”;

1           (2) in the first sentence, by striking “In fur-  
2           nishing” and all that follows through “, including  
3           funding” and inserting the following:

4           “(1) PRIORITY.—In furnishing assistance under  
5           subsection (c), the President shall give priority to—

6           “(A) activities described in the Stop TB  
7           Strategy, including expansion and enhancement  
8           of DOTS coverage, treatment for individuals in-  
9           fected with both tuberculosis and HIV and  
10          treatment for individuals with multi-drug resist-  
11          ant tuberculosis (MDR-TB), strengthening of  
12          health systems, use of the International Stand-  
13          ards for Tuberculosis Care by all providers, em-  
14          powering individuals with tuberculosis, and ena-  
15          bling and promoting research to develop new  
16          diagnostics, drugs, and vaccines, and program-  
17          based operational research relating to tuber-  
18          culosis; and

19          “(B) funding”; and

20          (3) in the second sentence—

21          (A) by striking “In order to” and all that  
22          follows through “not less than” and inserting  
23          the following:

1           “(2) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS.—In order to  
2 meet the requirements of paragraph (1), the  
3 President—

4           “(A) shall ensure that not less than”;

5           (B) by striking “for Directly Observed  
6 Treatment Short-course (DOTS) coverage and  
7 treatment of multi-drug resistant tuberculosis  
8 using DOTS-Plus,” and inserting “to imple-  
9 ment the Stop TB Strategy; and”;

10           (C) by striking “including” and all that  
11 follows and inserting the following:

12           “(B) should ensure that not less than  
13 \$15,000,000 of the amount made available to  
14 carry out this section for a fiscal year is used  
15 to make a contribution to the Global Tuber-  
16 culosis Drug Facility.”.

17           (d) ASSISTANCE FOR WHO AND THE STOP TUBER-  
18 CULOSIS PARTNERSHIP.—Section 104B of the Foreign  
19 Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151b-3) is  
20 amended—

21           (1) by redesignating subsection (f) as sub-  
22 section (g); and

23           (2) by inserting after subsection (e) the fol-  
24 lowing new subsection:

1       “(f) ASSISTANCE FOR WHO AND THE STOP TUBER-  
2       CULOSIS PARTNERSHIP.—In carrying out this section, the  
3       President, acting through the Administrator of the United  
4       States Agency for International Development, is author-  
5       ized to provide increased resources to the World Health  
6       Organization (WHO) and the Stop Tuberculosis Partner-  
7       ship to improve the capacity of countries with high rates  
8       of tuberculosis and other affected countries to implement  
9       the Stop TB Strategy and specific strategies related to  
10      addressing extensively drug resistant tuberculosis (XDR-  
11      TB).”.

12      (e) DEFINITIONS.—Section 104B(g) of the Foreign  
13      Assistance Act of 1961, as redesignated by subsection  
14      (d)(1), is amended—

15              (1) in paragraph (1), by adding at the end be-  
16      fore the period the following: “, including low cost  
17      and effective diagnosis, treatment, and monitoring of  
18      tuberculosis, as well as a reliable drug supply, and  
19      a management strategy for public health systems,  
20      with health system strengthening, promotion of the  
21      use of the International Standards for Tuberculosis  
22      Care by all care providers, bacteriology under an ex-  
23      ternal quality assessment framework, short-course  
24      chemotherapy, and sound reporting and recording  
25      systems”; and

1           (2) by adding after paragraph (5) the following  
2 new paragraph:

3           “(6) STOP TB STRATEGY.—The term ‘Stop TB  
4 Strategy’ means the six-point strategy to reduce tu-  
5 berculosis developed by the World Health Organiza-  
6 tion. The strategy is described in the Global Plan to  
7 Stop TB 2007–2016: Actions for Life, a comprehen-  
8 sive plan developed by the Stop Tuberculosis Part-  
9 nership that sets out the actions necessary to  
10 achieve the millennium development goal of cutting  
11 tuberculosis deaths and disease burden in half by  
12 2016.”.

13          (f) ANNUAL REPORT.—Section 104A(e)(2)(C)(iii) of  
14 the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151b–  
15 2(e)(2)(C)(iii)) is amended by adding at the end before  
16 the semicolon the following: “, including the percentage  
17 of such United States foreign assistance provided for diag-  
18 nosis and treatment of individuals with tuberculosis in  
19 countries with the highest burden of tuberculosis, as deter-  
20 mined by the World Health Organization (WHO)”.

21          (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
22 are authorized to be appropriated to the President not less  
23 than \$330,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 and not less than  
24 \$450,000,000 for fiscal year 2009 to carry out section  
25 104B of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C.

1 2151b-3), as amended by subsections (a) through (e) of  
2 this section.

3 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR GLOB-**  
4 **AL TUBERCULOSIS ACTIVITIES OF THE CEN-**  
5 **TERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVEN-**  
6 **TION.**

7 For the purpose of carrying out global tuberculosis  
8 activities through the Centers for Disease Control and  
9 Prevention, there are authorized to be appropriated  
10 \$70,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 and \$100,000,000 for  
11 fiscal year 2009. Such authorization of appropriations is  
12 in addition to other authorizations of appropriations that  
13 are available for such purposes. Amounts appropriated  
14 pursuant to the authorization of appropriations under this  
15 section shall remain available until expended.

○

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
TO H.R. 1567  
OFFERED BY MR. ENGEL OF NEW YORK**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Stop Tuberculosis  
3 (TB) Now Act of 2007”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 Congress finds the following:

6 (1) Tuberculosis is one of the greatest infec-  
7 tious causes of death of adults worldwide, killing 1.6  
8 million people per year—one person every 20 sec-  
9 onds.

10 (2) One-third of the world’s population is in-  
11 fected with the tuberculosis bacterium and an esti-  
12 mated 8.8 million individuals develop active tuber-  
13 culosis each year.

14 (3) Tuberculosis is the leading infectious killer  
15 among individuals who are HIV-positive due to their  
16 weakened immune systems, and it is estimated that  
17 one-third of people with HIV infection have tuber-  
18 culosis.

1           (4) Today, tuberculosis is a leading killer of  
2 women of reproductive age.

3           (5) There are 22 countries that account for 80  
4 percent of the world's burden of tuberculosis. The  
5 People's Republic of China and India account for 36  
6 percent of all estimated new tuberculosis cases each  
7 year.

8           (6) Driven by the HIV/AIDS pandemic, inci-  
9 dence rates of tuberculosis in Africa have more than  
10 doubled on average since 1990. The problem is so  
11 pervasive that in August 2005, African Health Min-  
12 isters and the World Health Organization (WHO)  
13 declared tuberculosis to be an emergency in Africa.

14           (7) The wide extent of drug resistance, includ-  
15 ing both multi-drug resistant tuberculosis (MDR-  
16 TB) and extensively drug resistant tuberculosis  
17 (XDR-TB), represents both a critical challenge to  
18 the global control of tuberculosis and a serious  
19 worldwide public health threat. XDR-TB, which is  
20 characterized as being MDR-TB with additional re-  
21 sistance to multiple second-line anti-tuberculosis  
22 drugs, is associated with worst treatment outcomes  
23 of any form of tuberculosis. XDR-TB is converging  
24 with the HIV epidemic, undermining gains in HIV  
25 prevention and treatment programs and requires ur-

1     gent interventions. Drug resistance surveillance re-  
2     ports have confirmed the serious scale and spread of  
3     tuberculosis with XDR-TB strains confirmed on six  
4     continents. Demonstrating the lethality of XDR-TB,  
5     an initial outbreak in Tugela Ferry, South Africa, in  
6     2006 killed 52 of 53 patients with hundreds more  
7     cases reported since that time. Of the world's re-  
8     gions, sub-Saharan Africa, faces the greatest gap in  
9     capacity to prevent, find, and treat XDR-TB.

10         (8) With more than 50 percent of tuberculosis  
11     cases in the United States attributable to foreign-  
12     born individuals and with the increase in inter-  
13     national travel, commerce, and migration, elimi-  
14     nation of tuberculosis in the United States depends  
15     on efforts to control the disease in developing coun-  
16     tries. Recent research has shown that to invest in  
17     tuberculosis control abroad, where treatment and  
18     program costs are significantly cheaper than in the  
19     United States, would be a cost-effective strategy to  
20     reduce tuberculosis-related morbidity and mortality  
21     domestically.

22         (9) The threat that tuberculosis poses for  
23     Americans derives from the global spread of tuber-  
24     culosis and the emergence and spread of strains of  
25     multi-drug resistant tuberculosis and extensively

1 drug resistant tuberculosis, which are far more  
2 deadly, and more difficult and costly to treat.

3 (10) DOTS (Directly Observed Treatment  
4 Short-course) is one of the most cost-effective health  
5 interventions available today and is a core compo-  
6 nent of the new Stop TB Strategy.

7 (11) The Stop TB Strategy, developed by the  
8 World Health Organization, builds on the success of  
9 DOTS and ongoing challenges so as to serve all  
10 those in need and reach targets for prevalence, mor-  
11 tality, and incidence reduction. The Stop TB Strat-  
12 egy includes six components:

13 (A) Pursuing high-quality expansion and  
14 enhancement of DOTS coverage.

15 (B) Implementing tuberculosis and HIV  
16 collaborative activities, preventing and control-  
17 ling multi-drug resistant tuberculosis, and ad-  
18 dressing other special challenges.

19 (C) Contributing to the strengthening of  
20 health systems.

21 (D) Engaging all health care providers, in-  
22 cluding promotion of the International Stand-  
23 ards for Tuberculosis Care.

24 (E) Empowering individuals with tuber-  
25 culosis and communities.

1           (F) Enabling and promoting research to  
2           develop new diagnostics, drugs, vaccines, and  
3           program-based operational research relating to  
4           tuberculosis.

5           (12) The Global Plan to Stop TB 2006–2015:  
6           Actions for Life is a comprehensive plan developed  
7           by the Stop TB Partnership that sets out the ac-  
8           tions necessary to achieve the millennium develop-  
9           ment goal of cutting tuberculosis deaths and disease  
10          burden in half by 2015 and thus eliminate tuber-  
11          culosis as a global health problem by 2050.

12          (13) While innovations such as the Global Tu-  
13          berculosis Drug Facility have enabled low-income  
14          countries to treat a standard case of tuberculosis  
15          with drugs that cost as little as \$16 for a full course  
16          of treatment, there are still millions of individuals  
17          with no access to effective treatment.

18          (14) As the global resource investment in fight-  
19          ing tuberculosis increases, partner nations and inter-  
20          national institutions must commit to a cor-  
21          responding increase in the technical and program as-  
22          sistance necessary to ensure that the most effective  
23          and efficient tuberculosis treatments are provided.

24          (15) The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuber-  
25          culosis and Malaria is an important global partner-

1 ship established to combat these three infectious dis-  
2 eases that together kill millions of people a year. Ex-  
3 pansion of effective tuberculosis treatment programs  
4 constitutes a major component of Global Fund in-  
5 vestment, along with integrated efforts to address  
6 HIV and tuberculosis in areas of high prevalence.

7 (16) The United States Agency for Inter-  
8 national Development and the Centers for Disease  
9 Control and Prevention are actively involved with  
10 global tuberculosis control efforts. Because the glob-  
11 al tuberculosis epidemic directly impacts tuberculosis  
12 in the United States, Congress has urged the Cen-  
13 ters for Disease Control and Prevention each year to  
14 increase its involvement with international tuber-  
15 culosis control efforts.

16 (17) The United States Agency for Inter-  
17 national Development is the lead United States Gov-  
18 ernment agency for international tuberculosis ef-  
19 forts, working in close partnership with the Centers  
20 for Disease Control and Prevention and with the  
21 President's Emergency Plan for HIV/AIDS Relief.  
22 The goal of the United States Agency for Inter-  
23 national Development is to contribute to the global  
24 reduction of morbidity and mortality associated with  
25 tuberculosis by building country capacity to prevent

1 and cure tuberculosis and achieve global targets of  
2 70 percent case detection and 85 percent treatment  
3 success rates. The United States Agency for Inter-  
4 national Development provides support for tuber-  
5 culosis programs in countries that have a high bur-  
6 den of tuberculosis, a high prevalence of tuberculosis  
7 and HIV, and a high risk of MDR-TB.

8 **SEC. 3. ASSISTANCE TO COMBAT TUBERCULOSIS.**

9 (a) POLICY.—Subsection (b) of section 104B of the  
10 Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151b-3) is  
11 amended to read as follows:

12 “(b) POLICY.—It is a major objective of the foreign  
13 assistance program of the United States to control tuber-  
14 culosis. In all countries in which the Government of the  
15 United States has established development programs, par-  
16 ticularly in countries with the highest burden of tuber-  
17 culosis and other countries with high rates of tuberculosis,  
18 the United States Government should prioritize the  
19 achievement of the following goals by not later than De-  
20 cember 31, 2015:

21 “(1) Reduce by half the tuberculosis death and  
22 disease burden from the 1990 baseline.

23 “(2) Sustain or exceed the detection of at least  
24 70 percent of sputum smear-positive cases of tuber-

1       culosis and the cure of at least 85 percent of those  
2       cases detected.”.

3       (b) AUTHORIZATION.—Subsection (c) of such section  
4       is amended—

5             (1) in the heading, by striking “AUTHORIZA-  
6       TION” and inserting “ASSISTANCE REQUIRED”; and

7             (2) by striking “is authorized to” and inserting  
8       “shall”.

9       (c) PRIORITY TO STOP TB STRATEGY.—Subsection  
10       (e) of such section is amended—

11            (1) in the heading, to read as follows: “PRI-  
12       ORITY TO STOP TB STRATEGY.—”;

13            (2) in the first sentence, by striking “In fur-  
14       nishing” and all that follows through “, including  
15       funding” and inserting the following:

16            “(1) PRIORITY.—In furnishing assistance under  
17       subsection (e), the President shall give priority to—

18            “(A) activities described in the Stop TB  
19       Strategy, including expansion and enhancement  
20       of DOTS coverage, treatment for individuals in-  
21       fected with both tuberculosis and HIV and  
22       treatment for individuals with multi-drug resist-  
23       ant tuberculosis (MDR-TB), strengthening of  
24       health systems, use of the International Stand-  
25       ards for Tuberculosis Care by all providers, em-

1           powering individuals with tuberculosis, and ena-  
2           bling and promoting research to develop new  
3           diagnostics, drugs, and vaccines, and program-  
4           based operational research relating to tuber-  
5           culosis; and

6           “(B) funding”; and

7           (3) in the second sentence—

8           (A) by striking “In order to” and all that  
9           follows through “not less than” and inserting  
10          the following:

11          “(2) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS.—In order to  
12          meet the requirements of paragraph (1), the  
13          President—

14                 “(A) shall ensure that not less than”;

15                 (B) by striking “for Directly Observed  
16                 Treatment Short-course (DOTS) coverage and  
17                 treatment of multi-drug resistant tuberculosis  
18                 using DOTS-Plus,” and inserting “to imple-  
19                 ment the Stop TB Strategy; and”; and

20                 (C) by striking “including” and all that  
21                 follows and inserting the following:

22                 “(B) should ensure that not less than  
23                 \$15,000,000 of the amount made available to  
24                 carry out this section for a fiscal year is used

1 to make a contribution to the Global Tuber-  
2 culosis Drug Facility.”.

3 (d) ASSISTANCE FOR WHO AND THE STOP TUBER-  
4 CULOSIS PARTNERSHIP.—Such section is further  
5 amended—

6 (1) by redesignating subsection (f) as sub-  
7 section (g); and

8 (2) by inserting after subsection (e) the fol-  
9 lowing new subsection:

10 “(f) ASSISTANCE FOR WHO AND THE STOP TUBER-  
11 CULOSIS PARTNERSHIP.—In carrying out this section, the  
12 President, acting through the Administrator of the United  
13 States Agency for International Development, is author-  
14 ized to provide increased resources to the World Health  
15 Organization (WHO) and the Stop Tuberculosis Partner-  
16 ship to improve the capacity of countries with high rates  
17 of tuberculosis and other affected countries to implement  
18 the Stop TB Strategy and specific strategies related to  
19 addressing extensively drug resistant tuberculosis (XDR-  
20 TB).”.

21 (e) DEFINITIONS.—Subsection (g) of such section, as  
22 redesignated by subsection (d)(1), is amended—

23 (1) in paragraph (1), by adding at the end be-  
24 fore the period the following: “, including low cost  
25 and effective diagnosis and evaluation of treatment

1 regimes, vaccines, and monitoring of tuberculosis, as  
2 well as a reliable drug supply, and a management  
3 strategy for public health systems, with health sys-  
4 tem strengthening, promotion of the use of the  
5 International Standards for Tuberculosis Care by all  
6 care providers, bacteriology under an external qual-  
7 ity assessment framework, short-course chemo-  
8 therapy, and sound reporting and recording sys-  
9 tems”; and

10 (2) by adding after paragraph (5) the following  
11 new paragraph:

12 “(6) STOP TB STRATEGY.—The term ‘Stop TB  
13 Strategy’ means the six-point strategy to reduce tu-  
14 berculosis developed by the World Health Organiza-  
15 tion. The strategy is described in the Global Plan to  
16 Stop TB 2007–2016: Actions for Life, a comprehen-  
17 sive plan developed by the Stop Tuberculosis Part-  
18 nership that sets out the actions necessary to  
19 achieve the millennium development goal of cutting  
20 tuberculosis deaths and disease burden in half by  
21 2016.”.

22 (f) ANNUAL REPORT.—Clause (iii) of section  
23 104A(e)(2)(C) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22  
24 U.S.C. 2151b–2(e)(2)(C)) is amended by adding at the  
25 end before the semicolon the following: “, including the

1 percentage of such United States foreign assistance pro-  
2 vided for diagnosis and treatment of individuals with tu-  
3 berculosis in countries with the highest burden of tuber-  
4 culosis, as determined by the World Health Organization  
5 (WHO)’’.

6 (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be  
8 appropriated to the President not more than  
9 \$400,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 and not more  
10 than \$550,000,000 for fiscal year 2009 to carry out  
11 section 104B of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961  
12 (22 U.S.C. 2151b–3), as amended by subsections (a)  
13 through (e) of this section.

14 (2) FUNDING FOR CDC.—Of the amounts ap-  
15 propriated pursuant to the authorization of appro-  
16 priations under paragraph (1), not more than  
17 \$70,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 and not more than  
18 \$100,000,000 for fiscal year 2009 shall be made  
19 available for the purpose of carrying out global tu-  
20 berculosis activities through the Centers for Disease  
21 Control and Prevention.

22 (3) ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS.—Amounts appro-  
23 priated pursuant to the authorization of appropri-  
24 ations under paragraph (1) and amounts made avail-  
25 able pursuant to paragraph (2)—

1                   (A) are in addition amounts otherwise  
2                   made available for such purposes; and  
3                   (B) are authorized to remain available  
4                   until expended.

Chairman LANTOS. I now yield to my friend from New York, the distinguished chairman of the Subcommittee for the Western Hemisphere, Mr. Engel, the sponsor of this important legislation, to explain his bill.

Mr. ENGEL. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for your support and hard work on this as well. I want to thank you for your leadership and commitment to further understanding and helping fight our global tuberculosis problem.

I strongly believe that the global community with the United States in the lead must do more to adequately address tuberculosis by investing in quality TB control programs using the groundbreaking Global Plan to Stop TB as a guide. The Stop TB Now Act which I introduced with my colleagues, Adam Smith and Heather Wilson, enjoys the support of 95 bipartisan co-sponsors, including 25 bipartisan members of our Foreign Affairs Committee. This has been embraced and supported by leading public health groups as well.

The policies and the funding authorized in the Stop TB Now Act of 2007 would bring the United States more closely in line with the priorities and resource needs laid out in the Global Plan to Stop TB.

The Global Plan is a 10-year comprehensive, costed-out business plan for responding to a TB pandemic launched at the World Economic Forum in 2006. This business plan was drawn up by the Stop TB Partnership, with input from hundreds of partners, including the U.S. Government. USAID is currently the chair of the Stop TB partnership's coordinating board, and President Bush endorsed the Global Plan in the 2006 G8 Summit.

