

A BALANCED RESOLUTION ON
IRAQ

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 13, 2006

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, as someone who voted against the original legislation authorizing the U.S. military action in Iraq, I remain convinced that our military involvement there is a mistake, regardless of which of the Administration's evolving rationales for sending U.S. troops there is put forward.

I was therefore pleased to receive the resolution on Iraq that was approved recently by the New England Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. This statement, which calls for an orderly withdrawal of our troops from Iraq, points out the deficiencies in our Iraq policy, while maintaining toward our military and civilian personnel serving there an appropriately supportive position. I ask that a copy of the resolution adopted by the New England Annual Conference be printed here.

RS—209 REGARDING AMERICAN PARTICIPATION
IN THE WAR IN IRAQ

(Submitted by Proposed by Betty and Dan Allen, Mark Goad, Gary Richards, Don Rudalevige, Phil Susag)

(Adopted Friday Evening, June 10, 2006)

Scripture and the call of Justice demand of Christians a bias towards peace and reconciliation. Our calling as United Methodist Christians demands that we not remain silent regarding the on-going war in Iraq. We proclaim a God who cares for all people. Clear evidence of absolute need is required before engaging in armed conflict. Such evidence does not exist to support American occupation of Iraq. The conflict has crated and spread terrorism, not lessened it. It has compromised our own attitude as to the value of human life.

Therefore, The New England Conference of the United Methodist Church calls on all churches to actively participate in peace-making through preaching, prayer, study and participation in local forums and peace actions.

Further, we call on our church members to be in regular contact with their U.S. Representatives and Senators, calling for the orderly withdrawal of troops and personnel from Iraq. We recommend that such contacts begin during the week of June 19 and continue on a monthly basis until such time as withdrawal is achieved.

Further, the Annual Conference directs the Secretary to send this resolution to the U.S. Representatives and Senators from the New England region, President Bush, Secretaries Rumsfeld and Rice.

Further, the New England Conference is called upon to support those troops returning from Iraq with our prayers, love and gratitude for their service to our country.

PAINT BANK AND WYTHEVILLE
NATIONAL FISH HATCHERIES
CONVEYANCE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. VIRGIL H. GOODE, JR.

OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 10, 2006

Mr. GOODE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5061, the Paint Bank and

Wytheville National Fish Hatcheries Conveyance Act. I want to thank the Gentleman from Virginia, Mr. BOUCHER, for introducing this legislation, which grants the title to these two hatcheries to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Since 1983, the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries has successfully operated these two hatcheries on behalf of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Thanks to the hard work and substantial investment by the Commonwealth of Virginia and the 13 full-time employees working at the fish hatcheries, these hatcheries consistently produce large stocks of brook, brown and rainbow trout for recreational fishing every year. In fact, the Paint Bank and Wytheville Hatcheries can produce up to 861,632 trout each year, which accounts for over 40 percent of the trout stocked for public fishing in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Commonwealth has also pledged to invest an additional \$4.5 million to continue renovation of these hatcheries in an effort to further enhance the hatcheries capabilities and efficiency.

There are over 2,300 miles of trout streams in Virginia and the Paint Bank and Wytheville Fish Hatcheries are vital to ensuring that these streams are well stocked with large and healthy fish populations. For this reason, I am glad to support H.R. 5061, which will allow the Commonwealth of Virginia to continue to maintain the trout population for recreational fishing for people who live in and visit Virginia. I appreciate the work of Mr. BOUCHER in crafting this legislation and I urge its passage today.

IN HONOR OF STELLAR MAMOTTO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 13, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to a woman of extraordinary achievement, her life an inspiring lesson of the power of great determination. Stellar Mamotto was born to humble beginnings in the Dodoma region of Tanzania, East Africa, one of four children. She strived for her educational development, not only for her own personal growth, but to be of service to her community. In 1995, Ms. Mamotto won a scholarship to study for a Certificate in Rural Development Planning and achieved the highest grade. She trained to become a teacher from 1996 to 1998. Just two years after qualifying, she was made Deputy Head Mistress of the Chilonwa Secondary School, a rural school in Tanzania's poorest region. Her involvement extended far beyond her educational responsibilities. She became dedicated to the long-term economic progress of the Tanzanian people through her work in community development and environmental sustainability in Chilonwa.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Mamotto knew that her own aspirations and the aspirations of the people she served in the rural areas of Tanzania depended upon her pursuing higher educational opportunities. So in September of 2003, as a result of her untiring efforts, her scholarship and her personal charisma, the resources to study abroad suddenly materialized and she found herself traveling to Canterbury, England where she enrolled in the University of Kent to study Environmental Social

Science. Her remarkable journey took her from the bush to university classroom. Finally, through great perseverance and sacrifice, she completed her studies and today, July 13, 2006, will receive her BA from the University of Kent at ceremonies in Canterbury Cathedral.

