

Tibet, Taiwan, unfair trade and human rights. Each of these issues needs to be addressed by the appropriate means in the appropriate fora.

In some cases we will find ourselves in concert with the views or policies of China. For example, we have a shared interest in supporting a sustainable recovery from the Asian financial crisis. In other matters, such as to what constitutes a respect and proper actions on matters relating to human rights, we strongly disagree. Responsible engagement does not equate to appeasement. It is a comprehensive approach focusing on both areas of agreement and disagreement.

Freedom and democracy are the very foundation of the United States and are principles the American people cherish. Americans were outraged watching Chinese students whose only apparent crime was asking for more political freedom being crushed by PLA tanks and shot in the back as they tried to flee Tiananmen Square. Our consciences will not allow us to quietly ignore this tragic misconduct of a government towards its people. While Tiananmen Square may have been cleared of protesters ten years ago, the aftermath of that violence remains.

Over the past decade since the tragic incident in Tiananmen Square, the human rights situation in China gradually began to improve, relatively speaking. Unfortunately, that encouraging progress was reversed six months ago when hundreds of prodemocracy activists, journalists, labor union leaders, religious believers, and others labeled by the Communist Party as dissidents began to be exiled, imprisoned or harassed.

Therefore, as part of our policy of responsible engagement, this Member supports H. Res. 178, the resolution before the House concerning the tenth anniversary of the Tiananmen Square massacre of June 4, 1989, in the People's Republic of China. This is an appropriate and measured way to send a message to the Communist leadership in Beijing and to the Chinese people at large that Americans are understandably and as a matter of principle and conscience very much concerned about human rights and democratic reform in China.

If China is to be integrated and welcomed into the international community as a responsible member and positive force, China ultimately must respect the rule of law. H. Res. 178 serves as a strong reminder that, in the opinion of the House of Representatives, very significant actions still need to be taken by Beijing to achieve that standard.

Mr. Speaker, with the 10th anniversary of the Tiananmen Square massacre just a week away, this Member urges his colleagues to join him in supporting H. Res. 178.

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a group of courageous individuals and their commitment to freedom and democracy—the thousands of Chinese students and activists who took part in the Tiananmen Square demonstration in May and June of 1989.

I want to thank the chairman of the Congressional Working Group on China, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF) and the gentle lady from California (Ms. PELOSI) for bringing this resolution to the floor of the House so quickly and in such a timely fashion.

Days after the June 4th massacre, the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, held a brief-

ing on this event. The pictures we saw, and the stories we heard are some of the most disturbing pictures of brutality and barbarity I have ever been exposed to.

And yet, ten years later the perpetrators of this massacre have not been brought to justice. Hundreds of people are still held in prison for their involvement. Thousands more have been jailed since for similar reasons. Far too much time has passed for these cries of democracy to go unheard.

The Chinese leadership remains unapologetic about the events of June 4, 1989, they continue to vilify, imprison and exile these and other brave democracy activists. As recently as the beginning of this month, Yang Tao, a student leader of Tiananmen Square, was picked up from his house and arrested for calling on the government to "re-evaluate" its position on the events of June 1989. Other leaders have been put under house arrest for calling on the government to apologize for the murders and compensate the victims' families. Radio Free Asia reports in the days following the bombing of the Chinese Embassy, over half of the callers to their talk show were critical of the Chinese Government.

The time has come for the Chinese government to take a close look at what happened ten years ago and to apologize to its people. The government cannot continue its harassment and imprisonment of its citizens who exercise their rights of freedom of speech, expression and religion. The hope and desire for democracy is still alive. We must do all we can to support it. I stand in strong support of H. Res. 178.

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, today, I honor the hundreds, if not thousands of Chinese students that were brutally slain on June 4, 1989, by the Communist Chinese authorities. On that fateful day ten years ago, the best and brightest of a generation perished needlessly and the lives of countless Chinese families were disrupted forever.

I commend my colleague NANCY PELOSI for her continuing leadership on China issues and for introducing H. Res. 178, to commemorate the Tenth Anniversary of the Tiananmen Square massacre. Her efforts insure that the U.S. House of Representatives and the American people will never forget.

To all the activists in China fighting today for the freedom of their country, I vow never to forget Tiananmen Square. I remind you that your allies across the globe continue to fight for your universal cause; to attain freedom, democracy and human rights for the Chinese people.

The Chinese leaders say that they want to bring China into the modern world economy. I say to the Chinese leaders, you can't have capitalism without democracy and human rights. Capitalism and democracy go hand in hand, you can't have one without the other.

The democratic rights advocated by these slain students ten years ago are universal, not uniquely western values as the Chinese leadership would have us believe. Indeed the blooming of full democracy in Taiwan, Korea, South Africa, Eastern Europe, Russia and many other countries since 1989 proves the universality of democracy and human rights.

Ultimately, the values of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights will prevail. As that document states, "All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are

endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood." Until that day I will join NANCY PELOSI, many of my colleagues here in the House, and countless others around the world in fighting for this just cause.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I too yield back the balance of my time, and I urge a "yes" vote on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SUNUNU). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 178.

The question was taken.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

JENNIFER'S LAW

(Mr. LAZIO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to announce, this being National Missing Children's Day, that an important piece of legislation which will be known as Jennifer's Law, an effort to ensure that States have the resources to create a database including DNA and fingerprints and other important information through identified persons, that will be matched with a missing persons list that is created through a database throughout our Nation, that that important legislation will be on the floor, will be available for suspension vote right after we return from the Memorial Day recess.

I speak on behalf of the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY), the majority leader, as the assistant majority leader today; and I speak on behalf of a young lady from my district, 21-year-old Jennifer, who in 1993 moved from her parents' suburban home in New York to California.

She was in pursuit of her dream. Her mom was lonely for her and sent her a ticket to come home, but she never picked up that ticket. She was never seen again. And this is for Jennifer and for the many tens of thousands of families that need to bring closure and peace of mind. This important bill, Jennifer's Law, will help States and the Federal Government partner together to do just that.

So I just wanted to announce to the House that that will be introduced today, will be available, and will be brought to the floor of this House as soon as we return from the Memorial Day recess.