TB is unique among killer diseases in having a detailed business plan. Its targets and costs were derived by looking at what is already being done, programs being implemented and resources being invested in what can be accomplished at the country level. Countries with a high TB burden are expected to contribute roughly half the resources to scale up the fight against TB and accomplish this plan and are already doing so. Affected countries currently provide about three-quarters of TB control resources.

Mr. Chairman, last year saw the first reports of extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis, or XDR-TB. XDR-TB is a deadly strain resistant to most available TB drugs, is highly fatal and spreads through the air like regular tuberculosis. It was first reported in a rural hospital in South Africa after killing 52 or 53 patients infected and has since been confirmed in 37 countries, including the United States, Canada, Mexico and the entire roster of G8 member states.

XDR-TB is a global health emergency. Last month the World Health Organization released a Global Response Plan to XDR-TB and other drug-resistant TB strains, which caused our needed activities to aggressively diagnose and treat drug-resistant tuberculosis and to implement infection control laboratory activities to track and prevent its spread.

Addressing TB globally is not only the right thing to do, it is the smart thing to do. TB is a serious threat to our health and security here in the United States, and we will not control TB here unless we help tackle it in the most affected countries. The resources this

bill authorizes will expand and strengthen basic TB programs, ensure drug supplies, strengthen labs and prevent and treat drug-resistant TB. We would see tangible returns. Perhaps most importantly, we will help to prevent the further emergence and spread of highly fatal drug-resistant strains.

The Global Plan projects that worldwide TB deaths and disease can be cut in half by 2015, at a total cost of \$56 billion. To be clear, this funding figure is a total over 10 years and covers programs worldwide with both developing and donor governments contributing. The annual cost to implement the Global Plan in developing countries plus the cost of addressing XDR-TB via the XDR response plan in the worst-affected countries is estimated to be \$5.2 billion in 2008 and \$5.6 billion in 2009.

The global affected countries themselves would be expected to provide at least half the total funding and the U.S. to do its fair share of the remainder, about one-third. The funding levels authorized in the bill would bring the U.S. in line with its share of the annual funding needs over 2 years, already taking into account other sources of needed funding provided via the Global Plan.

Chairman LANTOS. The gentleman's time has expired.

Mr. ENGEL. If I may just summarize, Mr. Chairman, we have provided lots of money to fight AIDS and only TB has been left behind. It is the greatest curable infectious killer on the planet, and that is why this bill is so important. I thank you.

Chairman LANTOS. Thank you. I now turn to the distinguished ranking member for any comments she may have.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Thank you so much, Mr. Chairman. Last month I joined my colleague on this committee, Congressman Payne, in sponsoring an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2008 Foreign Ops bill when it was considered by the floor of the House. That amendment, which was adopted by the House, increased the levels of funding for the anti-TB programs in that bill by \$50 million. Such funds are sorely needed for efforts to address a problem that is serious in its nature and scope.

But I would like to point out to all members, especially on our side of the aisle, that the bill before us would increase foreign aid for the United States Centers for Disease Control by a factor of 50 in just 2 years. The bill's funding that is channeled through USAID for anti-TB efforts under this bill would increase five times in 2 years.

The bill also appears to direct an undetermined amount to the Stop TB Partnership, which is composed of representatives of international organizations, countries suffering from high incidence of TB, donors from the public and private sectors and government and nongovernmental organizations as well as individuals, all having expressed an interest in working to eradicate TB.

Much responsibility lies on this multilateral group if the United States and other donors are to continue to support its efforts. We must have full transparency in planning, procurement and implementation. We must have the results that are required by the serious nature of the threat of TB within the 2-year timeframe laid out by the bill and its associated plan.

I will support the bill before us today, Mr. Chairman, as I did the Payne amendment on the floor, because I believe that the

spread of TB is indeed a serious one. But I would like to note, however, that some of our members remain greatly concerned about the very large increases in funds authorized by the bill if enacted as well as the ways that the funds would be directed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman LANTOS. I want to thank my friend from Florida. Are there any amendments?

Mr. SMITH OF WASHINGTON. Mr. Chairman?

Chairman LANTOS. Mr. Smith.

Mr. SMITH OF WASHINGTON. I do not have an amendment, Mr. Chairman. I wanted to make a comment on the bill. Just quickly, I want to thank Mr. Engel for his leadership. This is something that I have worked on. I worked on it with Sherrod Brown before he went to the Senate as well. I think this is a critical issue and something that the United States can do to help the rest of the world in a way that will improve our image and our relationships on a very, very critical issue.

I just wanted to acknowledge that, and I wanted to thank the chairman also for his leadership on this. I look forward to working with all members on both sides of the aisle to go from here and get this into law. I think it is a very critical issue, and I appreciate us taking it up today. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman LANTOS. I thank my friend.

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Chairman?

Chairman LANTOS. Mr. Manzullo.

Mr. MANZULLO. I have a question. I guess this would be addressed to Mr. Engel. How did you come up with the figures where it says no less than \$330 million in 2008 and not less than \$450 in 2009? I mean, did you talk to CDC to see how much money they actually needed? Where did these figures come from?

Mr. ENGEL. Yes. If the gentleman would yield to me.

Mr. MANZULLO. Of course.

Mr. ENGEL. We made a significant adjustment to the amendment in the nature of a substitute which the chairman raised regarding the authorization of funding for the bill. Before it said we would authorize no less, and the words "no less" were in there, than the designated amount which is a floor. And now on page 12, we have changed it to read that "no more than the designated amount can be authorized," giving the administration and appropriators more clear flexibility in what they choose to fund the bill at. So we have adjusted that to address the concerns.

Mr. MANZULLO. I guess my question is, does CDC need more than \$70 million? Sometimes we pass these programs thinking that by spending more money we are going to eradicate a disease when in fact they may get creative in trying to find ways to spend this money, such as giving it to nongovernmental organizations that waste it on picnics and things like that.

Mr. ENGEL. Let me just say if I might in talking to the CDC and the various people that are involved with it, this is the funding level that they came up with. We have put forward lots of money to fight AIDS and also malaria, and tuberculosis, as I mentioned in my statement, is the last really big illness left behind. We did not pull these figures out of the air. This is what they told us they needed.

Mr. MANZULLO. This is what CDC said that they needed?

Mr. ENGEL. Yes. And also speaking with global stakeholders.

Chairman LANTOS. Mr. Payne.

Mr. PAYNE. Thank you very much. Let me commend Mr. Engel on this legislation of which I am a co-sponsor. As it was indicated by our ranking member, she supported the amendment that we brought forth on the floor of the House. Actually the amendment was originally asking for \$100 million, but in negotiations, we did reduce it to \$50 million to deal with the MDR-TB, the multiple drug-resistant TB, and also there is the XDR-TB, which is the extremely drug-resistant TB.

I think that the gentleman, Mr. Manzullo, was talking about NGOs and picnics.

Mr. MANZULLO. It is Manzullo.

Mr. PAYNE. Thank you.

Okay. I always wondered what it was. And so I want you to know that this has been going on for some time. As a matter of fact, the United States' contribution to the Global TB Fund is even less than what is being requested by the body. In Africa, as Mr. Engel mentioned, in a hospital, 55 cases were diagnosed. Fifty-three people died within 3 weeks. And that is over there.

So you say, well, what does that have to do with us? Well, we found out that a fellow from the United States took a trip to Europe you remember and stopped up in Canada and came back down to Georgia somewhere, and he had it. So what does it mean to us? It means that if we allow this MDR- and XDR-TB to continue, it is going to be in the neighborhoods all around us.

Mr. MANZULLO. Would the gentleman—

Mr. PAYNE. Sure. Real quick.

Mr. MANZULLO. I think you may have answered my question. My understanding is that CDC now gets about \$2 million a year on tuberculosis, and what this does is this establishes a ceiling, not a floor, so it is subject to appropriation into the budget request. So I would be glad to support the bill. That answers my question. Thank you.

Mr. PAYNE. Okay. Let me just conclude by saying that in all of Africa, there are only five labs that can detect TB in sub-Saharan Africa, three of which are in South Africa. So one of the goals is to try to have detection, attempt to have programs to eliminate TB, which is on the rise. Fifty-three out of 55 people with the disease died, so it is deadly. So, once again, I commend Mr. Engel and our ranking member for the support that we have done on tuberculosis. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman LANTOS. Thank you. The question occurs on the amendment in the nature of a substitute. All in favor will vote aye.

[Chorus of ayes.]

Chairman LANTOS. All opposed will vote no.

[No response.]

Chairman LANTOS. The ayes have it, and the amendment is agreed to.

I note the presence of a reporting quorum. Question occurs on the motion to report the bill favorably as amended. All in favor say aye.

[Chorus of ayes.]

Chairman LANTOS. All opposed say no.

[No response.]

Chairman LANTOS. The ayes have it. The motion to report favorably is adopted. Without objection, it will be reported a single amendment in the nature of a substitute incorporating the amendments adopted by the committee, and the staff is directed to make any technical and conforming amendments.

The committee will now resume proceedings on H.R. 3096, the Vietnam Human Rights Act of 2007. The question occurs on the motion to report the bill favorably as amended. All in favor say aye.

[Chorus of ayes.]

Chairman LANTOS. All opposed say no.

[No response.]

Chairman LANTOS. The ayes have it. The motion to report favorably is adopted. Without objection, the bill will be reported as a single amendment in the nature of a substitute incorporating the amendments adopted by the committee, and the staff is directed to make any technical and conforming amendments.

We have a series of noncontroversial bills on the agenda. It is the intention of the chair to consider these measures en bloc and by unanimous consent authorize the chair to seek consideration of the bills under suspension of the rules.

All members are given leave to insert remarks on the measures into the record should they choose to do so. I am please to turn to my distinguished ranking member.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Thank you so much, Mr. Chairman. I fully support the measures included in the unanimous consent request. I would like to speak briefly on two of them.

H. Res. 548: I would like to thank my good friend and colleague, Chairman Ackerman, for his hard work on this measure, and especially you, Chairman Lantos, for bringing this important resolution before our committee today. The murderous lengths to which the Syrian regime will go to deprive Lebanon of its independence know few bounds. It illustrates the critical nature as encapsulated in the resolution before us of defending the Lebanese people in their quest to have true sovereignty and independence.

However, the references in this resolution to the current Government of Lebanon as "legitimate and democratically elected" raise a number of concerns for me that it inadvertently legitimizes not only the Syrian-inspired electoral law under which the elections for the current government were held but also that it would be viewed as tacit acceptance of Hezbollah's participation in that election and subsequently in that government without laying down its arms and without denouncing terrorism as their legitimate instrument.

We sought to find ways to redraft those sections to recognize Lebanon as an emerging or incipient democracy while simultaneously addressing the concerns that I raised about that language. While we did not reach an agreement with Mr. Ackerman or Chairman Lantos prior to today's markup, it is my hope that we can continue to work on addressing those issues.

Lastly, turning to House Resolution 557, I would like to thank my friend, Congressman John Campbell, and his Democratic co-author, Mr. Berman, for this resolution which strongly condemns the

United Nations Human Rights Council for ignoring severe human rights abuses while unfairly targeting the democratic State of Israel.

The United Nations Human Rights Council is a travesty. Last month the Council celebrated its first birthday by giving gifts to repressive dictators and Islamic radicals. It halted unfinished investigations into human rights conditions in Cuba and Belarus and created a permanent agenda item relating to Israel, the only country singled out for such scrutiny.

The Council's embarrassing performance should come as no surprise. There are no criteria for membership. Gross human rights violators can easily serve on the Council. First it was an awful Human Rights Commission. Now it is an atrocious Human Rights Council. The Council's structure and work are hopelessly compromised by political manipulation.

So far the only country singled out for actual condemnation has been the democratic State of Israel, which was the subject of three special sessions and 75 percent of all Council resolutions and decisions expressing concern about human rights conditions. In stark contrast, the Council has failed to condemn the genocide in Darfur, the sprawling gulag in North Korea, the political and human rights abuses in China, the bloody repression in Burma and Zimbabwe and many other grave abuses.

I am pleased that last month the House adopted an amendment I proposed to the State Foreign Ops bill which prohibited United States funding for the Council. Given the strong bipartisan support for that amendment, I had hoped that the majority would agree to include in today's revised text a nonbinding expression of disapproval for U.S. funding for the Council which the House has already voted to prohibit. I do not think any member really wants American taxpayer money to pay for the poisonous antics of the U.N. Human Rights Council. And while we did not come to an agreement for today's markup, Mr. Chairman, I know that you will continue to work with us, and you have been a strong leader on behalf of U.N. reform, and I look forward to working with you toward that goal. This is an important resolution I am proud to co-sponsor, and I urge strong unanimous support for its adoption. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman LANTOS. I thank my colleague. Mr. Smith.

Mr. SMITH OF WASHINGTON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to thank you for including in this mark the Global Poverty Act, H.R. 1302, something I have worked on for a long time, a couple of years now and introduced, and it is exciting that it is getting moved past this process. I appreciate your help. I also appreciate the support of the ranking member, Ms. Ros-Lehtinen, who I have had a couple conversations with about this issue and her support.

The basic goal of this legislation is to make it the announced policy of the U.S. to work to reduce global poverty and to put in place a plan for doing that. This came about from my work with a lot of NGOs that are focusing on many different aspects of global poverty, trying to reduce it. We have come up with a lot of very good goals.

At the G8 Summit, the Millennium Development goals that basically set very high marks. We get a lot of commitments from a lot

of people. Everybody goes home and we look up a few years later and we see that we have not actually made that much progress. The goals and the dates pass and we do not get there. I think we do not get there is not enough follow-up and there is not enough specifics about doing what is needed to get there.

And when it comes to the many global goals we have, certainly human rights is right at the top of list, but I think global poverty belongs there as well. There are 2.7 billion people living on less than \$2 a day in the world right now. While it is immoral to begin with, it is also an invitation to instability. That is the bad news.

The good news is there are a lot of very positive things being done right now to reduce that. I want to compliment the Bush administration for the Millennium Challenge Accounts and for PEPFAR, their commitment to AIDS reduction in Africa. There are a number of NGOs that also have stepped up, the global effort to combat AIDS, which certainly contributes to poverty and other global health issues like tuberculosis. There are a lot of microcredit programs being done by a large number of NGOs and in some cases just private businesses and private citizens who are deciding to go out into parts of the world that need help and help them.

What we need is we need for those efforts to be coordinated so that the resources are best used. There is an ample supply of resources now. Let us use them as wisely as possible so that we can learn what is working, what is not working. Not everything that we have done in terms of combating global poverty has been as successful as everything else. Let us learn from that process and put together a plan. And most importantly, let us have the United States of America leading on the issue, showing the rest of the world that we are concerned about the very real challenges that they face. We recognize our unique ability to help with those, and we are going to step up and get it done and do our part to help reach those Millennium Development goals that were set to cut in half global poverty by 2015. We will step up and be a leader in making sure that that happens.

I think this bill is incredibly important for all of our foreign policy needs, and I just want to thank all of the members who have co-sponsored and helped make this happen and urge the committee to support it. I thank the chairman for the time.

Chairman LANTOS. I want to thank my friend from Washington. The gentleman from California, Mr. Rohrabacher.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. In this en bloc amendment is included H. Res. 508 by Mr. Saxton and I am a co-sponsor of that legislation. This bill underscores the positive things that we have to be grateful for in terms of our relationship with Japan. We rightfully acknowledge some of Japan's mistakes made during the Second World War.

This piece of legislation was included to make sure that the Japanese people and the Japanese Government know that we certainly while acknowledging mistakes back in World War II certainly want them to understand that we appreciate the wonderful things that Japan has been doing in the last few decades, especially as America's great friend and ally during the Cold War. Japan stood with us perhaps more consistently than many of our other allies did.

Now, during the war with radical Islam, they are again standing with us.

Now, because they have a constitutional provision and limitations in terms of the military, that has not prevented them from being very, very generous and very much a part of the American team that has tried to create stability in the world and promote human rights and democracy. In fact, their country is a shining example of a country that went from tyranny to democratic government and of course a country that exemplifies the respect for human rights in their own society.

So this bill by Mr. Saxton which is included in our en bloc simply lets the Japanese people know and the Japanese Government know that we appreciate them as friends and allies. It comes at a very opportune moment because as we know, the ruling party in Japan just lost an election for their upper House. Well, when you lose an election, that is just a reconfirmation that you really have a democratic government. It is those countries where the ruling party never loses elections that you have to worry about.

So we are including that in this en bloc amendment, and I think it is an important statement for us to make considering that we did also criticize Japan for very past mistakes recently. So thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman LANTOS. I want to thank my friend for his comments, and I presume this implies that last November the ruling party was rejoicing in the victory of the nonruling party at the election. [Laughter.]

Mr. Engel.

Mr. ENGEL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I support all the resolutions, but I just want to highlight two. One is mine, H. Res. 564, which I have introduced with my ranking member, Mr. Burton, talking about the serious and growing problem of violence in Central America. The February murders of three El Salvadoran legislators from the Central American Parliament and the subsequent shocking murder in prison of a Guatemalan policeman linked to the crime illustrate the very real, daily threat posed by violence in Central America.

Much of the violence in this region is closely related to drug trafficking. A report released by the U.N. in May argues that Central American countries are particularly vulnerable to violent crimes fueled by drug trafficking because they are geographically located between South America and the United States, in other words, between the world's largest drug-producing and drug-consuming countries. In fact, 90 percent of the cocaine shipped from the Andean region to the United States flows through Central America, and this clearly plays a major role in triggering violence in the region.

If drugs are the primary factor in this scourge of violence, youth gangs are a close second. There are estimated to be about 70,000 youth gang members in Central America. Many of these gangs unfortunately have ties to the United States and pose a threat to security in our own communities here in the U.S.

We cannot also forget about violence in the home. Violence between partners, particularly violence by men against their wives or girlfriends, is widespread in Central America. An International Violence against Women survey comparing selected countries in Afri-

ca, Latin America, Europe and Asia found that a shocking 60 percent of women in Costa Rica, often considered the least violent country in Central America, reported having experienced violence in their lives. We are beginning to address this crisis. United States and Central American officials have started to work together to combat violence in Central America, but much more needs to be done. This July high-level local officials from the United States and all seven Central American countries met to discuss security in the region, particularly addressing these problems of gangs, drug trafficking and arms trafficking. I encourage Central American countries to go beyond a simple police-based approach and address the social roots of violent crime as well.

So, with the passage of this important measure today, the United States Congress will recognize that violence poses an increasingly serious threat to peace and stability in Central America. It encourages Central American and United States officials to meet on a regular basis to further cooperation in curbing violence in the region.

Let me say in conclusion that our friends in Central America are great and close allies, and we should do everything we can to help bring stability to their societies. This recognizes the U.S. commitment of \$4 million to tackle this problem as a welcome start but importantly notes that greater resources should be considered in the future to fight this problem. So I urge all our colleagues to support this resolution.

The other one I want to highlight—

Chairman LANTOS. The gentleman's time has expired.

Mr. ENGEL. All right. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman LANTOS. Ms. Sheila Jackson Lee.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I would like to speak to H. Res. 32, which is denouncing the practices of female genital mutilation, domestic violence, honor killings, acid burning, dowry deaths and other gender-based persecutions, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the participation, protection, recognition and independence of women is crucial to achieving a just and moral and honorable society.

Let me say that these honor killings and the debasing of women is occurring in nations around the world and should comport with our view of human rights and they should be viewed as severe human rights violations against women and girls who are in essence without power.

These violations take place throughout the world on six continents, and the statistics are shocking. In North Africa, 6,000 women are genitally mutilated each day. Over 7,000 women in India are killed by their families and in-laws in disputes over dowries. More than 15,000 women will be held as sexual slaves in China this year. Two hundred women in Bangladesh are horribly disfigured when their spurned husbands or suitors burn them with acid each year according to former Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

The 2002 Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe estimates that the leading cause of death worldwide among women ages 14 to 44 is the violence they are subjected to in their own homes. In the Russian Federation alone, every day 36,000 women are beaten by their husbands or partners. Even here in the United

States, a woman is raped every 6 minutes and a woman is battered every 15 seconds.

