

office who will have a vision for our country that goes beyond the next election. We need people in office who understand that encouraging creative pursuit could be critical to any number of sectors, from the next great technological idea to the next historic medical discovery. How do you put a price on that?

Creativity is made all the more special because it is a great intangible. It can come from the most unlikely places and from those that might not fit the "traditional" model of the artist. Creativity is inherent in all great endeavors whether traditionally artistic or not. It is creativity that must continue to be nurtured if we hope to reap the benefits of the many great minds we don't yet know. How do you put a price on that?

Yes there are pressing needs all around us. But completely ceasing to fund the arts is sadly shortsighted in any economy. Governments have to find a way to remain in the mix of resources for the arts and the private sector—corporations, foundations and individuals—they all need to find ways to help fill the gap during these tough times such as we're in now.

And that includes my industry, which benefits greatly from a vital and thriving artistic force. When one thinks of Hollywood, art isn't necessarily the first thing to come to mind. Some would say it is often anti-art. No. It's first a business. But it is a business that cannot exist without creative talent in every facet of the making of its product. So, in the end, the challenge to create art still rests squarely on the artist not the industry. As in any medium, sometimes we succeed and sometimes we fail. But we succeed often enough to create films that inspire, expose, transform and provoke, amuse, entertain and even teach.

Just as all other arts did at the moment of their own conception, cinema transformed the world. For good or for bad, it is a universal communicator on a global platform. Film is an indigenous American art form even though it's always been a struggle to have it taken seriously as an art form. But we can't deny that business has significantly infiltrated the practice of art in general, and in particular film. The constant talk of grosses—dollars and cents as the benchmark of a film's worth—is very debilitating to the body of serious film discussion and appreciation. And after all, where would the business of film be without art as its seed.

While mine is a somewhat solid industry, it will be important in the years to come for it to embrace risks as readily as it does sure things. It must make sure that freedom of artistic expression is honored and nurtured across a broad spectrum. I believe strongly that keeping diversity alive in my industry will keep the industry alive.

For example, the Sundance Institute is a step toward making sure diverse voices and the creative energy they bring with them are given an opportunity to grow and evolve. Those who come to the Sundance labs to make films and those who come to the Festival, to show films really are a microcosm of the kind of diverse voices which our industry needs to continue to support and nurture if it wants to maintain itself. They are also the kind of voices that will join in characterizing us to the rest of the world in the years to come. It's all connected.

Even after two decades, Sundance continues to be a community work in progress, success and failure simultaneously evident, treating failure as a step toward growth, rather than the destruction of a vision. I look at the Sundance Film Festival and the innovative hustle demonstrated by scores of young filmmakers to bring their vision to the screen. They haven't curled up and died because they can't get government backing

for their projects. Somehow they find a way. But I'm sure if I took a quick poll, I'd find that most of them found art, found their voice, in neighborhood, community and school arts programs. That's where they began the dance with the wonders of creativity.

By the way, I started the Sundance Institute with a grant from the NEA when many others were skeptical of the idea's potential and ultimate worth. I will always be grateful to the NEA for believing in us at the time. It was instrumental in getting us started. It wasn't just the seed funding, but the seal of approval that gave the idea impetus.

What most of you know that maybe others don't is that out there right now is some kid with a great song in their head we've yet to hear or a novel in their heart that has yet to be written. There's someone out there that hasn't picked up a paintbrush yet but has a masterpiece on the horizon. There's a kid out there who hasn't picked up a camera yet but could end up making a memorable film of their time.

What most of you know that others might not as clearly see, is that the nurturing of creativity comes into play in everything from world diplomacy to world economics, business endeavors to social endeavors and everything in between. It is creativity that gives all of it the nuance that often makes the difference. In all its forms, art plays a critical role in finding our way as people and as a culture.

As President Kennedy said that day in Amherst: "I see little more importance to the future of our country and our civilization than full recognition of the place of the artist. If art is to nourish the roots of our culture, society must set the artist free to follow his vision wherever it takes him."

We hear the word freedom bandied about a lot these days. It's a sacred concept. How fortunate we are to have it. How viscerally we need to feel the commitment to protect it. To be able to be part of a freedom of expression that allows us to tell stories of our choice in the uniqueness of our own voices as citizens and as artists is not to be taken lightly. To be able to freely voice dissent in our hearts or in our art is something to protect at all costs. But then, the glory of art is that it can, not only survive change, it can inspire change.