Mr. Speaker, each graduate's story is important. Some graduates, however, embody the hopes and dreams of millions of fellow countrymen and women. Stellar Mamotto's graduation represents not just the triumph of a single individual, but the triumph of the human spirit over all obstacles. And it represents a new beginning for Ms. Mamotto as she endeavors to take yet another step to even greater academic achievement.

Mr. Speaker, Members of the United States House of Representatives, please join me in honoring Ms. Stellar Mamotto for her achievement and as she continues to strive to be of service to the people of Tanzania.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 13, 2006

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, due to illness in June. As a result, I missed votes on H. Res. 323, H.R. 4890, H.R. 5638, H.R. 4973, H.R. 4893, H.R. 889, H. Res. 890, H. Res. 895, H.R. 4761, H.R. 5672.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on each of these measures.

RECOGNIZING PASTOR EMERY KING ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 28TH ANNIVERSARY AS PASTOR OF THE FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH IN WEBSTERN FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 13, 2006

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Pastor Emery King's 28th anniversary serving at the Faith Baptist Church in Webster, Florida. I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to him for a job well done.

When Pastor King first came to the church, his commitment to God and to his parishioners shone through immediately. It was clear even from the first months of his tenure that he had a unique commitment to the faith and to the men and women with whom he worshipped. Over the years Pastor King has been blessed to have a church that has grown and prospered under his leadership and service.

Having spoken to many of the men and women that he has counseled and worshiped with over the past 28 years, I know that Pastor King's dedication to the Lord and to the scripture has served as an inspiration to thousands throughout the Sumter County community. His ministry has touched the hearts of many, and the Faith Baptist Church is a stronger institution because of his leadership.

Mr. Speaker, Pastor Emery King's length of service to the Faith Baptist Church of Webster is only matched by his commitment to the

Lord and to the men and women who rely on his counsel and wisdom. Pastor King is a shining example of the good that serving Jesus Christ can bring to our friends and families.

I wish Pastor King the best of luck and joy as he embarks on what will hopefully be the next 28 years of service to God and to his church.

TIME FOR A SECULAR
DEMOCRACY IN IRAN

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 13, 2006

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, on July 1, 2006, thousands of Iranians from around the world, including the members of the Iranian American Cultural Association of Missouri, gathered in Paris to express their interest in a free Iran and their support for the National Council of Resistance of Iran.

At this gathering, Mrs. Maryam Rajavi gave a speech about the need to bring freedom and democracy to the people of Iran. I would like to take this opportunity to share with my colleagues an excerpt from her inspiring address.

In the name of God, in the name of Iran, in the name of freedom, fellow Iranians, dear friends: With warmest greetings to all of you who represent the freedom, dignity and the resistance of our homeland, Iran. The sound of shackles of the religious dictatorship breaking apart and the song of victory can be heard in your resolve and faith, in the uprisings of our Azeri compatriots, and in the victory of those who persevered after the events of June 17, 2003. I also send my greetings to the distinguished personalities from France and other countries that have honored us by their presence. I thank Madam Edith Cresson, the former Prime Minister of France and the honorable mayors in different cities in the province of Val d'Osie as well as the dignified deputies of various parliaments from around the world.

Dear Friends: We are standing at a very extraordinary juncture of Iran's history: The turning point for a major birth and a magnificent destiny toward which we are being steered. Today, all the paths to ensure the survival of the velayat-e faqih regime have reached a dead end. Neither the deceitful spin game of reform nor the policy of appeasement bore any fruit. Propelling Ahmadinejad to power submerged the regime in its entirety in a mortal crisis. Today, the sun for the future of our nation is on the horizon. The terrorist label (against the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran) has become a source of shame for the appeasers and the June 17 dossier has discredited them further. The waves of victory and freedom rush ahead in the declaration of 5.2 million Iraqis, in the ruling by the Paris Court of Appeals and in the spate of uprisings in Iranian cities. So, with a voice louder than ever, we again say, the only option, the only correct path and the only correct answer to the Iranian problem is the establishment of democracy. We say no to war, no to appeasement, yes to the third option: which is democratic change by the Iranian people and their Resistance. We say that the great nation of Iran itself has the capability and the capacity to change its own destiny to achieve democracy. And it undoubtedly will. Accordingly, I will present the outlines of the Resistance's program for the Iran of tomorrow. This program reflects the Iranian people's historic aspirations.