These actions, Mr. Chairman, are contrary to international law. I would ask my colleagues to support this as a strong statement not only of this committee but the United States Congress. This is of course compounded by the fact that nearly 70 percent of those living in abject poverty are women according to the United Nations statistics. And while women perform two-thirds of the world's work, they earn less than 5 percent. I believe this statement can further democracy, further human rights, and I would ask my colleagues to support H. Res. 32.

I would like to continue to briefly comment on H. Res 34, and that is the honoring of Bishop Desmond Tutu, the South African Archbishop of Cape Town, recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize. I am very pleased to have worked with the committee on this legislation. Might I add, let me thank the staff of the committee for working with me on H. Res. 32 as well. I want to thank the staff enthusiastically for both efforts.

Mr. Chairman, Archbishop Tutu once stated, "I am not interested in picking up crumbs of compassion thrown from the table of someone who considers himself my master. I want the full menu of rights." He is a man of immense courage and vision. He has long served as the moral voice of oppressed populations. No one who has ever met, spoken to or worked with Archbishop Tutu is the same afterwards.

He continues to be a tireless advocate of ending discrimination. He has served in many capacities, the first Black African Dean of St. Mary's Cathedral in Johannesburg. He is best known for his courageous opposition to the internationally condemned apartheid regime that persisted in his homeland until democratic elections were finally held in 1994.

As I indicated, he was a Nobel Peace Prize winner in 1984 in recognition of his courage, heroism and peaceful methods. The Nobel Committee called him "a unifying leader figure in the campaign to resolve the problem of apartheid in South Africa." They went on to state, "The means by which this campaign is conducted is of vital importance for the whole of the continent of Africa and for the cause of peace in the world."

I hope that my colleagues will support this unique and singular man of peace who continues even to this day after fighting prostate cancer to strongly stand for his beliefs and continue to heal the world, not just South Africa, and his efforts to bring about peace around the world will continue the reconciliation in South Africa. With that, again I would ask my colleagues to support H. Res. 34, H. Res. 32, and I am happy to yield back my time.

Chairman LANTOS. I want to thank all of my colleagues for their work on these very important items. Without objection, the chairman is authorized to seek consideration of the following bills under suspension of the rules and the amendments to those measures which the members have before them shall be deemed as adopted: H.R. 1302, the Global Poverty Act of 2007; H.R. 2185 to amend the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 to expand its authorities to coral reefs, to reauthorize such Act through fiscal year 2010; H.R. 3062, the South Pacific Economic Educational and Develop-

ment Act of 2007; H. Res. 32, denouncing the practice of female genital mutilation, domestic violence, honor killings and other gender-based persecutions and expressing the sense of the House that participation, protection, recognition and independence of women is crucial to achieving a just, moral and honorable society; H. Res 34, recognizing the 75th birthday of our friend, Desmond Tutu; H. Res 238, commending the first democratic elections in Aceh, the northern province in Sumatra, Indonesia, and expressing support for further democratic development there; H. Res. 508, recognizing the strong security alliance between the Government of Japan and the United States; H. Res. 518, recognizing the 50th anniversary of Malaysia's independence; H. Res. 548, expressing the ongoing concern of the House for Lebanon's democratic institutions and unwavering support for the administration of justice upon those responsible for the assassination of Lebanese public figures opposing Syrian control of Lebanon; H. Res. 557, strongly condemning the United Nations Human Rights Council for ignoring severe human rights abuses in various countries while choosing to unfairly target Israel by including it as the only country permanently placed on the Council's agenda; H. Res. 564, recognizing that violence poses an increasingly serious threat to peace and stability in Central America and supporting expanded cooperation between the United States and the countries of Central America to combat crime and violence; H. Res. 575, commending the people and the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for their continued commitment to holding elections and broadening participation; and finally H. Res. 583, recognizing the remarkable example of Sir Nicholas Winton, who by the way several of us will honor in person later today, who organized the rescue of 669 Jewish Czechoslovakian children from Nazi death camps prior to the outbreak of World War II.

[The information referred to follows:]

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1302

To require the President to develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to further the United States foreign policy objective of promoting the reduction of global poverty, the elimination of extreme global poverty, and the achievement of the United Nations Millennium Development Goal of reducing by one-half the proportion of people worldwide, between 1990 and 2015, who live on less than \$1 per day.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 1, 2007

Mr. SMITH of Washington (for himself and Mr. BACHUS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## A BILL

To require the President to develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to further the United States foreign policy objective of promoting the reduction of global poverty, the elimination of extreme global poverty, and the achievement of the United Nations Millennium Development Goal of reducing by one-half the proportion of people worldwide, between 1990 and 2015, who live on less than \$1 per day.

1        *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2   *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Global Poverty Act  
3 of 2007”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 Congress makes the following findings:

6 (1) More than one billion people worldwide live  
7 on less than \$1 per day, and another 1.6 billion peo-  
8 ple struggle to survive on less than \$2 per day, ac-  
9 cording to the World Bank.

10 (2) At the United Nations Millennium Summit  
11 in 2000, the United States joined more than 180  
12 other countries in committing to work toward the  
13 United Nations Millennium Development Goals to  
14 improve life for the world’s poorest people by 2015.

15 (3) The United Nations Millennium Develop-  
16 ment Goals include the goal of reducing by one-half  
17 the proportion of people worldwide, between 1990  
18 and 2015, that live on less than \$1 per day, cutting  
19 in half the proportion of people suffering from hun-  
20 ger and unable to access safe drinking water and  
21 sanitation, reducing child mortality by two-thirds,  
22 ensuring basic education for all children, and revers-  
23 ing the spread of HIV/AIDS and malaria, while sus-  
24 taining the environment upon which human life de-  
25 pends.

1           (4) On March 22, 2002, President George W.  
2           Bush stated: “We fight against poverty because hope  
3           is an answer to terror. We fight against poverty be-  
4           cause opportunity is a fundamental right to human  
5           dignity. We fight against poverty because faith re-  
6           quires it and conscience demands it. We fight  
7           against poverty with a growing conviction that major  
8           progress is within our reach.”.

9           (5) The 2002 National Security Strategy of the  
10          United States notes: “[A] world where some live in  
11          comfort and plenty, while half of the human race  
12          lives on less than \$2 per day, is neither just nor sta-  
13          ble. Including all of the world’s poor in an expanding  
14          circle of development and opportunity is a moral im-  
15          perative and one of the top priorities of United  
16          States international policy.”.

17          (6) The 2006 National Security Strategy of the  
18          United States notes: “America’s national interests  
19          and moral values drive us in the same direction: to  
20          assist the world’s poor citizens and least developed  
21          nations and help integrate them into the global econ-  
22          omy.”.

23          (7) The bipartisan Final Report of the National  
24          Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United  
25          States recommends: “A comprehensive United

1 States strategy to counter terrorism should include  
2 economic policies that encourage development, more  
3 open societies, and opportunities for people to im-  
4 prove the lives of their families and enhance pros-  
5 pects for their children.”.

6 (8) At the summit of the Group of Eight (G-  
7 8) nations in July 2005, leaders from all eight coun-  
8 tries committed to increase aid to Africa from the  
9 current \$25 billion annually to \$50 billion by 2010,  
10 and to cancel 100 percent of the debt obligations  
11 owed to the World Bank, African Development  
12 Bank, and International Monetary Fund by 18 of  
13 the world’s poorest nations.

14 (9) At the United Nations World Summit in  
15 September 2005, the United States joined more  
16 than 180 other governments in reiterating their  
17 commitment to achieve the United Nations Millen-  
18 nium Development Goals by 2015.

19 (10) The United States has recognized the need  
20 for increased financial and technical assistance to  
21 countries burdened by extreme poverty, as well as  
22 the need for strengthened economic and trade oppor-  
23 tunities for those countries, through significant ini-  
24 tiatives in recent years, including the United States  
25 Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and

1 Malaria Act of 2003, the Millennium Challenge Act  
2 of 2003, the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initia-  
3 tive, and trade preference programs for developing  
4 countries, such as the African Growth and Oppor-  
5 tunity Act.

6 (11) In January 2006, United States Secretary  
7 of State Condoleezza Rice initiated a restructuring  
8 of the United States foreign assistance program, in-  
9 cluding the creation of a Director of Foreign Assist-  
10 ance, who maintains authority over Department of  
11 State and United States Agency for International  
12 Development (USAID) foreign assistance funding  
13 and programs.

14 (12) In January 2007, Director of Foreign As-  
15 sistance Randall L. Tobias added poverty reduction  
16 as an explicit, central component of the overall goal  
17 of United States foreign assistance. The official goal  
18 of United States foreign assistance is: “To help  
19 build and sustain democratic, well-governed states  
20 that respond to the needs of their people, reduce  
21 widespread poverty and conduct themselves respon-  
22 sibly in the international system.”.

23 **SEC. 3. DECLARATION OF POLICY.**

24 It is the policy of the United States to promote the  
25 reduction of global poverty, the elimination of extreme

1 global poverty, and the achievement of the United Nations  
2 Millennium Development Goal of reducing by one-half the  
3 proportion of people worldwide, between 1990 and 2015,  
4 who live on less than \$1 per day.

5 **SEC. 4. REQUIREMENT TO DEVELOP COMPREHENSIVE**  
6 **STRATEGY.**

7 (a) STRATEGY.—The President, acting through the  
8 Secretary of State, and in consultation with the heads of  
9 other appropriate departments and agencies of the Gov-  
10 ernment of the United States, international organizations,  
11 international financial institutions, the governments of de-  
12 veloping and developed countries, United States and inter-  
13 national nongovernmental organizations, civil society orga-  
14 nizations, and other appropriate entities, shall develop and  
15 implement a comprehensive strategy to further the United  
16 States foreign policy objective of promoting the reduction  
17 of global poverty, the elimination of extreme global pov-  
18 erty, and the achievement of the United Nations Millen-  
19 nium Development Goal of reducing by one-half the pro-  
20 portion of people worldwide, between 1990 and 2015, who  
21 live on less than \$1 per day.

22 (b) CONTENTS.—The strategy required by subsection  
23 (a) shall include, but not be limited to, specific and meas-  
24 urable goals, efforts to be undertaken, benchmarks, and

1 timetables to achieve the objectives described in subsection  
2 (a).

3 (c) GUIDELINES.—The strategy required by sub-  
4 section (a) should adhere to the following guidelines:

5 (1) Continued investment in existing United  
6 States initiatives related to international poverty re-  
7 duction, such as the United States Leadership  
8 Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act  
9 of 2003, the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003, the  
10 Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, and  
11 trade preference programs for developing countries,  
12 such as the African Growth and Opportunity Act.

13 (2) Increasing overall United States develop-  
14 ment assistance levels while at the same time im-  
15 proving the effectiveness of such assistance.

16 (3) Enhancing and expanding debt relief.

17 (4) Leveraging United States trade policy  
18 where possible to enhance economic development  
19 prospects for developing countries.

20 (5) Coordinating efforts and working in co-  
21 operation with developed and developing countries,  
22 international organizations, and international finan-  
23 cial institutions.

24 (6) Mobilizing and leveraging the participation  
25 of businesses, United States and international non-

1 governmental organizations, civil society, and public-  
2 private partnerships.

3 (7) Coordinating the goal of poverty reduction  
4 with other development goals, such as combating the  
5 spread of preventable diseases such as HIV/AIDS,  
6 tuberculosis, and malaria, increasing access to pota-  
7 ble water and basic sanitation, and reducing hunger  
8 and malnutrition.

9 (8) Integrating principles of sustainable devel-  
10 opment into policies and programs.

11 (d) REPORTS.—

12 (1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than one year  
13 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the  
14 President, acting through the Secretary of State,  
15 shall transmit to the appropriate congressional com-  
16 mittees a report that describes the strategy required  
17 by subsection (a).

18 (2) SUBSEQUENT REPORTS.—Not less than  
19 once every year after the submission of the initial re-  
20 port under paragraph (1) until and including 2015,  
21 the President shall transmit to the appropriate con-  
22 gressional committees a report on the status of the  
23 implementation of the strategy, progress made in  
24 achieving the global poverty reduction objectives de-  
25 scribed in subsection (a), and any changes to the

1 strategy since the date of the submission of the last  
2 report.

3 **SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.**

4 In this Act:

5 (1) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-**  
6 **TEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional com-  
7 mittees” means—

8 (A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and  
9 the Committee on Appropriations of the House  
10 of Representatives; and

11 (B) the Committee on Foreign Relations  
12 and the Committee on Appropriations of the  
13 Senate.

14 (2) **EXTREME GLOBAL POVERTY.**—The term  
15 “extreme global poverty” refers to the conditions in  
16 which individuals live on less than \$1 per day, ad-  
17 justed for purchasing power parity in 1993 United  
18 States dollars, according to World Bank statistics.

19 (3) **GLOBAL POVERTY.**—The term “global pov-  
20 erty” refers to the conditions in which individuals  
21 live on less than \$2 per day, adjusted for purchasing  
22 power parity in 1993 United States dollars, accord-  
23 ing to World Bank statistics.

○

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
TO H.R. 1302  
OFFERED BY MR. SMITH OF WASHINGTON**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Global Poverty Act  
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5 Congress makes the following findings:

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11 in 2000, the United States joined more than 180  
12 other countries in committing to work toward the  
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14 improve life for the world’s poorest people by 2015.

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16 ment Goals include the goal of reducing by one-half  
17 the proportion of people worldwide, between 1990  
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9 Bush stated: “We fight against poverty because hope  
10 is an answer to terror. We fight against poverty be-  
11 cause opportunity is a fundamental right to human  
12 dignity. We fight against poverty because faith re-  
13 quires it and conscience demands it. We fight  
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15 progress is within our reach.”.

16 (5) The 2002 National Security Strategy of the  
17 United States notes: “[A] world where some live in  
18 comfort and plenty, while half of the human race  
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20 ble. Including all of the world’s poor in an expanding  
21 circle of development and opportunity is a moral im-  
22 perative and one of the top priorities of United  
23 States international policy.”.

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25 United States notes: “America’s national interests

1 and moral values drive us in the same direction: to  
2 assist the world's poor citizens and least developed  
3 nations and help integrate them into the global econ-  
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6 Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United  
7 States recommends: “A comprehensive United  
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14 8) nations in July 2005, leaders from all eight coun-  
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23 than 180 other governments in reiterating their  
24 commitment to achieve the United Nations Millen-  
25 nium Development Goals by 2015.

1           (10) The United States has recognized the need  
2 for increased financial and technical assistance to  
3 countries burdened by extreme poverty, as well as  
4 the need for strengthened economic and trade oppor-  
5 tunities for those countries, through significant ini-  
6 tiatives in recent years, including the United States  
7 Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and  
8 Malaria Act of 2003, the Millennium Challenge Act  
9 of 2003, the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initia-  
10 tive, and trade preference programs for developing  
11 countries, such as the African Growth and Oppor-  
12 tunity Act.

13           (11) In January 2006, United States Secretary  
14 of State Condoleezza Rice initiated a restructuring  
15 of the United States foreign assistance program, in-  
16 cluding the creation of a Director of Foreign Assist-  
17 ance, who maintains authority over Department of  
18 State and United States Agency for International  
19 Development (USAID) foreign assistance funding  
20 and programs.

21           (12) In January 2007, the Department of  
22 State's Office of the Director of Foreign Assistance  
23 added poverty reduction as an explicit, central com-  
24 ponent of the overall goal of United States foreign  
25 assistance. The official goal of United States foreign

1 assistance is: “To help build and sustain democratic,  
2 well-governed states that respond to the needs of  
3 their people, reduce widespread poverty and conduct  
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11 who live on less than \$1 per day.

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19 veloping and developed countries, United States and inter-  
20 national nongovernmental organizations, civil society orga-  
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1 nium Development Goal of reducing by one-half the pro-  
2 portion of people worldwide, between 1990 and 2015, who  
3 live on less than \$1 per day.

4 (b) CONTENTS.—The strategy required by subsection  
5 (a) shall include, but not be limited to, specific and meas-  
6 urable goals, efforts to be undertaken, benchmarks, and  
7 timetables to achieve the objectives described in subsection  
8 (a).

9 (c) COMPONENTS.—The strategy required by sub-  
10 section (a) should include, but not be limited to, the fol-  
11 lowing components:

12 (1) Continued investment in existing United  
13 States initiatives related to international poverty re-  
14 duction, such as the United States Leadership  
15 Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act  
16 of 2003, the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003, the  
17 Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, and  
18 trade preference programs for developing countries,  
19 such as the African Growth and Opportunity Act.

20 (2) Improving the effectiveness of development  
21 assistance and making available additional overall  
22 United States assistance levels as appropriate.

23 (3) Enhancing and expanding debt relief as ap-  
24 propriate.

1           (4) Leveraging United States trade policy  
2 where possible to enhance economic development  
3 prospects for developing countries.

4           (5) Coordinating efforts and working in co-  
5 operation with developed and developing countries,  
6 international organizations, and international finan-  
7 cial institutions.

8           (6) Mobilizing and leveraging the participation  
9 of businesses, United States and international non-  
10 governmental organizations, civil society, and public-  
11 private partnerships.

12           (7) Coordinating the goal of poverty reduction  
13 with other development goals, such as combating the  
14 spread of preventable diseases such as HIV/AIDS,  
15 tuberculosis, and malaria, increasing access to pota-  
16 ble water and basic sanitation, reducing hunger and  
17 malnutrition, and improving access to and quality of  
18 education at all levels regardless of gender.

19           (8) Integrating principles of sustainable devel-  
20 opment into policies and programs.

21 (d) REPORTS.—

22           (1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than one year  
23 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the  
24 President, acting through the Secretary of State,  
25 shall transmit to the appropriate congressional com-

1        mittees a report that describes the strategy required  
2        by subsection (a).

3            (2) SUBSEQUENT REPORTS.—Not less than  
4        once every two years after the submission of the ini-  
5        tial report under paragraph (1) until and including  
6        2015, the President shall transmit to the appro-  
7        priate congressional committees a report on the sta-  
8        tus of the implementation of the strategy, progress  
9        made in achieving the global poverty reduction objec-  
10       tives described in subsection (a), and any changes to  
11       the strategy since the date of the submission of the  
12       last report.

13 **SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.**

14        In this Act:

15            (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-  
16        TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-  
17        mittees” means—

18            (A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and  
19        the Committee on Appropriations of the House  
20        of Representatives; and

21            (B) the Committee on Foreign Relations  
22        and the Committee on Appropriations of the  
23        Senate.

24            (2) EXTREME GLOBAL POVERTY.—The term  
25        “extreme global poverty” refers to the conditions in

1       which individuals live on less than \$1 per day, ad-  
2       justed for purchasing power parity in 1993 United  
3       States dollars, according to World Bank statistics.

4               (3) GLOBAL POVERTY.—The term “global pov-  
5       erty” refers to the conditions in which individuals  
6       live on less than \$2 per day, adjusted for purchasing  
7       power parity in 1993 United States dollars, accord-  
8       ing to World Bank statistics.

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2185

To amend the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 to provide debt relief to developing countries that take action to protect forests and coral reefs and associated coastal marine ecosystems, to reauthorize such Act through fiscal year 2010, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 7, 2007

Mr. KIRK (for himself, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. HINCHEY, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. ROYCE, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. SOUDER, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. ACKERMAN, and Mr. FARR) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## A BILL

To amend the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 to provide debt relief to developing countries that take action to protect forests and coral reefs and associated coastal marine ecosystems, to reauthorize such Act through fiscal year 2010, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

2 (a) FINDINGS.—Subsection (a) of section 802 of the  
3 Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C.  
4 2431) is amended—

5 (1) in paragraphs (1), (6), and (7), by striking  
6 “tropical forests” each place it appears and inserting  
7 “forests and coral reefs and associated coastal ma-  
8 rine ecosystems”;

9 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (3) through  
10 (7) as paragraphs (4) through (8), respectively;

11 (3) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-  
12 lowing:

13 “(3) Coral reefs and associated coastal marine  
14 ecosystems provide a wide range of benefits to man-  
15 kind by—

16 “(A) harboring more species per unit area  
17 than any other marine habitat, providing the  
18 basis for developing pharmaceutical products  
19 and fostering a growing marine tourism sector;

20 “(B) providing a major source of food and  
21 jobs for hundreds of millions of coastal resi-  
22 dents; and

23 “(C) serving as natural storm barriers,  
24 thus protecting vulnerable shorelines and com-  
25 munities from storm waves and erosion.”; and

26 (4) in paragraph (4) (as redesignated)—

1 (A) by inserting “and coral reef and asso-  
2 ciated coastal marine ecosystems” after “forest  
3 resources”; and

4 (B) by inserting “and coral reef and asso-  
5 ciated coastal marine ecosystem exploitation”  
6 after “tropical deforestation”.