It is for all these reasons that it behooves governments to sustain an environment that enables, supports and nurtures the free and creative expression of its citizenry.

I have great hope for the future of art and thus civil society as I look out over this room, and imagine the collective power, the collective voice that will not cower in the face of budget slashing critics, and will not surrender its advocacy for art and free expression. My hope comes from not only those gathered here tonight, but from the efforts of grassroots, state and national organizations; young artists I meet at Sundance film labs; inner-city elementary school kids who are learning to play music and write poetry; the literary and theater programs in prisons; and traveling exhibitions to rural communities all across the country.

Thank you to the co-sponsors of this evening. To Americans for the Arts my gratitude for your tireless and effective advocacy on behalf of art and all that comes with that. You truly make a difference and we're all the better for it. And to the Film Foundation a recognition and respect for the important work you do to inspire young artists through education and for protecting and restoring some of the greatest films of all time and thus enabling the diverse perspective of it all to live on.

Lastly, it is an honor to pay tribute to the memory and the contribution of Nancy

Hanks whom I knew and remember fondly. Nancy Hanks had a profoundly gifted perspective on cultural policy in the United States, that being access to the arts. Her legacy is the success of many of your programs; the creative mastery of many of the artists here tonight; and the commitment to freedom of expression that we collectively embrace. The life she lived really meant something.

So we go forth from here tonight to continue to try to enlighten those who dismiss the arts as unnecessary, irrelevant or dangerous. And we do so not only in the memory of Nancy Hanks, but in the name of the active and deserving imagination of every American child.

TRIBUTE TO DR. KENNETH CHAMBERS

HON. MELVIN L. WATT

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 17, 2003

Mr. WATT. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Dr. Kenneth Chambers, a friend and constituent who is retiring after 40 years of practicing medicine. Dr. Chambers will be honored on Saturday, October 18 at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in Charlotte, North Carolina, in my congressional district.

Dr. Kenneth Chambers graduated from Meharry Medical College in 1959 and started a general practice in Wadesboro, NC. In 1966, he completed his residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Harlem Hospital in New York. He later moved to Charlotte, where his brother Julius Chambers was practicing law.

I had the privilege to get to know Kenneth Chambers through his brother, who is the person who convinced me to return to my hometown of Charlotte to practice law. Dr. Kenneth Chambers helped blaze the trail for black doctors in Charlotte and went on to serve in many leadership positions such as President of the Charlotte Medical Society, the Old North State Medical Society and he served on the North Carolina Medical Board from 1995–2001.

Dr. Chambers has impacted the lives of many people throughout his remarkable career. I am pleased to honor him and wish him, his wife, Grace, and his entire family all the best as he begins the next chapter of his life.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REGARDING THE FAILURE OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO ADHERE TO ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER A SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT WITH THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 17, 2003

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues MARK KIRK, CURT WELDON and HOWARD BERMAN in introducing today a resolution expressing Congress's deepening concerns about Iran's nuclear program.

For many years, I have been persuaded by the available evidence that Iran was pursuing a nuclear weapons program, starting with

transfers of nuclear and missile technology and expertise from Russia. Indeed, it was my resolution in the 105th Congress (House Concurrent Resolution 121) that called on the President to demand that the Government of Russia take actions to stop governmental and nongovernmental entities in the Russian Federation from providing missile technology and technical advice to Iran in violation of the Missile Technology Control Regime.

Evidence continues to accumulate raising questions about Iran's intentions, notwithstanding that country's signing of the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. Recently, environmental sampling by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) at Iran's Natanz nuclear facility revealed the presence of two types of highly enriched uranium that can be used to develop nuclear weapons. And, earlier in the year, IAEA announced that Iran was constructing a facility to enrich uranium.

These developments prompted the Director General of the IAEA to express concern over the failure of the government of Iran to report material, facilities and activities at its nuclear facilities, including those that have the potential to enrich uranium and develop nuclear weapons. As a result, last month, the IAEA board of directors adopted a resolution calling on Iran to provide that organization, by October 31st, with a full declaration of all imported material and components relevant to the uranium enrichment program and to grant unrestricted access to IAEA inspectors.

