

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 309

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that North Korea should immediately stop any hostile rhetoric and activity towards the Republic of Korea and engage in mutual dialogue to enhance inter-Korean relations.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 31, 2009

Mr. KING of New York (for himself, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. COURTNEY, and Ms. WATSON) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that North Korea should immediately stop any hostile rhetoric and activity towards the Republic of Korea and engage in mutual dialogue to enhance inter-Korean relations.

Whereas North Korea's nuclear and missile programs, and their suspected proliferation, are threatening peace and stability in Northeast Asia and beyond;

Whereas the North Korean leadership continues to pursue its nuclear ambitions while up to 2,000,000 North Koreans reportedly starved to death during the late 1990s and hundreds of thousands fled North Korea in search of freedom and food;

Whereas, on October 18, 2004, H.R. 4011, the North Korean Human Rights Act, became Public Law 108–333, bringing attention to the human rights conditions in North Korea and to provide United States support for North Korean refugees;

Whereas, on October 9, 2006, North Korea detonated a nuclear explosive device prompting the United Nations Security Council to adopt military and economic sanctions against North Korea through Resolution 1718;

Whereas, on June 30, 2008, H.R. 2642, the Supplemental Appropriations Act, became Public Law 110–252, granting the President the authority to waive the Glenn Amendment sanctions in order to facilitate North Korea’s denuclearization process and to provide heavy fuel oil energy assistance to North Korea in support of the Six-Party Talks;

Whereas, on October 7, 2008, the North Korean Human Rights Reauthorization Act became Public Law 110–346;

Whereas, on October 11, 2008, North Korea was removed from the United States list of state sponsors of terrorism;

Whereas, on October 15, 2008, the Naval Vessel Transfer Act became Public Law 110–429 and included provisions to upgrade the Republic of Korea’s foreign military sales status to that of “NATO plus three”;

Whereas, on January 30, 2009, North Korea announced that it would nullify all inter-Korean agreements that are in pursuit of putting an end to the state of political and military confrontations and abrogate the agreements on the Sea Demarcation Line, known as the “Northern Limit Line”;

Whereas, on February 3, 2009, President Barack Obama stated, in a call with the Republic of Korea's President Lee Myung-bak, that recent events underscore the need for the United States and the Republic of Korea to work together even more closely to achieve complete and verifiable denuclearization of North Korea;

Whereas, on February 10, 2009, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton stated that North Korea must understand that all of the countries in East Asia have made it clear that North Korea's recent behavior is viewed as unacceptable;

Whereas, on February 20, 2009, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton stated, in a joint press conference with the Republic of Korea's Foreign Minister Yu Myung-hwan, that the United States and the Republic of Korea maintain a joint resolve to bring about the complete and verifiable denuclearization of North Korea through the Six-Party Talks and that North Korea is not going to get a different relationship with the United States while insulting and refusing dialogue with the Republic of Korea;

Whereas for more than a year, North Korea has refused proposals from the Republic of Korea for mutual dialogue and also has refused to fully implement the Six-Party agreements on denuclearization;

Whereas North Korea is reportedly preparing for an intercontinental ballistic missile test; and

Whereas in the face of serious security challenges on the Korean Peninsula, including the recent North Korean hostilities towards the Republic of Korea, the alliance between the United States and the Republic of Korea remains resilient and firm, based on shared values, mutual trust, and common interests: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-
2 representatives that—

3 (1) North Korea should immediately stop any
4 hostile rhetoric and activity towards the Republic of
5 Korea and engage in mutual dialogue to enhance
6 inter-Korean relations;

7 (2) North Korea should fully implement the
8 Six-Party joint statement of September 19, 2005,
9 verifiably abandon all of its nuclear weapons and ex-
10 isting nuclear programs, and return to the Non-Pro-
11 liferation Treaty (NPT) at an early date;

12 (3) North Korea should comply with United
13 Nations Security Council Resolution 1718;

14 (4) the United States remains committed to the
15 promotion of inter-Korean dialogue and cooperation;
16 and

17 (5) the strategic importance of the strong alli-
18 ance between the United States and the Republic of
19 Korea, in promoting peace and prosperity on the Ko-
20 rean Peninsula and in Northeast Asia, should be
21 recognized.

○