7 (b) PURPOSES.—Subsection (b) of such section is  
8 amended—

9 (1) in paragraphs (1), (3), and (4), by striking  
10 “tropical forests” each place it appears and inserting  
11 “forests and coral reefs and associated coastal ma-  
12 rine ecosystems”; and

13 (2) in paragraph (2)—

14 (A) by striking “tropical forests” the first  
15 and third place it appears and inserting “for-  
16 ests and coral reefs and associated coastal ma-  
17 rine ecosystems”;

18 (B) by striking “tropical forests” the sec-  
19 ond place it appears and inserting “areas”; and

20 (C) by inserting at the end before the  
21 semicolon the following: “and unsustainable  
22 coral reef and associated coastal marine eco-  
23 system exploitation”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 Section 803 of the Tropical Forest Conservation Act  
3 of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2431a) is amended—

4 (1) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking “Com-  
5 mittee on International Relations” and inserting  
6 “Committee on Foreign Affairs”;

7 (2) by striking paragraphs (4), (7), (8), and  
8 (9);

9 (3) in paragraph (5)—

10 (A) in the heading, by striking “TROPICAL  
11 FOREST” and inserting “FOREST OR CORAL  
12 REEF OR ASSOCIATED COASTAL MARINE ECO-  
13 SYSTEM”;

14 (B) in the matter preceding subparagraph  
15 (A), by striking “tropical forest” and inserting  
16 “forest or coral reef or associated coastal ma-  
17 rine ecosystem”; and

18 (C) in subparagraph (B)—

19 (i) by striking “tropical forest” and  
20 inserting “forest or coral reef or associated  
21 coastal marine ecosystem”; and

22 (ii) by striking “tropical forests” and  
23 inserting “forests or coral reefs or associ-  
24 ated coastal marine ecosystems”;

25 (4) by redesignating paragraphs (5) and (6) as  
26 paragraphs (9) and (10), respectively; and

1           (5) by inserting after paragraph (3) the fol-  
2     lowing:

3           “(4) CONSERVATION AGREEMENT.—The term  
4     ‘Conservation Agreement’ or ‘Agreement’ means a  
5     Conservation Agreement provided for in section 809.

6           “(5) CONSERVATION FACILITY.—The term  
7     ‘Conservation Facility’ or ‘Facility’ means the Con-  
8     servation Facility established in the Department of  
9     the Treasury by section 804.

10          “(6) CONSERVATION FUND.—The term ‘Con-  
11     servation Fund’ or ‘Fund’ means a Conservation  
12     Fund provided for in section 810.

13          “(7) CORAL.—The term ‘coral’ means species  
14     of the phylum Cnidaria, including—

15                 “(A) all species of the orders Antipatharia  
16                 (black corals), Scleractinia (stony corals),  
17                 Alcyonacea (soft corals), Gorgonacea (horny  
18                 corals), Stolonifera (organpipe corals and oth-  
19                 ers), and Coenothecalia (blue coral), of the class  
20                 Anthozoa; and

21                 “(B) all species of the order  
22                 Hydrocorallina (fire corals and hydrocorals) of  
23                 the class Hydrozoa.

1           “(8) CORAL REEF.—The term ‘coral reef’  
2       means any reef or shoal composed primarily of cor-  
3       als.”.

4 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FACILITY.**

5       Section 804 of the Tropical Forest Conservation Act  
6 of 1988 (22 U.S.C. 2431b) is amended by striking “Trop-  
7 ical Forest Facility” and inserting “Conservation Facil-  
8 ity”.

9 **SEC. 4. ELIGIBILITY FOR BENEFITS.**

10       Section 805(a) of the Tropical Forest Conservation  
11 Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2431c(a)) is amended by striking  
12 “tropical forest” and inserting “forest or coral reef or as-  
13 sociated coastal marine ecosystem”.

14 **SEC. 5. REDUCTION OF DEBT OWED TO THE UNITED**  
15                   **STATES AS A RESULT OF CONCESSIONAL**  
16                   **LOANS UNDER THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE**  
17                   **ACT OF 1961.**

18       (a) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—Sub-  
19 section (c)(2) of section 806 of the Tropical Forest Con-  
20 servation Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2431d) is amended by  
21 striking “Tropical Forest Fund” and inserting “Conserva-  
22 tion Fund”.

23       (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Sub-  
24 section (d)(6) of such section is amended by striking “fis-

1 cal year 2007” and inserting “each of the fiscal years  
2 2007 through 2010”.

3 (c) USE OF FUNDS TO CONDUCT PROGRAM AUDITS,  
4 EVALUATIONS, MONITORING, AND ADMINISTRATION.—  
5 Subsection (e) of such section is amended to read as fol-  
6 lows:

7 “(e) USE OF FUNDS TO CONDUCT PROGRAM AU-  
8 DITS, EVALUATIONS, MONITORING, AND ADMINISTRA-  
9 TION.—Of the amounts made available to carry out this  
10 part for a fiscal year, up to \$300,000 is authorized to be  
11 made available to carry out audits, evaluations, moni-  
12 toring, and administration of programs under this part,  
13 including personnel costs associated with such audits,  
14 evaluations, monitoring, and administration.”

15 **SEC. 6. REDUCTION OF DEBT OWED TO THE UNITED**  
16 **STATES AS A RESULT OF CREDITS EXTENDED**  
17 **UNDER TITLE I OF THE AGRICULTURAL**  
18 **TRADE DEVELOPMENT AND ASSISTANCE ACT**  
19 **OF 1954.**

20 Section 807(c)(2) of the Tropical Forest Conserva-  
21 tion Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2431e(c)(2)) is amended by  
22 striking “Tropical Forest Fund” and inserting “Conserva-  
23 tion Fund”.

1 **SEC. 7. UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATION**  
2 **ON OVERSIGHT BODIES FOR GRANTS FROM**  
3 **DEBT-FOR-NATURE SWAPS AND DEBT-**  
4 **BUYBACKS.**

5 Section 808(a)(5) of the Tropical Forest Conserva-  
6 tion Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2431f(a)(5)) is amended by  
7 adding at the end the following:

8 “(C) UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT REP-  
9 RESENTATION ON THE ADMINISTERING  
10 BODY.—One or more individuals appointed by  
11 the United States Government may serve in an  
12 official capacity on the administering body that  
13 oversees the implementation of grants arising  
14 from this debt-for-nature swap or debt buy-back  
15 regardless of whether the United States is a  
16 party to any agreement between the eligible  
17 purchaser and the government of the bene-  
18 ficiary country.”.

19 **SEC. 8. CONSERVATION AGREEMENT.**

20 (a) **AUTHORITY.**—Subsection (a) of section 809 of  
21 the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C.  
22 2431g) is amended—

23 (1) by striking “(a) **AUTHORITY.**—” and all  
24 that follows through “The Secretary of State” and  
25 inserting “(a) **AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary of  
26 State”;

1           (2) by striking “Tropical Forest Agreement”  
2           and inserting “Conservation Agreement”; and

3           (3) by striking paragraph (2).

4           (b) ADMINISTERING BODY.—Subsection (c)(2)(A) of  
5 such section is amended—

6           (1) in clause (i), by inserting at the end before  
7           the semicolon the following: “to serve in an official  
8           capacity”; and

9           (2) in clause (iii)(III), by inserting “or marine”  
10          after “forestry”.

11          (c) ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.—Subsection (d) of such  
12 section is amended—

13          (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by  
14          striking “the tropical forests” and inserting “forests  
15          or coral reefs or associated coastal marine eco-  
16          systems”;

17          (2) in paragraph (2), by inserting “and water”  
18          after “land”;

19          (3) in paragraph (5), by striking “tropical for-  
20          est”; and

21          (4) in paragraph (6), by striking “living in or  
22          near a tropical forest in a manner consistent with  
23          protecting such tropical forest” and inserting “de-  
24          pendent on a forest or coral reef or associated coast-

1 al marine ecosystem in a manner consistent with  
2 protecting and conserving such resources”.

3 (d) GRANT RECIPIENTS.—Subsection (e)(1)(A) of  
4 such section is amended by inserting “marine,” after “for-  
5 estry,”.

6 (e) REVIEW OF LARGER GRANTS.—Subsection (f) of  
7 such section is amended to read as follows:

8 “(f) REVIEW OF LARGER GRANTS.—Any grant of  
9 more than \$250,000 from a Fund shall be approved by  
10 the Government of the United States and the government  
11 of the beneficiary country.”.

12 (f) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The heading of  
13 such section is amended by striking “**TROPICAL FOR-**  
14 **EST**” and inserting “**CONSERVATION**”.

15 **SEC. 9. CONSERVATION FUND.**

16 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Subsection (a) of section 810  
17 of the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 (22  
18 U.S.C. 2431h) is amended—

19 (1) by striking “Tropical Forest Agreement”  
20 and inserting “Conservation Agreement”; and

21 (2) by striking “Tropical Forest Fund” and in-  
22 serting “Conservation Fund”.

23 (b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—  
24 Such section is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (b), by striking “terms as con-  
2 ditions” and inserting “terms and conditions”; and

3 (2) in the heading, by striking “**TROPICAL**  
4 **FOREST**” and inserting “**CONSERVATION**”.

5 **SEC. 10. BOARD.**

6 Section 811 of the Tropical Forest Conservation Act  
7 of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2431i) is hereby repealed.

8 **SEC. 11. ANNUAL REPORTS TO THE CONGRESS.**

9 Section 813 of the Tropical Forest Conservation Act  
10 of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2431k) is amended—

11 (1) by striking “(a) IN GENERAL.—”;

12 (2) by striking “December 31” and inserting  
13 “April 15”;

14 (3) by striking “fiscal year” each place it ap-  
15 pears and inserting “calendar year”; and

16 (4) by striking subsection (b).

17 **SEC. 12. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

18 (a) PART HEADING.—The heading of part V of the  
19 Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 is amended by striking  
20 “**TROPICAL FORESTS**” and inserting “**FORESTS**  
21 **OR CORAL REEFS OR ASSOCIATED COAST-**  
22 **AL MARINE ECOSYSTEMS**”.

23 (b) SHORT TITLE.—

24 (1) AMENDMENT.—Section 801 of the Tropical  
25 Forest Conservation Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2151

1 note) is amended by striking “Tropical Forest Con-  
2 servation Act of 1998” and inserting “Forest and  
3 Coral Conservation Act of 2007”.

4 (2) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, reg-  
5 ulation, document, or other record of the United  
6 States to the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of  
7 1998 shall be deemed to be a reference to the Forest  
8 and Coral Conservation Act of 2007.

9 (3) AVAILABILITY OF UNOBLIGATED OR UNEX-  
10 PENDED FUNDS.—Amounts appropriated to carry  
11 out the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998  
12 (as in effect on the day before the date of the enact-  
13 ment of this Act) that are unobligated or unex-  
14 pended as of the date of the enactment of this Act  
15 may be used to carry out the Forest and Coral Con-  
16 servation Act of 2007.

17 (c) REDESIGNATION.—Part V of the Foreign Assist-  
18 ance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2431 et seq.) is amended  
19 by redesignating sections 812 and 813 as sections 811 and  
20 812, respectively.

21 (d) OTHER AMENDMENTS.—Section 703(a)(5) of  
22 the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C.  
23 2430b(a)(5)) is amended—

1           (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),  
2     by striking “or, as appropriate in exceptional cir-  
3     cumstances,” and inserting “or”; and

4           (2) in subparagraph (A), by striking “or in ex-  
5     ceptional circumstances, a Fund monitored program  
6     or its equivalent,” and inserting “or a Fund mon-  
7     itored program, or is implementing sound macro-  
8     economic policies,”.

○

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
TO H.R. 2185  
OFFERED BY MR. LANTOS OF CALIFORNIA**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

2 (a) FINDINGS.—Subsection (a) of section 802 of the  
3 Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C.  
4 2431) is amended—

5 (1) in paragraphs (1), (6), and (7), by striking  
6 “tropical forests” each place it appears and inserting  
7 “tropical forests and coral reefs and associated  
8 coastal marine ecosystems”;

9 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (3) through  
10 (7) as paragraphs (4) through (8), respectively;

11 (3) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-  
12 lowing:

13 “(3) Coral reefs and associated coastal marine  
14 ecosystems provide a wide range of benefits to man-  
15 kind by—

16 “(A) harboring more species per unit area  
17 than any other marine habitat, providing the

1 basis for developing pharmaceutical products  
2 and fostering a growing marine tourism sector;

3 “(B) providing a major source of food and  
4 jobs for hundreds of millions of coastal resi-  
5 dents; and

6 “(C) serving as natural storm barriers,  
7 thus protecting vulnerable shorelines and com-  
8 munities from storm waves and erosion.”; and  
9 (4) in paragraph (4) (as redesignated)—

10 (A) by inserting “and coral reef and asso-  
11 ciated coastal marine ecosystems” after “forest  
12 resources”; and

13 (B) by inserting “and coral reef and asso-  
14 ciated coastal marine ecosystem exploitation”  
15 after “tropical deforestation”.

16 (b) PURPOSES.—Subsection (b) of such section is  
17 amended—

18 (1) in paragraphs (1), (3), and (4), by striking  
19 “tropical forests” each place it appears and inserting  
20 “tropical forests and coral reefs and associated  
21 coastal marine ecosystems”; and

22 (2) in paragraph (2)—

23 (A) by striking “tropical forests” the first  
24 and third place it appears and inserting “trop-

1 ical forests and coral reefs and associated coast-  
2 al marine ecosystems”;

3 (B) by striking “tropical forests” the sec-  
4 ond place it appears and inserting “areas”; and

5 (C) by inserting at the end before the  
6 semicolon the following: “and unsustainable  
7 coral reef and associated coastal marine eco-  
8 system exploitation”.

9 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

10 Section 803 of the Tropical Forest Conservation Act  
11 of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2431a) is amended—

12 (1) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking “Com-  
13 mittee on International Relations” and inserting  
14 “Committee on Foreign Affairs”;

15 (2) by striking paragraphs (4), (7), (8), and  
16 (9);

17 (3) in paragraph (5)—

18 (A) in the heading, by striking “TROPICAL  
19 FOREST” and inserting “TROPICAL FOREST OR  
20 CORAL REEF OR ASSOCIATED COASTAL MARINE  
21 ECOSYSTEM”;

22 (B) in the matter preceding subparagraph  
23 (A), by striking “tropical forest” and inserting  
24 “tropical forest or coral reef or associated  
25 coastal marine ecosystem”; and

- 1 (C) in subparagraph (B)—
- 2 (i) by striking “tropical forest” and
- 3 inserting “tropical forest or coral reef or
- 4 associated coastal marine ecosystem”; and
- 5 (ii) by striking “tropical forests” and
- 6 inserting “tropical forests or coral reefs or
- 7 associated coastal marine ecosystems”;
- 8 (4) by redesignating paragraphs (5) and (6) as
- 9 paragraphs (9) and (10), respectively; and
- 10 (5) by inserting after paragraph (3) the fol-
- 11 lowing:
- 12 “(4) CONSERVATION AGREEMENT.—The term
- 13 ‘Conservation Agreement’ or ‘Agreement’ means a
- 14 Conservation Agreement provided for in section 809.
- 15 “(5) CONSERVATION FACILITY.—The term
- 16 ‘Conservation Facility’ or ‘Facility’ means the Con-
- 17 servation Facility established in the Department of
- 18 the Treasury by section 804.
- 19 “(6) CONSERVATION FUND.—The term ‘Con-
- 20 servation Fund’ or ‘Fund’ means a Conservation
- 21 Fund provided for in section 810.
- 22 “(7) CORAL.—The term ‘coral’ means species
- 23 of the phylum Cnidaria, including—
- 24 “(A) all species of the orders Antipatharia
- 25 (black corals), Scleractinia (stony corals),

1           Aleyonacea (soft corals), Gorgonacea (horny  
2           corals), Stolonifera (organpipe corals and oth-  
3           ers), and Coenothecalia (blue coral), of the class  
4           Anthozoa; and

5           “(B) all species of the order  
6           Hydrocorallina (fire corals and hydrocorals) of  
7           the class Hydrozoa.

8           “(8) CORAL REEF.—The term ‘coral reef’  
9           means any reef or shoal composed primarily of cor-  
10          als.”.

11 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FACILITY.**

12          Section 804 of the Tropical Forest Conservation Act  
13 of 1988 (22 U.S.C. 2431b) is amended by striking “Trop-  
14 ical Forest Facility” and inserting “Conservation Facil-  
15 ity”.

16 **SEC. 4. ELIGIBILITY FOR BENEFITS.**

17          Section 805(a) of the Tropical Forest Conservation  
18 Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2431c(a)) is amended by striking  
19 “tropical forest” and inserting “tropical forest or coral  
20 reef or associated coastal marine ecosystem”.

1 **SEC. 5. REDUCTION OF DEBT OWED TO THE UNITED**  
2 **STATES AS A RESULT OF CONCESSIONAL**  
3 **LOANS UNDER THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE**  
4 **ACT OF 1961.**

5 (a) **ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.**—Sub-  
6 section (c)(2) of section 806 of the Tropical Forest Con-  
7 servation Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2431d) is amended by  
8 striking “Tropical Forest Fund” and inserting “Conserva-  
9 tion Fund”.

10 (b) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—Sub-  
11 section (d)(6) of such section is amended by striking “fis-  
12 cal year 2007” and inserting “each of the fiscal years  
13 2007 through 2010”.

14 (c) **USE OF FUNDS TO CONDUCT PROGRAM AUDITS,**  
15 **EVALUATIONS, MONITORING, AND ADMINISTRATION.**—  
16 Subsection (e) of such section is amended to read as fol-  
17 lows:

18 “(e) **USE OF FUNDS TO CONDUCT PROGRAM AU-**  
19 **DITS, EVALUATIONS, MONITORING, AND ADMINISTRA-**  
20 **TION.**—Of the amounts made available to carry out this  
21 part for a fiscal year, up to \$300,000 is authorized to be  
22 made available to carry out audits, evaluations, moni-  
23 toring, and administration of programs under this part,  
24 including personnel costs associated with such audits,  
25 evaluations, monitoring, and administration.”

1 **SEC. 6. REDUCTION OF DEBT OWED TO THE UNITED**  
2 **STATES AS A RESULT OF CREDITS EXTENDED**  
3 **UNDER TITLE I OF THE AGRICULTURAL**  
4 **TRADE DEVELOPMENT AND ASSISTANCE ACT**  
5 **OF 1954.**

6 Section 807(c)(2) of the Tropical Forest Conserva-  
7 tion Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2431e(c)(2)) is amended by  
8 striking “Tropical Forest Fund” and inserting “Conserva-  
9 tion Fund”.

10 **SEC. 7. UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATION**  
11 **ON OVERSIGHT BODIES FOR GRANTS FROM**  
12 **DEBT-FOR-NATURE SWAPS AND DEBT-**  
13 **BUYBACKS.**

14 Section 808(a)(5) of the Tropical Forest Conserva-  
15 tion Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2431f(a)(5)) is amended by  
16 adding at the end the following:

17 “(C) UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT REP-  
18 RESENTATION ON THE ADMINISTERING  
19 BODY.—One or more individuals appointed by  
20 the United States Government may serve in an  
21 official capacity on the administering body that  
22 oversees the implementation of grants arising  
23 from this debt-for-nature swap or debt buy-back  
24 regardless of whether the United States is a  
25 party to any agreement between the eligible

1 purchaser and the government of the bene-  
2 ficiary country.”.