Mr. Speaker, concerns about Iran's intentions are further underscored by Iran's successful test earlier this summer of the 800-mile range Shahab-3 missile and the persuasive evidence that is it seeking to produce a 1,200 mile Shahab-4 missile.

Coupled with Iran's known support for terrorist groups, it is clear to me and my colleagues that Iran poses a serious national security threat to the United States and its allies and other countries in the region. We can't idly wait for developments to unfold.

The concurrent resolution we introduce today clearly expresses Congress' view that the President must use all appropriate means to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons. It also calls on the members states of the United Nations, particularly Russia, to join together to dissuade Iran and, if necessary, to impose sanctions if Iran does not fulfill its obligations to the International Atomic Energy Agency by October 31.

Failure to act can only encourage Iran to pursue a dangerous and destabilizing course. Iran must cease all efforts to acquire nuclear capabilities until it is able to verify that it is not continuing to engage in a nuclear weapons program.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE AND FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN, 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 16, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3289) making emergency supplemental appropriations for defense and for the reconstruction of Iraq and Afghanistan for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes:

Mr. BACA. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of our troops and in support of the Obey Amendment to the Iraq Supplemental Bill. I urge my colleagues to allow a vote on this amendment.

This Amendment is a better plan for the reconstruction of Iraq, a better plan for the safety of our troops, and a better plan for America.

This Administration has already received \$63 billion to help pay for this war and now they want an additional \$87 billion, which could even be more in the future.

We have a deficit that is rapidly rising in this nation, an unemployment rate that is nearly the greatest it has been in a decade, families struggling without healthcare and a president who has drastically cut education by \$9.2 billion. The American people have to make a decision between losing their home and healthcare.

We have an administration that went into Iraq without a plan. They asked the nation to trust them and now our troops are overseas dying every day. And at greater rates than when we were at war.

Our soldiers are exhausted and we do not know when they will be coming home! From my district the 1st Battalion 185th Armored Regiment, California National Guard could be shipped to go to Iraq as early as November.

One year ago when this nation was debating whether we should go to war, I questioned whether our troops had the equipment they needed to protect themselves. And I am still asking this question. We are losing American lives every single day.

Our troops are tired. We need more manpower. This amendment increases the troops from 480,000 to 500,000. The safety of our soldiers must not be ignored!

I keep thinking about a young man in my district that we recently lost. His name was Jorge Gonzales and I thought about his parents Mario and Rosa from Rialto. Regardless of the details of the reconstruction plan, we must make sure our soldiers have the equipment they need to survive and make it home safe.

But I also cannot stress enough, that I support this amendment because it makes the administration accountable for the spending they

are doing in Iraq. Under this amendment, the president must give a detailed report about how the funds in Iraq have already been spent and how they will be spent.

We must know who and why the administration is granting contracts to. We must know why they have decided to ignore the competitive bidding process and award contracts secretly.

I urge my colleagues to support the Obey Amendment, an amendment that creates accountability, protects our soldiers, and does not hurt the American economy or its people.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE AND FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN, 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 16, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3289) making emergency supplemental appropriations for defense and for the reconstruction of Iraq and Afghanistan for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes:

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Chairman, for the past 2 days Members of Congress have spoken about sacrifice and responsibility, and about supporting our troops. The way to support our troops, many say, is to vote "yes" on the supplemental spending bill that is currently before the House. One part of the supplemental that nobody is talking about is the administration's \$900 million request for the importation of gasoline and other fuel products into Iraq.

The average wholesale price of gasoline in the Persian Gulf is just 71 cents a gallon. According to independent oil experts, transporting the gasoline the 400 miles from Kuwait to Iraq could reasonably cost an additional 10 to 25 cents per gallon. So a logical price per gallon for gasoline delivered to Iraq would be about a dollar. But figures from the Army Corps of Engineers show that Halliburton is charging the U.S. taxpayer between \$1.62 and \$1.70 per gallon for this gasoline that is purchased at much cheaper rates—an outrageous markup of over a dollar per gallon that would be considered illegal price-gouging if it occurred in the United States. So U.S. taxpayers are now faced with a \$900,000 bill that pays for cheap gas that is marked up to ridiculously not-so-cheap prices.

It seems that Bechtel and Halliburton aren't as motivated by the notions of sacrifice and responsibility as many Members of this House. Perhaps this is because the Halliburton Company has never before imported gasoline. Or perhaps all those no-bid contracts have gone to their heads.