

SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING
PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY**HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2006

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, this resolution is an important first step to cut off direct aid to the Palestinian Authority now that Hamas will be in power. However, it is only one component of the dramatic overhaul that needs to take place as we redefine our relationship with the new Palestinian government.

Responsible for attacks that have murdered hundreds and injured thousands, Hamas is first and foremost a terrorist organization. Its fund raising and training operations run through the same shadowy networks as Al-Qaeda and Hezbollah. Its philosophy and practice are grounded in the spread of extremist hatred, anti-Semitism and violence.

The United States must set a strong example and be firm in urging the international community to join us in cutting off all funding and diplomatic contacts with the Palestinian Authority once Hamas takes control.

The Palestinian election may have been conducted in a free and fair manner, but it does not make the Hamas victory any more legitimate. Until it disarms, renounces violence, and recognizes Israel's right to exist, the group should continue to be dealt with as a rogue entity.

There is no room for ambiguity. Governments that wage the global war on terrorism should not be propping up a terrorist regime. International organizations that believe in the peace process should not be financing a Palestinian leadership bent on Israel's destruction. Nations that disavow anti-Semitism should not be providing assistance that would give an even greater pulpit for Hamas to spew its hatred.

It is alarming that despite these realities President Putin and others have made overtures to Hamas leaders. There should be no distinction between terrorists in Chechnya who target Russian school children and those from the West Bank and Gaza who blow up Israeli pizza stores and public buses. Equivocation only emboldens their use of such heinous tactics.

If there is hope of pressuring Hamas to change, the world must unite behind a clear message: We will not support a terrorist-state, but stand ready to assist when and if a Palestinian government emerges that is ready, willing and able to embrace a peaceful future.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
REGARDING THE LABELING OF
INDOOR TANNING DEVICES**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2006

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, the American people are not aware that indoor tanning is dangerous. While many people understand that tanning outside is harmful, they mistakenly believe that tanning in a salon is a safe alternative to sunbathing. It's time we examined the labeling requirements for tanning de-

vices. Today I, along with my colleague from Florida, Representative GINNY BROWN-WAITE, introduce the Tanning Accountability and Notification Act, which would require the FDA to determine whether the current labeling of indoor tanning devices communicates sufficient information about the risks indoor tanning devices pose for the development of irreversible skin damage, including skin cancer.

According to a 2005 survey conducted by the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD), in their quest for a sunless tan, almost 30 million Americans visit indoor tanning salons each year. Of these 70% are women between the ages of 16 and 49. The dermatologists have concluded that indoor tanning is not safe. One of the reported side effects of indoor tanning is an elevated risk of skin cancer. According to the AAD, regular tanning bed use was associated with a 55% increase in the risk of developing melanoma, especially in women between the ages of 20 and 29. FDA and numerous leading United States' and international health care organizations have expressed concerns that the consuming public is not aware that indoor tanning devices emit ultraviolet radiation that is similar to and sometimes more powerful than UV radiation emitted by the sun. This legislation will ensure Americans make informed choices about preserving the health of their skin.

TAIWAN: LUNAR NEW YEAR

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2006

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, last Spring the People's Republic of China passed an anti-secession law targeting the Republic of China on Taiwan. This law gives Communist leaders the right to use force against Taiwan if they suspect separatist activities. In addition to the enactment of the anti-secession law, Communist China's rapid military build-up has brought substantial concern to the Taiwanese people. With 700 Communist missiles posted along the coast of Taiwan, mainland China makes a bold statement that military action is a viable possibility. In response to China's unilateral change of the status quo in the Taiwan Strait, it is my understanding that President Chen has expressed concern about Taiwan's future in his Lunar New Year's Day remarks.

If China really wants to unify Taiwan, it is my hope that they will listen to the advice of President Chen who requests mainland China to relinquish the use of force, listen to the people of Taiwan, and stop obstructing Taiwan from participating in international organizations like the United Nations and the World Health Organization. It is also my understanding that President Chen has, on many occasions, stated that the development of cross-strait relations must conform to the principles of sovereignty, democracy, peace and prosperity. China has no right by the principle of self-determination to change the status quo either through the anti-secession law or military intimidation. Like President Chen, I believe Taiwan's future must be made by the free will of the 23 million residents of Taiwan.

Taiwan is a free and democratic nation and deserves to be treated properly and with respect from the international community. Exclu-

sion from the United Nations has deprived Taiwan its international identity. The Republic of China on Taiwan is content on returning to the international community and it is speculated that President Chen might even reapply to the United Nations under the new name of "Taiwan."

It is my understanding that in the last six years, President Chen has not broken any of his pledges and has, in turn, offered many goodwill gestures to the People's Republic of China. I believe President Chen's remarks deserve our undivided attention and consideration.

Maintaining the status quo is currently the peaceful alternative and it is my understanding that President Chen once again reaffirmed his 2000 inaugural pledge to maintain status quo with mainland China, not declare independence, not change the name of the government, or add any other language to the Republic of China's Constitution that promotes an independence referendum.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support peace in the region and hope that the People's Republic of China will reciprocate President Chen's goodwill by renouncing the use of force against Taiwan. However, should the need arise, we must not forget our responsibilities under the Taiwan Relations Act to make sure the Republic of China on Taiwan has the military capability to defend itself and assert its free voice to the international community.

HONORING GABRIEL AND SARA
MATOS**HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2006

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Gabriel and Sara Matos, for their dedication to citizen activism and crime prevention. Mr. and Mrs. Matos have been dedicated to preventing crime and protecting their community for many years, and have worked to encourage and spread citizen activism through their efforts.

On September 30, 2005, Mr. and Mrs. Matos were recognized for their dedication as recipients of the Citizens Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County's top award, the "Miami-Dade County Citizens' Crime Watch Chairperson of the Year." Their hard work through this organization has protected the community by allowing them to work closely with law enforcement and politicians on zoning and crime issues.

The couple have been leaders of the Concerned Citizens of West Dade, Inc. since they created it nearly fifteen years ago. They were instrumental in the adoption of an anti-graffiti ordinance, and as chairpersons of their neighborhood crime watch, have helped to keep their neighborhood safe, as well as motivating other neighborhoods in their community to set up Crime Watch groups.

I congratulate Gabriel and Sara Matos, and on behalf of the residents of Miami-Dade County, I thank them for their dedication to their community.