3 **SEC. 8. CONSERVATION AGREEMENT.**

4 (a) **AUTHORITY.**—Subsection (a) of section 809 of  
5 the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C.  
6 2431g) is amended—

7 (1) by striking “(a) **AUTHORITY.**—” and all  
8 that follows through “The Secretary of State” and  
9 inserting “(a) **AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary of  
10 State”;

11 (2) by striking “Tropical Forest Agreement”  
12 and inserting “Conservation Agreement”; and

13 (3) by striking paragraph (2).

14 (b) **ADMINISTERING BODY.**—Subsection (c)(2)(A) of  
15 such section is amended—

16 (1) in clause (i), by inserting at the end before  
17 the semicolon the following: “to serve in an official  
18 capacity”; and

19 (2) in clause (iii)(III), by inserting “or marine”  
20 after “forestry”.

21 (c) **ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.**—Subsection (d) of such  
22 section is amended—

23 (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by  
24 striking “the tropical forests” and inserting “trop-

1       ical forests or coral reefs or associated coastal ma-  
2       rine ecosystems”;

3               (2) in paragraph (2), by inserting “and water”  
4       after “land”;

5               (3) in paragraph (5), by striking “tropical for-  
6       est”; and

7               (4) in paragraph (6), by striking “living in or  
8       near a tropical forest in a manner consistent with  
9       protecting such tropical forest” and inserting “de-  
10       pendent on a tropical forest or coral reef or associ-  
11       ated coastal marine ecosystem in a manner con-  
12       sistent with protecting and conserving such re-  
13       sources”.

14       (d) GRANT RECIPIENTS.—Subsection (e)(1)(A) of  
15       such section is amended by inserting “marine,” after “for-  
16       estry,”.

17       (e) REVIEW OF LARGER GRANTS.—Subsection (f) of  
18       such section is amended to read as follows:

19               “(f) REVIEW OF LARGER GRANTS.—Any grant of  
20       more than \$250,000 from a Fund shall be approved by  
21       the Government of the United States and the government  
22       of the beneficiary country.”.

23       (f) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The heading of  
24       such section is amended by striking “**TROPICAL FOR-**  
25       **EST**” and inserting “**CONSERVATION**”.

1 **SEC. 9. CONSERVATION FUND.**

2 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Subsection (a) of section 810  
3 of the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 (22  
4 U.S.C. 2431h) is amended—

5 (1) by striking “Tropical Forest Agreement”  
6 and inserting “Conservation Agreement”; and

7 (2) by striking “Tropical Forest Fund” and in-  
8 serting “Conservation Fund”.

9 (b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—  
10 Such section is amended—

11 (1) in subsection (b), by striking “terms as con-  
12 ditions” and inserting “terms and conditions”; and

13 (2) in the heading, by striking “**TROPICAL**  
14 **FOREST**” and inserting “**CONSERVATION**”.

15 **SEC. 10. BOARD.**

16 Section 811 of the Tropical Forest Conservation Act  
17 of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2431i) is hereby repealed.

18 **SEC. 11. ANNUAL REPORTS TO THE CONGRESS.**

19 Section 813 of the Tropical Forest Conservation Act  
20 of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2431k) is amended—

21 (1) by striking “(a) IN GENERAL.—”;

22 (2) by striking “December 31” and inserting  
23 “April 15”;

24 (3) by striking “fiscal year” each place it ap-  
25 pears and inserting “calendar year”; and

26 (4) by striking subsection (b).

1 **SEC. 12. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

2 (a) PART HEADING.—The heading of part V of the  
3 Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 is amended by striking  
4 “**TROPICAL FORESTS**” and inserting “**TROP-**  
5 **ICAL FORESTS OR CORAL REEFS OR ASSO-**  
6 **CIATED COASTAL MARINE ECOSYSTEMS**”.

7 (b) SHORT TITLE.—

8 (1) AMENDMENT.—Section 801 of the Tropical  
9 Forest Conservation Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2151  
10 note) is amended by striking “Tropical Forest Con-  
11 servation Act of 1998” and inserting “Tropical For-  
12 est and Coral Conservation Act of 2007”.

13 (2) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, reg-  
14 ulation, document, or other record of the United  
15 States to the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of  
16 1998 shall be deemed to be a reference to the Trop-  
17 ical Forest and Coral Conservation Act of 2007.

18 (3) AVAILABILITY OF UNOBLIGATED OR UNEX-  
19 PENDED FUNDS.—Amounts appropriated to carry  
20 out the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998  
21 (as in effect on the day before the date of the enact-  
22 ment of this Act) that are unobligated or unex-  
23 pended as of the date of the enactment of this Act  
24 may be used to carry out the Tropical Forest and  
25 Coral Conservation Act of 2007.

1       (c) REDESIGNATION.—Part V of the Foreign Assist-  
2       ance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2431 et seq.) is amended  
3       by redesignating sections 812 and 813 as sections 811 and  
4       812, respectively.

5       (d) OTHER AMENDMENTS.— Section 703(a)(5) of  
6       the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C.  
7       2430b(a)(5)) is amended—

8               (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),  
9       by striking “or, as appropriate in exceptional cir-  
10       cumstances,” and inserting “or”; and

11              (2) in subparagraph (A), by striking “or an ar-  
12       rangement under the structural adjustment facility  
13       or enhanced structural adjustment facility, or in ex-  
14       ceptional circumstances, a Fund monitored program  
15       or its equivalent,” and inserting “an arrangement  
16       under the structural adjustment facility or enhanced  
17       structural adjustment facility, a Fund monitored  
18       program, or is implementing sound macroeconomic  
19       policies,”.

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to amend the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 to provide debt relief to developing countries that take action to protect tropical forests and coral reefs and associated coastal marine ecosystems, to reauthorize such Act through fiscal year 2010, and for other purposes.”.

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3062

To authorize appropriations to provide for South Pacific exchanges, provide technical and other assistance to countries in the Pacific region through the United States Agency for International Development, and authorize appropriations to provide Fulbright Scholarships for Pacific Island students.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 17, 2007

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## A BILL

To authorize appropriations to provide for South Pacific exchanges, provide technical and other assistance to countries in the Pacific region through the United States Agency for International Development, and authorize appropriations to provide Fulbright Scholarships for Pacific Island students.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “South Pacific Eco-  
5 nomic and Educational Development Act of 2007”.

1 **SEC. 2. SOUTH PACIFIC EXCHANGES.**

2       There is authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-  
3 retary of State \$1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008  
4 and 2009 for South Pacific exchanges carried out under  
5 the educational and cultural exchange programs of the De-  
6 partment of State.

7 **SEC. 3. USAID IN THE PACIFIC REGION.**

8       (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the United  
9 States Agency for International Development (USAID)  
10 shall, upon request by the government of a country in the  
11 Pacific region, provide to such government technical and  
12 other assistance.

13       (b) COUNTRY IN THE PACIFIC REGION DEFINED.—  
14 In this section, the term “country in the Pacific region”  
15 means any of the following countries:

- 16           (1) The Cook Islands.
- 17           (2) The Federated States of Micronesia.
- 18           (3) The Independent State of Samoa.
- 19           (4) The Kingdom of Tonga.
- 20           (5) Niue.
- 21           (6) Papua New Guinea.
- 22           (7) The Republic of Fiji.
- 23           (8) The Republic of Kiribati.
- 24           (9) The Republic of the Marshall Islands.
- 25           (10) The Republic of Nauru.
- 26           (11) The Republic of Palau.

1 (12) The Republic of Vanuatu.

2 (13) The Solomon Islands.

3 (14) Tuvalu.

4 **SEC. 4. J. FULBRIGHT EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE PRO-**  
5 **GRAM.**

6 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

7 (1) From 1949 until 2003, the Department of  
8 State awarded 13,176 Fulbright Scholarships to stu-  
9 dents from East Asia and the Pacific, but only 31  
10 Fulbright Scholarships went to Pacific Island stu-  
11 dents.

12 (2) In the 2003–2004 academic year, the De-  
13 partment of State awarded 315 scholarships to stu-  
14 dents from East Asia and the Pacific, but none were  
15 awarded to Pacific Island students.

16 (b) REVIEW AND REPORT.—The Secretary of State  
17 shall conduct a review and submit to the Committee on  
18 Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the  
19 Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report  
20 regarding the marginalization of Pacific Island students  
21 in the awarding of Fulbright Scholarships.

22 (c) PARTICIPATION OF PACIFIC ISLAND STUDENTS  
23 IN THE J. FULBRIGHT EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE PRO-  
24 GRAM.—

1           (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of State  
2 shall establish an annual one-year program within  
3 the J. William Fulbright Educational Exchange Pro-  
4 gram (established under section 112(a)(1) of the  
5 Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of  
6 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2460(a)(1)), commonly referred to  
7 as the Fulbright-Hays Act) to make awards to Pa-  
8 cific Island students to permit such students to  
9 study in the United States pursuant to the terms  
10 and conditions of such Exchange Program.

11           (2) OPERATION AND NUMBERS.—The govern-  
12 ments of Pacific Island countries may annually sub-  
13 mit to the Secretary of State the names of between  
14 three and five Pacific Island students to participate  
15 in the one-year program established under para-  
16 graph (1).

17           (3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In  
18 addition to amounts that are otherwise authorized to  
19 be appropriated to the Secretary of State for fiscal  
20 years 2008 and 2009 to provide awards under the  
21 J. William Fulbright Educational Exchange Pro-  
22 gram, there is authorized to be appropriated to the  
23 Secretary \$500,000 for each of such fiscal years to  
24 provide such awards to Pacific Island students.

1 (d) PACIFIC ISLAND STUDENTS DEFINED.—In this  
2 Act, the term “Pacific Island students” means a student  
3 who is a citizen of any of the following countries:

- 4 (1) The Cook Islands.
- 5 (2) The Federated States of Micronesia.
- 6 (3) The Independent State of Samoa.
- 7 (4) The Kingdom of Tonga.
- 8 (5) Niue.
- 9 (6) Papua New Guinea.
- 10 (7) The Republic of Fiji.
- 11 (8) The Republic of Kiribati.
- 12 (9) The Republic of the Marshall Islands.
- 13 (10) The Republic of Nauru.
- 14 (11) The Republic of Palau.
- 15 (12) The Republic of Vanuatu.
- 16 (13) The Solomon Islands.
- 17 (14) Tuvalu.

○

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
TO H.R. 3062  
OFFERED BY MR. FALEOMAVAEGA OF AMERICAN  
SAMOA**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Pacific Island Eco-  
3 nomic and Educational Development Act of 2007”.

4 **SEC. 2. PACIFIC ISLAND COUNTRY EXCHANGES.**

5 There is authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-  
6 retary of State \$1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008  
7 and 2009 for exchanges with Pacific Island countries car-  
8 ried out under the educational and cultural exchange pro-  
9 grams of the Department of State.

10 **SEC. 3. USAID IN PACIFIC ISLAND COUNTRIES.**

11 The Administrator of the United States Agency for  
12 International Development (USAID) is authorized, upon  
13 request by the government of a Pacific Island country, to  
14 provide to such government technical and other assistance.

15 **SEC. 4. J. FULBRIGHT EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE PRO-  
16 GRAM.**

17 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

1           (1) From 1949 until 2003, the Department of  
2 State awarded 13,176 Fulbright Scholarships to stu-  
3 dents from East Asia and the Pacific, but only 31  
4 Fulbright Scholarships went to students from Pa-  
5 cific Island countries.

6           (2) In the 2003–2004 academic year, the De-  
7 partment of State awarded 315 scholarships to stu-  
8 dents from East Asia and the Pacific, but none were  
9 awarded to students from Pacific Island countries.

10       (b) REVIEW AND REPORT.—The Secretary of State  
11 shall conduct a review and submit to the Committee on  
12 Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the  
13 Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report  
14 regarding the marginalization of students from Pacific Is-  
15 land countries in the awarding of Fulbright Scholarships.

16       (c) PARTICIPATION OF STUDENTS FROM PACIFIC IS-  
17 LAND COUNTRIES IN THE J. FULBRIGHT EDUCATIONAL  
18 EXCHANGE PROGRAM.—

19           (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of State  
20 shall establish a program within the J. William Ful-  
21 bright Educational Exchange Program (established  
22 under section 112(a)(1) of the Mutual Educational  
23 and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C.  
24 2460(a)(1)), commonly referred to as the Fulbright-  
25 Hays Act) to make awards to students from Pacific

1 Island countries to permit such students to study in  
2 the United States pursuant to the terms and condi-  
3 tions of such Exchange Program.

4 (2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In  
5 addition to amounts that are otherwise authorized to  
6 be appropriated to the Secretary of State for fiscal  
7 years 2008 and 2009 to provide awards under the  
8 J. William Fulbright Educational Exchange Pro-  
9 gram, there is authorized to be appropriated to the  
10 Secretary \$500,000 for each of such fiscal years to  
11 provide such awards to students from Pacific Island  
12 countries.

13 **SEC. 5. PACIFIC ISLAND COUNTRY DEFINED.**

14 In this Act, the terms “Pacific Island country” and  
15 “Pacific Island countries” mean any of the following coun-  
16 tries:

- 17 (1) The Cook Islands.
- 18 (2) The Federated States of Micronesia.
- 19 (3) The Independent State of Samoa.
- 20 (4) The Kingdom of Tonga.
- 21 (5) Niue.
- 22 (6) Papua New Guinea.
- 23 (7) The Republic of Fiji.
- 24 (8) The Republic of Kiribati.
- 25 (9) The Republic of the Marshall Islands.

- 1 (10) The Republic of Nauru.
- 2 (11) The Republic of Palau.
- 3 (12) The Republic of Vanuatu.
- 4 (13) The Solomon Islands.
- 5 (14) Tuvalu.

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. RES. 32

Denouncing the practices of female genital mutilation, domestic violence, “honor” killings, acid burning, dowry deaths, and other gender-based persecutions and expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that participation, protection, recognition, and independence of women is crucial to achieving a just, moral, and honorable society.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 5, 2007

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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# RESOLUTION

Denouncing the practices of female genital mutilation, domestic violence, “honor” killings, acid burning, dowry deaths, and other gender-based persecutions and expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that participation, protection, recognition, and independence of women is crucial to achieving a just, moral, and honorable society.

Whereas human rights violations have occurred on six continents, have not been limited to times of war, and have been committed for political gain, personal advantage, ethnic hatred, and in the name of deities and fundamentalist religious zeal;

Whereas, in many parts of the world, there is a culture of violence and discrimination which denies women rights equal to those of men and which legitimizes the exploitation of women for personal gratification or political purposes and gain;

Whereas the United Nations Secretary General has declared that rape is a recognized tool of war;

Whereas 200 women in Bangladesh are horribly disfigured when their spurned husbands or suitors burn them with acid each year;

Whereas in North Africa, 6,000 women are genitally mutilated each day;

Whereas more than 7,000 women in India will be killed by their families and in-laws in disputes over dowries each year;

Whereas more than 15,000 women will be sold as sexual slaves in China this year;

Whereas in the United States, a woman is raped every six minutes and a woman is battered every 15 seconds;

Whereas the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), adopted in 1979 by the United Nations General Assembly, defines discrimination against women as “any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of sex which has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women, irrespective of their marital status, on a basis of equality of men and women, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field”;

Whereas the United States has yet to ratify CEDAW;

Whereas the intent of CEDAW is “to incorporate the principle of equality of men and women in their legal system, abolish all discriminatory laws and adopt appropriate ones prohibiting discrimination against women; to establish tribunals and other public institutions to ensure the effective protection of women against discrimination; and to ensure elimination of all acts of discrimination against women by persons, organizations or enterprises”;

Whereas 183 countries, representing more than 90 percent of the Member States of the United Nations, are signatories to CEDAW;

Whereas women are not chattel, may not be trafficked, or sold for services, and must not be denied the right to own property or the right of ownership;

Whereas women perform two-thirds of the world’s work, but receive less than ten percent of the world’s income and own less than one percent of the world’s assets;

Whereas the inalienable rights to freedom of worship, expression, association, and conscience, as well as the pursuit of happiness, must never be threatened or brutalized by violence, oppression, slavery, or manipulation;

Whereas the leadership of women has led to social justice, economic prosperity, political stability, peaceful relations, and a healthy population; and

Whereas self-sufficiency, economic progress, and democracy are dependent on the welfare of women and children;  
Now, therefore, be it

1        *Resolved*, That —

2            (1) the House of Representatives—

1 (A) denounces the barbaric practices of fe-  
2 male genital mutilation, domestic violence,  
3 “honor” killings, acid burning, dowry deaths,  
4 and other gender-based persecutions;

5 (B) demands the cessation of these bar-  
6 baric practices; and

7 (C) condemns the perpetrators of these  
8 barbaric practices; and

9 (2) it is the sense of the House of Representa-  
10 tives that—

11 (A) participation, protection, recognition,  
12 and independence of women is crucial to achiev-  
13 ing a just, moral, and honorable society;

14 (B) regardless of religion, geography, or  
15 form of government, women should not be de-  
16 nied equal rights, which should be defended  
17 when they are abridged, challenged, or violated;  
18 and

19 (C) the United States should renew consid-  
20 eration of and ratify its signature on the Con-  
21 vention on the Elimination of All Forms of Dis-  
22 crimination against Women (CEDAW).

○

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE**  
**TO H. RES. 32**  
**OFFERED BY MS. JACKSON-LEE OF TEXAS**

Strike the preamble and insert the following:

Whereas human rights violations against women occur around the world and are not limited to times of war, and have been committed for political gain, personal advantage, ethnic hatred, and in the name of deities and fundamentalist religious zeal;

Whereas, in many parts of the world, there is a culture of violence and discrimination which denies women rights equal to those of men and which legitimizes the exploitation of women for personal gratification, political purposes, and financial gain;

Whereas despite the fact that in 1998, the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda set a precedent in international law by establishing and prosecuting rape and sexual violence in times of violent conflict as war crimes and crimes against humanity, the rape of women continues to be used as an instrument of armed conflict in the 21st century;

Whereas former Bangladeshi Prime-Minister Sheikh Hasina acknowledged that every year in Bangladesh up to 200 women are horribly disfigured by acid attacks by their spurned husbands or suitors, leaving many of them blind, deaf, or dead;

Whereas according to Amnesty International, 6,000 women are subjected to genital mutilation each day in North Africa, and 135,000,000 women, in at least 46 other countries, have undergone female genital mutilation worldwide;

Whereas Time Magazine reports that about 25,000 women in India each year are doused with gasoline, set on fire, and burned to death because their marriage dowries are deemed too small, and four out of five of these attacks are not reported to or recorded by law enforcement agencies;

Whereas in many societies baby girls are denied food, drowned, suffocated, abandoned, or their spines are broken simply because they are born girls;

Whereas in China, where the male-child is traditionally prized above the female, the “one-child” state policy has multiplied the rate of abandonment, sex-selective and forced abortion and female infanticide, and yielded a skewed population demographic;

Whereas Chinese demographics have exacerbated the abduction, trafficking, and sale of Asian women and girls for the purposes of sex slavery and forced marriage;

Whereas Amnesty International estimates that this year, more than 15,000 women will be sold as sexual slaves in China;

Whereas, according to World Bank figures, at least one in five women and girls around the world has been beaten or sexually abused in her lifetime;

Whereas the 2002 Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe estimates that the leading cause of death worldwide among women ages 14 through 44 is the violence

to which they are subjected in their own homes, and in the Russian Federation alone, every day 36,000 women are beaten by their husbands or partners;

Whereas in the United States, every day four women die as a result of domestic violence, every year more than half a million women are battered, every year 4,000,000 women are physically abused by their husbands or domestic partners, one-third of American women report physical or sexual abuse by a husband or boyfriend at some point in their lives, over 324,000 pregnant women are victims of intimate partner violence annually, the majority of welfare recipients have experienced domestic violence as adults, and domestic violence causes 100,000 days of hospitalization, 30,000 emergency room visits, and 40,000 visits to a doctor each year;

Whereas, the theme for the 2007 United Nations International Women's Day was "Ending Impunity for Violence Against Women and Girls";

Whereas UNAIDS asserts that the best way to prevent HIV is to raise the status of women because a woman's vulnerability to HIV infection is in direct proportion to her lack of control over the risks of infection;

Whereas the inequalities between women and men have persisted and major obstacles remain, with serious consequences for the well-being of all people;

Whereas the situation of women is exacerbated by the extreme poverty that affects the lives of the majority of the world's people, in particular women and children;

Whereas families rely on mothers and wives for emotional support, labor, and income needed to raise healthy children and care for other relatives;

Whereas, according to the United Nations, nearly 70 percent of the people who live in abject poverty are women and women perform two-thirds of the world's work, earn less than five percent of its income, and own less than one percent of its property;

Whereas democracy, political stability, and economic development are linked to the welfare of women and children, yet the United Nations estimates that three of every four illiterate adults in the world are women and two-thirds of children denied primary education are girls;

Whereas the exclusion of women from the political process in many countries makes them even more vulnerable to abuse;

Whereas as long as women and girls are undervalued, overworked, and subjected to violence in and out of their homes, the potential of the human family to create a peaceful, prosperous world will not be realized; and

Whereas the leadership of women is strongly linked to social justice, economic prosperity, political stability, peaceful relations, and a healthy population: Now, therefore, be it

Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following:

That—

- 1 (1) the House of Representatives—
- 2 (A) denounces the barbaric practices of fe-
- 3 male genital mutilation, domestic violence,
- 4 “honor” killings, acid burning, dowry deaths,

1 and other gender-based persecutions and  
2 crimes;

3 (B) asserts that women are not chattel,  
4 should not be trafficked, exploited, or sold for  
5 services, and should not be denied the right to  
6 education, to ownership of property, or to par-  
7 ticipate in full, economic, social and political  
8 life;

9 (C) demands the cessation of these bar-  
10 baric practices and the dismantling of social  
11 and institutional mechanisms which perpetuate  
12 systematic discrimination against women and  
13 girls;

14 (D) calls on all governments to pass en-  
15 forceable laws banning these practices, pros-  
16 ecute any individuals who persecute or violate  
17 women and girls with these acts, and pass  
18 measures to empower women and girls and af-  
19 ford them equal access to educational, social,  
20 and economic opportunities; and

21 (E) calls on the President and fellow donor  
22 countries to promote the rights, health, and em-  
23 powerment of women in every aspect of their  
24 foreign assistance to developing countries, and  
25 discourage continued acts of violence against

1 women and the impunity that often accom-  
2 panies these acts; and

3 (2) it is the sense of the House of Representa-  
4 tives that—

5 (A) participation, protection, recognition,  
6 health, and equality of women and girls are cru-  
7 cial to achieving a just, moral, and peaceful so-  
8 ciety; and

9 (B) regardless of religion, geography, or  
10 form of government, women should not be de-  
11 nied their human rights, and those rights must  
12 be defended and enforced when they are  
13 abridged, challenged, or violated.

Amend the title so as to read: “A resolution denouncing the practices of female genital mutilation, domestic violence, ‘honor’ killings, acid burnings, dowry deaths, and other gender- based persecutions, and expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that participation, protection, recognition, and equality of women is crucial to achieving a just, moral and peaceful society.”.

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. RES. 34

Recognizing the 75th birthday of Desmond Mpilo Tutu, South African Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town, and Nobel Peace Prize recipient.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 5, 2007

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

---

## RESOLUTION

Recognizing the 75th birthday of Desmond Mpilo Tutu, South African Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town, and Nobel Peace Prize recipient.

Whereas October 7, 2006, marked the 75th birthday of Archbishop Desmond Mpilo Tutu;

Whereas in 1986, Desmond Tutu was the first black African to be elected Archbishop of Cape Town and head of the Anglican Church in South Africa;

Whereas Desmond Tutu was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984 in recognition of his courage, heroism, and use of nonviolence in the struggle against apartheid;

Whereas Desmond Tutu has been awarded, in addition to the Nobel Peace Prize, other prestigious awards including, the Order for Meritorious Award (Gold), the Archbishop

of Canterbury's Award for Outstanding Service to the Anglican Communion, the Prix d'Athene, and the Martin Luther King Jr. Non-Violent Peace Prize;

Whereas Desmond Tutu has received numerous honorary doctorates from several universities including Harvard, Kent, Colombia, Aberdeen, and Howard;

Whereas Desmond Tutu became the first black African Dean of Mary's Cathedral in Johannesburg;

Whereas Desmond Tutu was the first black African to become the General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches;

Whereas Desmond Tutu is an international lecturer, philosopher, author, and humanitarian;

Whereas Desmond Tutu chaired South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission from April 1996 to July 1998 to investigate crimes committed during the period of South Africa's apartheid; and

Whereas Desmond Tutu has fought for a democratic and just society without racial divisions, a common system of education, and a world which promotes the rights and opportunities of the marginalized, disadvantaged, and disenfranchised: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2               (1) recognizes the 75th birthday of Desmond  
3       Mpilo Tutu, Archbishop of Cape Town, South Afri-  
4       ca;

5               (2) honors the accomplishments of Desmond  
6       Mpilo Tutu; and

1           (3) extols the contributions of Desmond Mpilo  
2           Tutu to South Africa, the United States, and the  
3           international community.

○

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
TO H. RES. 34  
OFFERED BY MS. JACKSON-LEE OF TEXAS**

Strike the preamble and insert the following:

Whereas Archbishop Desmond Mpilo Tutu has been recognized as one of the 20th century's leaders for freedom, justice, and human rights for all;

Whereas Archbishop Tutu, as a religious leader and Secretary-General of the South African Council of Churches from 1976 until 1978, worked against apartheid in South Africa with the agreement of nearly all South African churches;

Whereas Archbishop Tutu consistently advocated reconciliation between all parties involved in apartheid and, though he was most firm in denouncing South Africa's white-ruled government, Archbishop Tutu was also harsh in his criticism of the violent tactics of some anti-apartheid groups and denounced terrorism;

Whereas Archbishop Tutu spoke strongly in support of non-violent change and economic sanctions against South Africa and as a result had his passport revoked by the South African Government;

Whereas Archbishop Tutu led a historical march to a whites-only beach, where he and supporters were chased off with whips;

Whereas, on October 16, 1984, Archbishop Tutu was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of his out-

standing leadership, courage, heroism, and use of non-violence in the struggle against apartheid, and the Nobel Committee cited his “role as a unifying leader figure in the campaign to resolve the problem of apartheid in South Africa”;

Whereas a month after winning the Nobel Peace Prize, Archbishop Tutu was elected as the first black Anglican bishop of Johannesburg;

Whereas, on September 7, 1986, Archbishop Tutu became the first black person to lead the Anglican Church in South Africa;

Whereas, in 1994, after the end of apartheid and the election of President Nelson Mandela, Archbishop Tutu was appointed as Chairman of South Africa’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission, to investigate apartheid-era crimes, where his policy of forgiveness and reconciliation has become an international example of conflict resolution, and a trusted method of post-conflict reconstruction;

Whereas, on October 7, 1931, Archbishop Tutu was born in Klerksdorp, Transvaal, to a school teacher and an uneducated mother and was educated at Johannesburg Bantu High School;

Whereas Archbishop Tutu trained as a high school teacher at Pretoria Bantu Normal College and graduated from the University of South Africa in 1954, and after teaching for three years was ordained as a priest in 1960;

Whereas Archbishop Tutu studied theology in England in 1962, received a Masters of Theology from University of London in 1966, was appointed as the first black South African to hold the position of Dean of St. Mary’s Cathedral in Johannesburg in 1975, and became the first black

General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches in 1978;

Whereas Archbishop Tutu is an international lecturer and philosopher and has received honorary doctorates from ten leading universities in the United States, Britain, and Germany;

Whereas Archbishop Tutu has been awarded a number of prestigious awards, including the Order for Meritorious Award (Gold), the Archbishop of Canterbury's Award for Outstanding Service to the Anglican Communion, the Prix d'Athene, and the Martin Luther King Jr. Humanitarian Award of Annual Black American Heroes and Heroines Day;

Whereas out of deep concern for the challenges facing all of the people of the world, in July 2007 Archbishop Tutu helped assemble The Elders, an historic group of world leaders seeking to contribute their wisdom, independent leadership, and integrity in tackling some of the world's toughest problems;

Whereas October 7, 2007, will mark the 76th birthday of Archbishop Desmond Mpilo Tutu; and

Whereas Archbishop Tutu has fought for a democratic and just society without racial divisions, a common system of education, a world which promotes the rights and opportunities of the marginalized, disadvantaged, and disenfranchised, and continues to pursue an active international ministry of peace: Now, therefore, be it

Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following:

That the House of Representatives—

1           (1) honors the accomplishments of Archbishop  
2 Desmond Mpilo Tutu;

3           (2) recognizes and congratulates his consistent  
4 efforts to promote dialogue to peacefully resolve con-  
5 flicts between people in Africa and around the world;  
6 and

7           (3) extols the contributions of Archbishop Tutu  
8 to South Africa, the United States, and the inter-  
9 national community.

Amend the title so as to read: “A resolution recognizing the life and accomplishments of Desmond Mpilo Tutu, South African Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town, and Nobel Peace Prize recipient.”.

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

## H. RES. 238

Commending the first democratic elections in Aceh, a province in Sumatra, Indonesia, and expressing support for the further democratic development and implementation of the Helsinki Memorandum of Understanding.

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### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 12, 2007

Mr. CROWLEY (for himself, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. WEXLER, and Mr. BURTON of Indiana) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## RESOLUTION

Commending the first democratic elections in Aceh, a province in Sumatra, Indonesia, and expressing support for the further democratic development and implementation of the Helsinki Memorandum of Understanding.

Whereas for three decades there has been a continuous armed conflict in Aceh, a province in Sumatra, Indonesia;

Whereas violence between the Indonesian military and the Free Aceh Movement has resulted in an estimated 15,000 deaths in the region;

Whereas the tsunami on December 26, 2004, killed at least 165,000 people in Aceh, devastated the landscape, and led to the loss of livelihood for 600,000 people;

Whereas the Government of Indonesia and the Free Aceh Movement signed a Memorandum of Understanding on August 15, 2005, in Helsinki;

Whereas the Aceh Monitoring Mission (AMM), led by the European Union (EU), the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Norway, and Switzerland, has supported the implementation of the Helsinki Memorandum of Understanding successfully;

Whereas the Free Aceh Movement has demobilized its military troops and decommissioned its arms;

Whereas the Government of Indonesia has withdrawn its non-organic military and police forces from Aceh;

Whereas the Law on the Governing of Aceh (LoGA) was signed into law by Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono on August 1, 2006;

Whereas the general life situation of the Acehnese has improved significantly since the signing of the Helsinki Memorandum of Understanding and the Acehnese populate markets and celebrate festivities in public;

Whereas the first democratic and peaceful gubernatorial and district administrative elections in Aceh were held on December 11, 2006, and more than 80 percent of entitled Acehnese voted; and

Whereas Irwandi Yusuf, a former leader of the Free Aceh Movement, won the gubernatorial election with the highest support of more than 38 percent of total votes: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2               (1) commends the first democratic elections in

3       Aceh, a province in Sumatra, Indonesia, in which

1 the Acehese have shown their strong commitment  
2 to democracy and peace, and congratulates Irwandi  
3 Yusuf, the first democratic elected governor of Aceh;

4 (2) expresses its ongoing support for the fur-  
5 ther democratic development of Aceh and the Hel-  
6 sinki Memorandum of Understanding signed by the  
7 Government of Indonesia and the Free Aceh Move-  
8 ment on August 15, 2005;

9 (3) encourages both parties to live up to their  
10 commitments under the Helsinki Memorandum of  
11 Understanding, especially with regard to establishing  
12 a Human Rights Court for Aceh and a Commission  
13 of Truth and Reconciliation; and

14 (4) encourages the Secretary of State and the  
15 Administrator of the United States Agency for  
16 International Development to commit resources in  
17 supporting the peace and building a strong civil soci-  
18 ety in Aceh.

○

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

## H. RES. 508

Recognizing the strong security alliance between the Government of Japan and the United States and expressing appreciation to Japan for its role in enhancing stability in the Asia-Pacific region and its efforts in the global war against terrorism.

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### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 21, 2007

Mr. SAXTON submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## RESOLUTION

Recognizing the strong security alliance between the Government of Japan and the United States and expressing appreciation to Japan for its role in enhancing stability in the Asia-Pacific region and its efforts in the global war against terrorism.

Whereas the United States-Japan alliance is the cornerstone of United States security interests in Asia and the Pacific and is fundamental to regional stability and prosperity;

Whereas the United States-Japan alliance continues to be based on shared vital interests and values in the Asia-Pacific region, despite the changes in the post-cold war strategic landscape, including the preservation and promotion of political and economic freedoms, support for human rights and democratic institutions, and securing of pros-

perity for the people of both countries and the international community;

Whereas on April 27, 2007, during Prime Minister Abe's visit to Washington, President Bush and the Prime Minister reconfirmed their commitment to these common strategic objectives;

Whereas Japan provides military bases and generous financial and material support to United States forward-deployed forces, which are essential for maintaining stability in the region;

Whereas under the United States-Japan Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security, Japan hosts a carrier battle group, the III Marine Expeditionary Force, the 5th Air Force, and elements of the Army's I Corps;

Whereas the United States currently maintains approximately 50,000 troops in Japan, about half of whom are stationed in Okinawa;

Whereas over the past decade the alliance has been strengthened through revised Defense Guidelines (which expand Japan's noncombat role in a regional contingency) and the continued renewal of Japan's Host Nation Support of United States forces stationed in Japan;

Whereas in 2005, the two allies agreed on a redefinition of roles, missions, and capabilities of alliance forces, which further deepens interoperability and coordination between the Japanese Self Defense Forces (SDF) and United States Armed Forces;

Whereas the agreement also provided for reducing the number of troops stationed in Okinawa and broadening our cooperation in the area of ballistic missile defense (BMD);

Whereas implementation of these agreements will strengthen our capabilities and make our alliance more sustainable;

Whereas after the tragic events of September 11, 2001, Japan has participated significantly with the global war on terrorism by providing troops, aircraft, and logistical support for Operation Iraqi Freedom, a commitment which the Japanese Government recently renewed;

Whereas Japan has also provided major logistical support for United States and coalition forces in the Indian Ocean in support of Operation Enduring Freedom since 2002;

Whereas alliance BMD capabilities, which contribute to the alliance's overall deterrence posture, are strengthened to the extent that United States and Japanese systems can operate together effectively;

Whereas in May 2007, the United States and Japan confirmed that, as both countries develop and deploy capabilities, every effort must be made to ensure tactical, operational, and strategic coordination;

Whereas in that light, the United States and Japan will take appropriate measures, in close coordination, in response to ballistic missile threats against alliance interests; and

Whereas because of the importance of improving the situational awareness of United States forces and the SDF, the two sides are committed to the routine sharing of BMD and related operational information directly with each other on a real-time, continuous basis: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2               (1) recognizes that Japan is one of the most re-

3       liable security partners of the United States;

1           (2) commends the Government of Japan for its  
2           role in enhancing stability in the Asia-Pacific Re-  
3           gion; and

4           (3) expresses appreciation for its efforts in the  
5           global war against terrorism.

○

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE**  
**TO H. RES. 508**  
**OFFERED BY MR. Lantos**

Strike the preamble and insert the following:

Whereas the United States-Japan alliance is the cornerstone of United States security interests in Asia and the Pacific and is fundamental to regional stability and prosperity;

Whereas the United States-Japan alliance continues to be based on shared vital interests and values in the Asia-Pacific region, despite the changes in the post-cold war strategic landscape, including the preservation and promotion of political and economic freedoms, support for human rights and democratic institutions, and securing of prosperity for the people of both countries and the international community;

Whereas on April 27, 2007, during Prime Minister Abe's visit to Washington, President Bush and the Prime Minister reconfirmed their commitment to these common strategic objectives;

Whereas Japan provides military bases and generous financial and material support to United States forward-deployed forces, which are essential for maintaining stability in the region;

Whereas under the United States-Japan Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security, Japan hosts a carrier battle group, the III Marine Expeditionary Force, and the 5th Air Force;

Whereas the United States currently maintains approximately 50,000 troops in Japan, about half of whom are stationed in Okinawa;

Whereas over the past decade the alliance has been strengthened through revised Defense Guidelines (which expand Japan's noncombat role in a regional contingency) and the continued renewal of Japan's Host Nation Support of United States forces stationed in Japan;

Whereas in 2005, the two allies agreed on a redefinition of roles, missions, and capabilities of alliance forces, which further deepens interoperability and coordination between the Japanese Self Defense Forces (SDF) and United States Armed Forces;

Whereas the agreement also provided for reducing the number of troops stationed in Okinawa and broadening our cooperation in the area of ballistic missile defense (BMD);

Whereas in May 2007, the United States and Japan confirmed that, as both countries develop and deploy capabilities, every effort must be made to ensure tactical, operational, and strategic coordination, including ballistic missile threats against alliance interests;

Whereas after the tragic events of September 11, 2001, Japan has participated significantly in international efforts to combat terrorism by providing major logistical support for United States and coalition forces in the Indian Ocean in support of Operation Enduring Freedom; and

Whereas Japan has also provided troops, aircraft, and logistical support for Operation Iraqi Freedom, a commit-

ment which the Japanese Government recently renewed:  
Now, therefore, be it

Strike the resolved text and insert the following:

That the House of Representatives—

- 1           (1) recognizes that Japan is one of the most re-
- 2           liable security partners of the United States;
- 3           (2) commends the Government of Japan for its
- 4           role in enhancing stability in the Asia-Pacific Re-
- 5           gion; and
- 6           (3) expresses appreciation to the Government of
- 7           Japan for its contributions to international efforts to
- 8           combat terrorism.

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. RES. 518

Recognizing the 50th anniversary of Malaysia's independence.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 26, 2007

Mr. MEEKS of New York (for himself and Mr. SESSIONS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## RESOLUTION

Recognizing the 50th anniversary of Malaysia's independence.

Whereas Malaysia is a modern, multi-religious, and multi-racial democracy in Southeast Asia that is important to the United States' strategic interests;

Whereas Malaysia is one of the United States' key allies in the global war on terror, and it condemns all terrorism, regardless of its cause or objectives;

Whereas the Prime Minister of Malaysia, Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, has condemned those seeking to incite race and religious hatred, including anti-Semitism;

Whereas Malaysia has taken a leading regional role in counter-terrorism and counter-narcotics in Southeast Asia, through intelligence sharing, close cooperation in law enforcement, participation in joint exercises and

training, and other cooperative efforts with its neighboring countries and the United States;

Whereas Malaysia is the United States' 10th largest trading partner, and the two countries have signed a Trade and Investment Framework Agreement and are currently engaged in talks for a free trade agreement;

Whereas Malaysia has consistently been a favored destination of American investment due to its competitive advantages, including good infrastructure, a highly-trained, educated, and multilingual workforce, and a business-friendly government;

Whereas the Malaysian Constitution guarantees gender equality, and the many accomplishments of Malaysian women evidence Malaysia's commitment to the advancement of women's social, economic, and legal status;

Whereas Malaysia was ruled by the United Kingdom until 1957;

Whereas Malaysia gained independence from the United Kingdom on August 31, 1957; and

Whereas August 31, 2007, is the 50th anniversary of Malaysia's independence, as well as the United States-Malaysia relationship: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2               (1) recognizes the 50th anniversary of Malay-  
3       sia's independence;

4               (2) expresses congratulations to Malaysia on  
5       reaching this national milestone; and

6               (3) expresses its support for an ongoing strong  
7       bilateral relationship between the United States and

- 1 Malaysia and the continued cooperation of the two
- 2 countries in such important areas as counter-ter-
- 3 rorism, counter-narcotics, and trade.

○

**AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 518****OFFERED BY MR. MEEKS OF NEW YORK**

In the first clause of the preamble, strike “modern, multi-religious, and multi-racial” and insert “multi-religious and multi-racial”.

In the second clause of the preamble, strike “the global war on terror” and insert “efforts to combat international terrorism”.

In the fifth clause of the preamble, strike “and are currently engaged in talks for a free trade agreement”.

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

## H. RES. 548

Expressing the ongoing concern of the House of Representatives for Lebanon's democratic institutions and unwavering support for the administration of justice upon those responsible for the assassination of Lebanese public figures opposing Syrian control of Lebanon.

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### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 16, 2007

Mr. ACKERMAN (for himself, Mr. PENCE, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. ISSA, and Mr. BOUSTANY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## RESOLUTION

Expressing the ongoing concern of the House of Representatives for Lebanon's democratic institutions and unwavering support for the administration of justice upon those responsible for the assassination of Lebanese public figures opposing Syrian control of Lebanon.

Whereas on February 14, 2005, former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, along with 22 other people, was assassinated by a massive bomb;

Whereas Lebanon's Cedar Revolution led to the withdrawal of Syrian troops in April 2005, following 30 years of Syrian military occupation;

Whereas parliamentary elections were held in Lebanon in May and June of 2005 leading to the formation of gov-

ernment under Prime Minister Fuad Siniora, with a majority of the parliament and cabinet committed to strengthening Lebanon's independence and the sovereignty of its democratic institutions of government;

Whereas Lebanese independence and sovereignty are still threatened by an ongoing campaign of assassination and attempted assassinations of Lebanese political and public figures opposed to Syrian interference in Lebanon's internal affairs, and terrorist bombings intended to incite ethnic and religious hatred, the continuing presence of state-sponsored militias and foreign terrorist groups, and the ongoing and illegal trans-shipment of weapons and munitions from Iran and Syria into Lebanon;

Whereas the democratically-elected and legitimate government of Lebanon, in accordance with the mandate of United Nations Security Council resolutions and the relevant provisions of the Taif Accords, has made efforts, through the internal deployments of the Lebanese Armed Forces, to exercise its full sovereignty, so that there will be no weapon or authority within Lebanon other than that of the Government of Lebanon;

Whereas the Lebanese Council of Ministers, on November 25, 2006, approved a statute for the establishment of a tribunal of an international character according to the terms negotiated between the Government of Lebanon and the United Nations in order to bring to justice all those responsible for the terrorist bombing of February 14, 2005;

Whereas a majority of Lebanese members of parliament sought a vote in favor of ratifying the statute establishing a tribunal of an international character, and 70 of Lebanon's then 127 current parliamentarians sent a memo-

randum to the United Nations Secretary-General endorsing the establishment under the United Nations Charter of a Special Tribunal to bring to justice all those responsible for the terrorist bombing of February 14, 2005;

Whereas the Speaker of the Lebanese parliament subverted the clear will of the Lebanese people, and a majority of Lebanese parliamentarians, by refusing to convene the parliament since November 2006 in order to prevent ratification of the statute approved by the Council of Ministers to create a Special Tribunal to bring to justice all those responsible for the terrorist bombing of February 14, 2005;

Whereas Hezbollah, a United States Department of State designated Foreign Terrorist Organization, and their pro-Syrian allies have declared the democratically-elected and legitimate government of Lebanon “unconstitutional”, and are seeking to topple the government through extralegal means, including, rioting, continuous street demonstrations outside of the Council of Ministers, and obstructing traffic in Beirut;

Whereas the transfer of weapons, ammunition, and fighters into Lebanon in contravention of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1701 (2006), has twice prompted the Security Council to issue statements, on April 17, 2007, (S/PRST/2007/12) and on June 11, 2007, (S/PRST/2007/17) wherein it expressed deep and serious concern at mounting information by Israel and other states of illegal movements of arms into Lebanon, and in particular across the Lebanese-Syrian border in violation of Security Council Resolution 1701;

Whereas the United Nations Security Council, with the full support of the United States, has repeatedly adopted res-

olutions, notably, Resolutions 425(1978), 520 (1982), 1559 (2004), 1655 (2006), 1664 (2006), 1680 (2006), 1701 (2006), and 1757 (2007) that, among other things, express the support of the international community for the sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity, and political independence of Lebanon under the sole and exclusive authority of the Government of Lebanon, and demand the disarmament of all armed groups in Lebanon;

Whereas United Nations Security Council Resolutions, notably, 1595 (2005), 1636 (2005), 1644, (2005), 1664 (2006), 1748 (2007), and 1757 (2007), that underscore the importance of the pursuit of justice in response to the terrorist bombing of February 14, 2005, and if appropriate, other assassinations and assassination attempts since October 2004;

Whereas the United Nations Security Council, with the full support of the United States, has sought to assist the Government of Lebanon in extending its authority over all Lebanese territory, including its sea, land, and air borders, through the presence of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) in southern Lebanon and through technical and personnel assistance;

Whereas the United Nations Security Council, with the full support of the United States, has strongly supported the demand of the Lebanese people that justice be done to those responsible for the terrorist attack of February 14, 2005, and other terrorist attacks and attempted assassinations since October 2004, establishing and extending the mandate of the International Independent Investigation Commission (IIIC) to investigate terrorist bombings of February 14, 2005, and moving toward the creation of a Special Tribunal of an international character, ac-

ording to United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1595 (2005), 1636 (2005), 1644 (2005), 1664 (2006), 1686 (2006) and 1748 (2007);

Whereas Lebanese Prime Minister Fuad Siniora in a letter of May 14, 2007, informed the Secretary General of the United Nations that, “the Lebanese Government believes that the time has come for the Security Council to help make the Special Tribunal for Lebanon a reality. We therefore ask you, as a matter of urgency, to put before the Security Council our request that the Special Tribunal be put into effect. A binding decision regarding the Tribunal on the part of the Security Council will be fully consistent with the importance the United Nations has attached to this matter from the outset, when the investigation commission was established. Further delays in setting up the Tribunal would be most detrimental to Lebanon’s stability, to the cause of justice, to the credibility of the United Nations itself and to peace and security in the region.”;

Whereas the United Nations Security Council, with the full support of the United States, adopted Resolution 1757, establishing on June 10, 2007, a Special Tribunal try all those found responsible for the terrorist bombing of February 14, 2005, and if appropriate, both prior and subsequent attacks in Lebanon, unless the Government of Lebanon has provided notice that such a tribunal has been established under its own laws;

Whereas the United States Congress has appropriated emergency economic and military assistance to Lebanon at levels far greater than the amounts of bilateral assistance provided in recent fiscal years; and

Whereas it is manifestly in the interests of the United States and the international community to support the full sovereignty and political independence of Lebanon, its democratically-elected and legitimate government, and to insist that justice be done concerning the terrorist bombing of February 14, 2005, and both prior and subsequent politically-inspired assassinations and assassination attempts: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2           (1) condemns the attempts by Hezbollah and  
3       other pro-Syrian groups to undermine and intimi-  
4       date the democratically-elected and legitimate Gov-  
5       ernment of Lebanon by extra-legal means;

6           (2) condemns the campaign of attempted and  
7       successful assassinations targeting members of par-  
8       liament and public figures in favor of Lebanese inde-  
9       pendence and sovereignty and opposed to Syrian in-  
10      terference in Lebanon, and bombings in civilian  
11      areas intended to intimidate the Lebanese people;

12          (3) calls on the Speaker of the Lebanese par-  
13      liament to convene the parliament without further  
14      delay, so that it can fulfill its legislative obligations  
15      and pursue the interests of the Lebanese people  
16      under the rule of law;

17          (4) confirms the strong support of the United  
18      States for United Nations Security Council resolu-  
19      tions concerning Lebanon, and the clear and binding

1 mandate of the international community for the  
2 arms embargo and disarmament of all armed groups  
3 in Lebanon, and particularly, Hezbollah and Pales-  
4 tinian factions in Lebanon;

5 (5) condemns Syria and Iran for their ongoing  
6 roles in providing arms to Lebanese militias, par-  
7 ticularly Hezbollah and Palestinian factions in Leb-  
8 anon, in blatant contravention of United Nations Se-  
9 curity Council Resolution 1701;

10 (6) expresses its strong appreciation to Bel-  
11 gium, China, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France,  
12 Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary,  
13 India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, the Republic of  
14 Korea, Luxemburg, Malaysia, Nepal, Netherlands,  
15 Norway, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Slovakia, Slo-  
16 venia, Spain, Sweden, Tanzania, and Turkey for  
17 their contributions of military personnel to serve in  
18 the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon  
19 (UNIFIL), now manned with 13,251 troops of the  
20 15,000 troops authorized in United Nations Security  
21 Council Resolution 1701;

22 (7) urges the Government of Lebanon to re-  
23 quest UNIFIL's assistance to secure the Lebanese-  
24 Syrian border against the entry of illicit arms or re-  
25 lated material under paragraphs 11(f) and 14 of

1 United Nations Security Council Resolution 1701,  
2 and pledges earnest American support for this ac-  
3 tion, should the Government of Lebanon choose to  
4 do so;

5 (8) calls on the international community to fur-  
6 ther support the mission of UNIFIL and efforts by  
7 the United Nations Secretary-General to improve the  
8 monitoring of the Lebanese border in order to effec-  
9 tively implement the arms embargo on armed groups  
10 in Lebanon required by United Nations Security  
11 Council Resolution 1701;

12 (9) affirms strongly United States support for  
13 efforts to bring to justice those responsible for the  
14 terrorist bombing of February 14, 2005, and both  
15 prior and subsequent politically inspired assassina-  
16 tions, and for the Special Tribunal for Lebanon es-  
17 tablished by the United Nations Security Council  
18 Resolution 1757;

19 (10) endorses prompt action by the Special Tri-  
20 bunal for Lebanon for the terrorist bombing of Feb-  
21 ruary 14, 2005, and both prior and subsequent po-  
22 litically-inspired assassinations, under Chapter VII  
23 of the United Nations Charter;

24 (11) pledges continued support for the demo-  
25 cratically-elected and legitimate Government of Leb-

1       anon and the Lebanese people against the campaign  
2       of intimidation, terror, and murder directed at the  
3       Lebanese people and at political and public figures  
4       opposing Syrian interference in Lebanon;

5               (12) commends the many Lebanese who con-  
6       tinue to adhere steadfastly to the principles of the  
7       Cedar Revolution and support the democratically  
8       elected and legitimate government of Lebanon;

9               (13) applauds the Government of Lebanon's ef-  
10       forts to fully extend Lebanon's sovereignty over the  
11       entire country through the internal deployments of  
12       the Lebanese Armed Forces, including direct action  
13       against the Fatah al Islam group, and encourages  
14       the Government of Lebanon to intensify these ef-  
15       forts; and

16              (14) re-affirms its intention to continue to pro-  
17       vide financial and material assistance to support the  
18       sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity, and political  
19       independence of Lebanon under the sole and exclu-  
20       sive authority of the Government of Lebanon.

○

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
TO H. RES. 548  
OFFERED BY MR. ACKERMAN OF NEW YORK**

Strike the preamble and insert the following:

Whereas on February 14, 2005, former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, along with 22 other people, was assassinated by a massive bomb;

Whereas Lebanon's Cedar Revolution led to the withdrawal of Syrian troops in April 2005, following 30 years of Syrian military occupation;

Whereas parliamentary elections were held in Lebanon in May and June of 2005 leading to the formation of government under Prime Minister Fuad Siniora, with a majority of the parliament and cabinet committed to strengthening Lebanon's independence and the sovereignty of its democratic institutions of government;

Whereas Lebanese independence and sovereignty are still threatened by an ongoing campaign of assassination and attempted assassinations of Lebanese political and public figures opposed to Syrian interference in Lebanon's internal affairs, and terrorist bombings intended to incite ethnic and religious hatred, the continuing presence of state-sponsored militias and foreign terrorist groups, and the ongoing and illegal trans-shipment of weapons and munitions from Iran and Syria into Lebanon;

Whereas the democratically-elected and legitimate government of Lebanon, in accordance with the mandate of

United Nations Security Council resolutions and the relevant provisions of the Taif Accords, has made efforts, through the internal deployments of the Lebanese Armed Forces, to exercise its full sovereignty, so that there will be no weapon or authority within Lebanon other than that of the Government of Lebanon;

Whereas the Lebanese Council of Ministers, on November 25, 2006, approved a statute for the establishment of a tribunal of an international character according to the terms negotiated between the Government of Lebanon and the United Nations in order to bring to justice all those responsible for the terrorist bombing of February 14, 2005;

Whereas a majority of Lebanese members of parliament sought a vote in favor of ratifying the statute establishing a tribunal of an international character, and 70 of Lebanon's then 127 current parliamentarians sent a memorandum to the United Nations Secretary-General endorsing the establishment under the United Nations Charter of a Special Tribunal to bring to justice all those responsible for the terrorist bombing of February 14, 2005;

Whereas the Speaker of the Lebanese parliament subverted the clear will of the Lebanese people, and a majority of Lebanese parliamentarians, by refusing to convene the parliament since November 2006 in order to prevent ratification of the statute approved by the Council of Ministers to create a Special Tribunal to bring to justice all those responsible for the terrorist bombing of February 14, 2005;

Whereas Hezbollah, a United States Department of State designated Foreign Terrorist Organization, and their pro-Syrian allies have declared the democratically-elected and

legitimate government of Lebanon “unconstitutional”, and are seeking to topple the government through extra-legal means, including, rioting, continuous street demonstrations outside of the Council of Ministers, and obstructing traffic in Beirut;

Whereas the transfer of weapons, ammunition, and fighters into Lebanon in contravention of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1701 (2006), has twice prompted the Security Council to issue statements, on April 17, 2007, (S/PRST/2007/12) and on June 11, 2007, (S/PRST/2007/17) wherein it expressed deep and serious concern at mounting information by Israel and other states of illegal movements of arms into Lebanon, and in particular across the Lebanese-Syrian border in violation of Security Council Resolution 1701;

Whereas the United Nations Security Council, with the full support of the United States, has repeatedly adopted resolutions, notably, Resolutions 425(1978), 520 (1982), 1559 (2004), 1655 (2006), 1664 (2006), 1680 (2006), 1701 (2006), and 1757 (2007) that, among other things, express the support of the international community for the sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity, and political independence of Lebanon under the sole and exclusive authority of the Government of Lebanon, and demand the disarmament of all armed groups in Lebanon;

Whereas United Nations Security Council Resolutions, notably, 1595 (2005), 1636 (2005), 1644, (2005), 1664 (2006), 1748 (2007), and 1757 (2007), that underscore the importance of the pursuit of justice in response to the terrorist bombing of February 14, 2005, and if appropriate, other assassinations and assassination attempts since October 2004;

Whereas the United Nations Security Council, with the full support of the United States, has sought to assist the Government of Lebanon in extending its authority over all Lebanese territory, including its sea, land, and air borders, through the presence of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) in southern Lebanon and through technical and personnel assistance;

Whereas the United Nations Security Council, with the full support of the United States, has strongly supported the demand of the Lebanese people that justice be done to those responsible for the terrorist attack of February 14, 2005, and other terrorist attacks and attempted assassinations since October 2004, establishing and extending the mandate of the International Independent Investigation Commission (IIIC) to investigate terrorist bombings of February 14, 2005, and moving toward the creation of a Special Tribunal of an international character, according to United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1595 (2005), 1636 (2005), 1644 (2005), 1664 (2006), 1686 (2006) and 1748 (2007);

Whereas Lebanese Prime Minister Fuad Siniora in a letter of May 14, 2007, informed the Secretary General of the United Nations that, “the Lebanese Government believes that the time has come for the Security Council to help make the Special Tribunal for Lebanon a reality. We therefore ask you, as a matter of urgency, to put before the Security Council our request that the Special Tribunal be put into effect. A binding decision regarding the Tribunal on the part of the Security Council will be fully consistent with the importance the United Nations has attached to this matter from the outset, when the investigation commission was established. Further delays in

setting up the Tribunal would be most detrimental to Lebanon's stability, to the cause of justice, to the credibility of the United Nations itself and to peace and security in the region.”;

Whereas the United Nations Security Council, with the full support of the United States, adopted Resolution 1757, establishing on June 10, 2007, a Special Tribunal try all those found responsible for the terrorist bombing of February 14, 2005, and if appropriate, both prior and subsequent attacks in Lebanon, unless the Government of Lebanon has provided notice that such a tribunal has been established under its own laws;

Whereas the United States Congress has appropriated emergency economic and military assistance to Lebanon at levels far greater than the amounts of bilateral assistance provided in recent fiscal years; and

Whereas it is manifestly in the interests of the United States and the international community to support the full sovereignty and political independence of Lebanon, its democratically-elected and legitimate government, and to insist that justice be done concerning the terrorist bombing of February 14, 2005, and both prior and subsequent politically-inspired assassinations and assassination attempts: Now, therefore, be it

Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following:

That the House of Representatives—

- 1 (1) condemns the attempts by Hezbollah and
- 2 other pro-Syrian groups to undermine and intimi-

1 date the democratically-elected and legitimate Gov-  
2 ernment of Lebanon by extra-legal means;

3 (2) condemns the campaign of attempted and  
4 successful assassinations targeting members of par-  
5 liament and public figures in favor of Lebanese inde-  
6 pendence and sovereignty and opposed to Syrian in-  
7 terference in Lebanon, and bombings in civilian  
8 areas intended to intimidate the Lebanese people;

9 (3) calls on the Speaker of the Lebanese par-  
10 liament to convene the parliament without further  
11 delay, so that it can fulfill its legislative obligations  
12 and pursue the interests of the Lebanese people  
13 under the rule of law;

14 (4) declares that the association of political par-  
15 ties with terrorist organizations, militias, and other  
16 elements retaining armed operational capabilities  
17 outside of the official military and security institu-  
18 tions of the Government of Lebanon hinders the  
19 emergence of a fully-democratic Lebanon;

20 (5) confirms the strong support of the United  
21 States for United Nations Security Council resolu-  
22 tions concerning Lebanon, and the clear and binding  
23 mandate of the international community for the  
24 arms embargo and disarmament of all armed groups

1 in Lebanon, and particularly, Hezbollah and Pales-  
2 tinian factions in Lebanon;

3 (6) condemns Syria and Iran for their ongoing  
4 roles in providing arms to Lebanese militias, par-  
5 ticularly Hezbollah and Palestinian factions in Leb-  
6 anon, in blatant contravention of United Nations Se-  
7 curity Council Resolution 1701;

8 (7) declares that the United States should con-  
9 sider Syria's obstructive role in Lebanon when as-  
10 sessing the status and nature of United States bilat-  
11 eral relations with Syria;

12 (8) expresses its strong appreciation to Bel-  
13 gium, China, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France,  
14 Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary,  
15 India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, the Republic of  
16 Korea, Luxemburg, Malaysia, Nepal, Netherlands,  
17 Norway, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Slovakia, Slo-  
18 venia, Spain, Sweden, Tanzania, and Turkey for  
19 their contributions of military personnel to serve in  
20 the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon  
21 (UNIFIL), now manned with 13,251 troops of the  
22 15,000 troops authorized in United Nations Security  
23 Council Resolution 1701;

24 (9) urges the Government of Lebanon to re-  
25 quest UNIFIL's assistance to secure the Lebanese-

1 Syrian border against the entry of illicit arms or re-  
2 lated material under paragraphs 11(f) and 14 of  
3 United Nations Security Council Resolution 1701,  
4 and pledges earnest American support for this ac-  
5 tion, should the Government of Lebanon choose to  
6 do so;

7 (10) calls on the international community to  
8 further support the mission of UNIFIL and efforts  
9 by the United Nations Secretary-General to improve  
10 the monitoring of the Lebanese border in order to  
11 effectively implement the arms embargo on armed  
12 groups in Lebanon required by United Nations Se-  
13 curity Council Resolution 1701;

14 (11) affirms strongly United States support for  
15 efforts to bring to justice those responsible for the  
16 terrorist bombing of February 14, 2005, and both  
17 prior and subsequent politically inspired assassina-  
18 tions, and for the Special Tribunal for Lebanon es-  
19 tablished by the United Nations Security Council  
20 Resolution 1757;

21 (12) endorses prompt action by the Special Tri-  
22 bunal for Lebanon for the terrorist bombing of Feb-  
23 ruary 14, 2005, and both prior and subsequent po-  
24 litically-inspired assassinations, under Chapter VII  
25 of the United Nations Charter;

1           (13) pledges continued support for the demo-  
2 cratically-elected and legitimate Government of Leb-  
3 anon and the Lebanese people against the campaign  
4 of intimidation, terror, and murder directed at the  
5 Lebanese people and at political and public figures  
6 opposing Syrian interference in Lebanon;

7           (14) commends the many Lebanese who con-  
8 tinue to adhere steadfastly to the principles of the  
9 Cedar Revolution and support the democratically  
10 elected and legitimate government of Lebanon;

11           (15) applauds the Government of Lebanon's ef-  
12 forts to fully extend Lebanon's sovereignty over the  
13 entire country through the internal deployments of  
14 the Lebanese Armed Forces, including direct action  
15 against the Fatah al Islam group, and encourages  
16 the Government of Lebanon to intensify these ef-  
17 forts; and

18           (16) re-affirms its intention to continue to pro-  
19 vide financial and material assistance to support the  
20 sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity, and political  
21 independence of Lebanon under the sole and exclu-  
22 sive authority of the Government of Lebanon.

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

## H. RES. 557

Strongly condemning the United Nations Human Rights Council for ignoring severe human rights abuses in various countries, while choosing to unfairly target Israel by including it as the only country permanently placed on the Council's agenda.

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### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 19, 2007

Mr. CAMPBELL of California (for himself, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. AKIN, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. FEENEY, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. GINGREY, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. GOODE, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. HERGER, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, Mr. JORDAN of Ohio, Mr. KIRK, Mr. KLINE of Minnesota, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. LINDER, Mr. MCCARTHY of California, Mr. MCCAUL of Texas, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. PITTS, Mr. POE, Mr. PORTER, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. RENZI, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin, Mr. SALI, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. SAXTON, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SHADEGG, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. SIRES, Mr. TERRY, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. BARTON of Texas) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## RESOLUTION

Strongly condemning the United Nations Human Rights Council for ignoring severe human rights abuses in various countries, while choosing to unfairly target Israel

by including it as the only country permanently placed on the Council's agenda.

Whereas Article II of Chapter I of the United Nations Charter states that “[t]he Organization is based on the principles of sovereign equality of all its members”;

Whereas the former United Nations Human Rights Commission was widely discredited for its incessant attacks against Israel and for granting membership to Cuba, Zimbabwe, China, Saudi Arabia, and other countries that were notorious human rights violators;

Whereas the United Nations General Assembly voted overwhelmingly to adopt a resolution establishing the Human Rights Council, stating that “members elected to the Council shall uphold the highest standards in the promotion and protection of human rights”;

Whereas the resolution also stated that “the Council shall be responsible for promoting universal respect for the protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction of any kind and in a fair and equal manner”;

Whereas China, Cuba, and Saudi Arabia are members of the Human Rights Council;

Whereas in the past year that the United Nations Human Rights Council has been in existence, the Council has held four special sessions to address pressing human rights situations;

Whereas of those four sessions, three were condemning Israel for their possible human right abuses in the Occupied Palestinian Territories and in Lebanon, and the fourth special session was a non-condemnatory expression of “concern” regarding the situation in Darfur, Sudan;

Whereas the Human Rights Council has failed to adequately address a number of other pressing human rights concerns throughout the world;

Whereas the 2006 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices of the Department of State notes that, with respect to Iran, “the government’s poor human rights record worsened . . . and it continued to commit numerous, serious abuses”;

Whereas, between June 10 and 15, 2007, Hamas-armed gunman violently took over the Gaza Strip, executing men, women, and children;

Whereas, on June 19, 2007, a Department of State spokesperson specifically identified Burma, Cuba, North Korea, Zimbabwe, and Belarus as countries that merit consideration by the United Nations Human Rights Council due to their “serious human rights violations”;

Whereas during its fifth session, the Human Rights Council voted to make Israel the only country permanently included on its agenda; and

Whereas United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon said he was “disappointed at the Council’s decision to single out only one specific regional item, given the range and scope of allegations of human rights violations throughout the world”: Now, therefore, be it

- 1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—
- 2               (1) strongly condemns the United Nations
- 3       Human Rights Council for ignoring severe human
- 4       rights abuses in other countries, while choosing to
- 5       unfairly target Israel;

1           (2) strongly urges the Council to remove Israel  
2 from its permanent agenda;

3           (3) strongly urges the Council to hold special  
4 sessions to address other countries where human  
5 rights abuses are being committed, adopt real re-  
6 form as was intended for the Council when it re-  
7 placed the United Nations Commission on Human  
8 Rights, and reaffirm the principle of human dignity  
9 consistent with the original intent envisioned at the  
10 Council's establishment;

11          (4) strongly urges the United States to make  
12 every effort in the General Assembly to ensure that  
13 the Council lives up to its mission to protect human  
14 rights around the world, in accordance with United  
15 Nations General Assembly Resolution 60/251 estab-  
16 lishing the Council; and

17          (5) strongly urges the United States to work  
18 with the United Nations General Assembly to ensure  
19 that only countries who have a well-established com-  
20 mitment to protecting human rights are chosen to  
21 serve on the Council.

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**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
TO H. RES. 557  
OFFERED BY MR. LANTOS OF CALIFORNIA**

Strike the preamble and insert the following:

Whereas Article II of Chapter I of the United Nations Charter states that “[t]he Organization is based on the principles of sovereign equality of all its members”;

Whereas the former United Nations Human Rights Commission was widely discredited for its incessant attacks against Israel and for granting membership to Cuba, Zimbabwe, China, Saudi Arabia, and other countries that were notorious human rights violators;

Whereas the United Nations General Assembly voted overwhelmingly to adopt a resolution establishing the United Nations Human Rights Council, stating that “members elected to the Council shall uphold the highest standards in the promotion and protection of human rights”;

Whereas the resolution also stated that “the Council shall be responsible for promoting universal respect for the protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction of any kind and in a fair and equal manner”;

Whereas China, Cuba, and Saudi Arabia are members of the United Nations Human Rights Council;

Whereas in the past year that the United Nations Human Rights Council has been in existence, the Council has

held four special sessions to address pressing human rights situations;

Whereas of the four special sessions, three sessions were held for purposes of condemning Israel for alleged human right abuses in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and in Lebanon, and the fourth session was a non-condemnatory expression of “concern” regarding the situation in Darfur, Sudan;

Whereas the United Nations Human Rights Council has failed to condemn serial abusers of human rights throughout the world, including Iran, Syria, North Korea, Cuba, China, Zimbabwe, Venezuela, and others;

Whereas, on June 19, 2007, a Department of State spokesperson specifically identified Burma, Cuba, North Korea, Zimbabwe, and Belarus as countries that merit consideration by the United Nations Human Rights Council due to their “serious human rights violations”;

Whereas during its fifth special session, the United Nations Human Rights Council voted to make Israel the only country permanently included on its agenda; and

Whereas United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon stated he was “disappointed at the Council’s decision to single out only one specific regional item, given the range and scope of allegations of human rights violations throughout the world”: Now, therefore, be it

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

That the House of Representatives—

1 (1) strongly condemns the United Nations  
2 Human Rights Council for ignoring severe human  
3 rights abuses in other countries, while choosing to  
4 unfairly target the State of Israel;

5 (2) strongly urges the United Nations Human  
6 Rights Council to remove Israel from its permanent  
7 agenda;

8 (3) strongly urges the United Nations Human  
9 Rights Council to hold special sessions to address  
10 other countries in which human rights abuses are  
11 being committed, adopt real reform as was intended  
12 for the Council when it replaced the United Nations  
13 Commission on Human Rights, and reaffirm the  
14 principle of human dignity consistent with the origi-  
15 nal intent envisioned at the Council's establishment;

16 (4) strongly urges the United States to make  
17 every effort in the United Nations General Assembly  
18 to ensure that the United Nations Human Rights  
19 Council lives up to its mission to protect human  
20 rights around the world, in accordance with United  
21 Nations General Assembly Resolution 60/251 estab-  
22 lishing the Council; and

23 (5) strongly urges the United States to work  
24 with the United Nations General Assembly to ensure  
25 that only countries that have a well-established com-

1     mitment to protecting human rights are chosen to  
2     serve on the Council.

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

## H. RES. 564

Recognizing that violence poses an increasingly serious threat to peace and stability in Central America and supporting expanded cooperation between the United States and the countries of Central America to combat crime and violence.

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### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 23, 2007

Mr. ENGEL (for himself and Mr. BURTON of Indiana) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## RESOLUTION

Recognizing that violence poses an increasingly serious threat to peace and stability in Central America and supporting expanded cooperation between the United States and the countries of Central America to combat crime and violence.

Whereas murder rates have been increasing throughout Central America in recent years;

Whereas in 2005, the estimated murder rate per 100,000 people was roughly 56 in El Salvador, 41 in Honduras, and 38 in Guatemala;

Whereas the February 2007 murder of 3 Salvadoran legislators from the Central American parliament and the subsequent murder in prison of the Guatemalan policemen

linked to the crime clearly illustrated to the international community the threat posed by violence in Central America;

Whereas a May 2007 report by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) makes the case that Central American countries are particularly vulnerable to violent crimes fueled by drug trafficking and corruption because they are geographically located between the world's largest drug producing and drug consuming countries;

Whereas 90 percent of the cocaine shipped from the Andes to the United States flows through Central America and thus contributes to increased violence on the Central American isthmus;

Whereas Central American governments and United States officials have attributed a large proportion of the rise in violent crime in Central America to youth gangs, many of which have ties to the United States;

Whereas UNODC estimates that there are 69,145 gang members in Central America;

Whereas on June 7, 2005, the Organization of American States (OAS) passed a resolution to urge member states to support the creation of holistic solutions to the gang problem;

Whereas Guatemala has experienced a surge in female murders during the past 3 years, with many of those murders allegedly committed by drug traffickers and other organized criminal groups;

Whereas violence between partners, particularly violence by men against their wives or girlfriends, is widespread in Central America and an International Violence Against Women Survey comparing selected countries in Africa,

Latin America, Europe, and Asia found that 60 percent of women in Costa Rica—often considered the least violent country in Central America—reported having experienced domestic violence during their lives;

Whereas the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere held a briefing and hearing on June 26, 2007, on violence in Central America;

Whereas the Guatemalan government and the United Nations signed a groundbreaking agreement in December 2006 to establish the International Commission Against Impunity in Guatemala (CICIG) which still must be approved by the country's legislature;

Whereas the Central American Integration System (SICA) is an inter-governmental organization formed in 1991 comprised of the following member states: Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama;

Whereas SICA and the United States held their first ever Dialogue on Democratic Security in Guatemala City from July 16 through 18, 2007, which focused on gangs, drug trafficking, and arms trafficking;

Whereas SICA and the United States signed an agreement at this meeting to improve intelligence sharing and policing and to institutionalize dialogue on regional security;

Whereas this meeting was the first time in almost a quarter century that high level officials from the United States and all 7 Central American countries have met formally to discuss security issues;

Whereas United States Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs Thomas Shannon announced at this meeting the United States Strategy to Combat

Criminal Gangs from Central America and Mexico designed to prevent youth from entering gangs and strengthen the fight against gang-related violence and other crimes;

Whereas Assistant Secretary Shannon recognized at this meeting that youth gang delinquency “has profound social roots and our way of fighting it cannot only be through policing”;

Whereas the United States pledged \$1,000,000 at this meeting to help Central American governments draft a regional strategy to fight youth gangs and drug trafficking and \$3,000,000 to fund rehabilitation programs for youths in gangs; and

Whereas an enhanced political commitment and cooperation between the United States and Central America on security issues can help curb violence in Central America: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-  
2       resentatives that—

3               (1) crime and violence pose an increasingly seri-  
4       ous threat to peace and stability in Central America;

5               (2) officials from Central America and the  
6       United States should be commended for holding a  
7       historic meeting to discuss regional security strate-  
8       gies;

9               (3) the announcement on July 18, 2007, of the  
10       United States Strategy to Combat Criminal Gangs

1 from Central America and Mexico should be com-  
2 mended;

3 (4) the President of the United States should  
4 follow through on commitments made in the United  
5 States Strategy to Combat Criminal Gangs from  
6 Central America and Mexico with concrete actions;

7 (5) the commitment of funds by the United  
8 States to fight youth gangs in Central America is an  
9 important step forward and greater resources should  
10 be considered in the future to fight this problem due  
11 to its severity and its transnational nature; and

12 (6) Central American and United States offi-  
13 cials should be encouraged to meet on a regular  
14 basis to further cooperation in combating crime and  
15 violence in Central America.

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.....  
(Original Signature of Member)

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. RES. 575**

**Commending the people and the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for their continued commitment to holding elections and broadening participation, and for other purposes.**

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**Mr. BAIRD (for himself and Mr. Lantos) submitted the following resolution; which was referred  
Committee on \_\_\_\_\_**

**RESOLUTION**

Commending the people and the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for their continued commitment to holding elections and broadening political participation, and for other purposes.

Whereas on June 17, 2003, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan held parliamentary elections, the fourth since 1989, and the first during the reign of His Majesty King Abdullah II;

Whereas His Majesty King Abdullah II underscored his commitment to hold the next parliamentary elections in Jordan not later than November 2007;

Whereas municipal elections for the local councils are scheduled to be held on July 31, 2007, under a new reformed municipal elections law passed on February 4, 2007, under which the mayors and councils of all municipalities in Jordan will be elected;

Whereas the new reformed municipal elections law includes a 20 percent quota for women in the council seats and reduces the age of eligible voters from 19 to 18 years of age in order to expand the voter base;

Whereas, with the direct assistance of the United States Agency for International Development and the Millennium Challenge Corporation, Jordan has placed great emphasis in recent years on the rights of women to vote and run for public office, thereby serving as a model for other countries in the region;

Whereas the people and the Government of Jordan are committed to continuing this progress;

Whereas His Majesty King Abdullah II recently emphasized the importance of building a thriving civil society when he declared, “We in Jordan—and many others, throughout the Middle East—are working hard to create a civic environment in which our people will thrive. The basic requirement is an inclusive, democratic civil society—one that guarantees rights, delegates responsibilities, honors merit and rewards achievement. The foundation stones on which we build are peace and stability, basic civil and political rights, essential services, freedom of expression and the rule of law.”;

Whereas Jordan continues to invest in reforming its educational system to incorporate democratic values and principles: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

- (1) commends the people, the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, His Majesty King Abdullah II for their commitment to conducting parliamentary and municipal elections in 2007;
- (2) expresses its desire that Jordan’s progress toward democratization continue and flourish as a model for other Arab countries;
- (3) commends His Majesty King Abdullah II and the Jordanian people for striving to uphold women’s rights and enhance women’s participation in the political process;
- (4) reaffirms the special relationship that exists between the people of the United States and the people of Jordan; and
- (5) remains committed to assist Jordan, should it so desire, in promoting democratic reform.

.....  
(Original Signature of Member)

110<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. RES. 583

Recognizing the remarkable example of Sir Nicholas Winton who organized the rescue of 669 Jewish Czechoslovakian children from Nazi death camps prior to the outbreak of World War II.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. KLEIN of Florida submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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## RESOLUTION

Recognizing the remarkable example of Sir Nicholas Winton who organized the rescue of 669 Jewish Czechoslovakian children from Nazi death camps prior to the outbreak of World War II.

Whereas during the Holocaust, in which some 6,000,000 Jews were brutally put to death by the Government of Nazi Germany, a small number of individuals risked their lives and spent fortunes to save the lives of others because they were decent and courageous men and women of principle;

Whereas, in October 1938, the Nazi Government occupied the Sudetenland area of Czechoslovakia, which resulted in

tens of thousands of Jewish refugees fleeing the occupied areas and seeking safety in the areas of as-yet unoccupied Czechoslovakia;

Whereas, in late 1938, a 29-year-old British businessman, Nicholas Winton, was encouraged by a friend at the British Embassy in Prague to forgo a ski vacation in the Alps to visit Prague and see first-hand the freezing refugee camps filled with Jewish families who had fled the Sudetenland;

Whereas, in the face of this enormous suffering, Winton, moved by feelings of deep compassion, undertook a massive effort to help the children of many of these Jewish families escape these horrible circumstances, though at that time neither he nor they knew the full extent of the horrors that awaited them;

Whereas Winton sought to find friendly governments which would grant asylum to these Jewish refugee children, and his efforts were rebuffed by the countries whose help he requested, until the Governments of Sweden and the United Kingdom agreed to accept children from the Czechoslovakian refugee camps;

Whereas Winton and other volunteers gathered names and other information on children whose parents recognized the importance of getting their children beyond the reach of the Nazi Government, and Winton was able to use this information to identify foster homes for these refugee children;

Whereas Winton took the lead in raising funds to pay for the transportation of the children from Prague to Britain and Sweden and to pay an enormous government-imposed fee to cover the costs of future repatriation;

Whereas, on March 14, 1939, the first 20 children left Prague under Winton's auspices, and the very next day the Nazi army overran the remainder of un-occupied Czechoslovakia;

Whereas the heroic effort of Winton and other volunteers to assist these young children flee occupied Czechoslovakia continued for over six months until the outbreak of World War II on September 1, 1939, during which time 669 children were able to leave in a total of eight separate groups;

Whereas the ninth group of some 250 children was scheduled to leave Prague on September 3, 1939, but was halted following the outbreak of hostilities, and none of these 250 children lived to see the end of World War II six years later;

Whereas this group of 669 children, saved through the efforts of Winton and his collaborators, includes doctors, nurses, teachers, musicians, artists, writers, pilots, ministers, scientists, engineers, entrepreneurs, and a Member of the British Parliament, and today they and their children and grandchildren and great-grandchildren number over 5,000 individuals, and these individuals live in the United States, Canada, Australia, the Czech Republic, Britain, Germany, and other countries;

Whereas Winton's achievement went unrecognized and unacknowledged for more than half a century until his wife, who knew nothing of this life-saving work, came across an old leather briefcase in an attic in which she found lists of the children, letters from their parents and other materials documenting his efforts;

Whereas, of the 15,000 Czechoslovakian Jewish children who fled to refugee camps or who were forced into concentration camps during the Nazi occupation, only a handful survived World War II, and Vera Gissing, one of the children saved by Winton and the author of the script for the film “Nicholas Winton—the Power of Good”, which won the Emmy Award in 2002, said that Winton “rescued the greater part of the Jewish children of my generation in Czechoslovakia. Very few of us met our parents again: they perished in concentration camps. Had we not been spirited away, we would have been murdered alongside them.”; and

Whereas Winton has been honored with the title of Member of the British Empire (MBE), was awarded the Freedom of the City of Prague, received the Czech Order of T. G. Masaryk, and was given a knighthood from Queen Elizabeth II for services to humanity: Now, therefore, be it:

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2               (1) commends Sir Nicholas Winton and those  
3       British and Czechoslovakian citizens who worked  
4       with him, for their remarkable persistence and self-  
5       less courage in saving the lives of 669 Czecho-  
6       slovakian Jewish children in the months before the  
7       outbreak of World War II; and

8               (2) urges men and women everywhere to recog-  
9       nize in Winton’s remarkable humanitarian effort the  
10       difference that one devoted principled individual can  
11       make in changing and improving the lives of others.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Chairman, before we adjourn?

Chairman LANTOS. My colleague from Florida.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Thank you. I would like to recognize Edith Bartley, who is in the audience today. She is the daughter of Julian Bartley, who was serving as our Consul General in Kenya when our Embassy was attacked in 1998. He and Edith's brother, Julian Bartley, Jr., were killed in that bombing, and we thank her and her family for their sacrifice. Thank you for being with us today. Thank you so much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman LANTOS. I want to add my own thanks to our guests. I had the pleasure of talking with her on earlier occasions, and we are delighted to have you here.

This meeting of the Foreign Affairs Committee is now adjourned. [Whereupon, at 10:48 a.m., the committee was adjourned.]