1. In the future Iran the natural and inalienable human rights of every Iranian must be respected. The rights to life, freedom, and security of every citizen of the Iranian nation will be considered equal under the law regardless of their gender, race, religion, ethnic makeup, and dialect. We are committed to the "Universal Declaration of Human Rights".

2. In the future Iran all individual freedoms will be recognized. These include freedom of speech, clothing, marriage and divorce, employment, travel, choosing one's residency and citizenship.

3. The litmus test of the legitimacy of the country's political and legal makeup is the universal suffrage. In the future Iran the right to make key political decisions in society and the people's right to change the government will be respected and various councils will be set up in all spheres of society in order to uphold and guarantee democracy.

4. We seek a pluralistic republic, in which complete freedom of parties, associations and unions are guaranteed.

5. In the free Iran of tomorrow we will defend the abolition of the death penalty. This is our response to the ruthless killings and brutality with which the mullahs have ruled clutched on to their reign. Torture will be banned under any circumstances. There will be no room for cruel and degrading punishments under whatever pretext, including under the cloak of religion.

6. The Iranian Resistance is committed to the separation of church and state. In the Iran of tomorrow the principle of freedom of religion will be respected. The country's laws will not ban any religion. No religion will enjoy privilege over another and no citizen will be subjected to any personal or social privilege or privation in their individual or social rights because of their belief or non-belief in any religion.

7. We are committed to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. In the Iran of tomorrow, men and women will enjoy equal rights in all political, social and economic sectors. Women will have equal participation in the political leadership of the country.

8. In the Iran of tomorrow all forms of sexual exploitation of women will be prevented. Polygamy will be banned. Physical, sexual and psychological violence against women will be considered a crime.

9. In the Iran of tomorrow oppression, discrimination and lawlessness concerning children and child labor will be banned.

10. The judiciary of the future Iran will be founded upon a uniform system of justice. It will be a two-tiered system based on the presumption of innocence, the right to defense, the right to seek justice, the right to be tried in open courts with the presence of the jury. In this system, their will be no discrimination on issuing judgment. The complete independence of the judges and the Bar Association will be guaranteed.

11. In the Iran of tomorrow the free market will be respected. Economic opportunity will be provided to the people equitably and all restrictions on self employment will be lifted.

12. We are determined to ensure that in the Iran of tomorrow every member of society will enjoy access to social services, including education, hygiene and athletic opportunities. Universities will be governed by independent councils elected by the faculty and students.

13. In the Iran of tomorrow the just right to autonomy of the people of Kurdistan will be recognized. We seek the eradication of dual discrimination against all ethnic minorities in Iran in the framework of the country's indivisible territorial integrity.

14. In the Iran of tomorrow, interference in the internal affairs of other countries will be

banned and others will be banned from interfering in our internal affairs. We demand peace, mutual respect in international relations, good neighborliness and the establishment of diplomatic relations with all countries of the world. The Iran of tomorrow will be a non-nuclear country and devoid of weapons of mass destruction.

Dear compatriots, honorable friends, What I enumerated was the synopsis of the Iranian Resistance's views and program for our nation once it is liberated from the oppression of the mullahs. To realize this program, free elections will be held for a national constituent assembly within six months of the toppling of the ruling religious dictatorship. At the end of the six-month period, the provisional government will step down and the people's elected constituent assembly will begin work to appoint the new government and draft the new constitution. Three years ago, when the French police launched an unprecedented raid against the office of the National Council of Resistance of Iran, freedom was again at stake. From the onset, it was obvious that the raid was the outcome of a deal with the theocracy ruling Iran. In truth, the Resistance of a victimized nation was being suppressed. Fortunately, in the past three years, this Resistance's perseverance overcame the June 17 conspiracy. Two weeks ago, on the anniversary of the June 17, 2003 raid, the Paris Court of Appeals revoked the oppressive and unwarranted restrictions against members and officials of the resistance. This ruling clearly testifies to the innocence of this resistance and the hollow nature of the June 17 dossier and the accusations of cult and terrorism that go with it.

Dear Friends, Today, there is only one way to thwart this threat. The West must reverse course and respect the will of the Iranian people to establish democracy. Any step in other directions, any delay in this respect will benefit the regime. The Resistance is the solution not only for establishing democracy in Iran but also for peace and security in the entire world. The solution to the nuclear crisis and to thwart the danger of a war is democratic change in Iran. Indeed, by relying on its beloved nation, this Resistance holds the key to the Iranian equation. The mullahs are trying to give the impression that opposition to war means supporting their regime. Thus, any opposition to war is only justified when accompanied by opposition to religious fascism. Opposition to war is effective only when it is accompanied by supporting the Iranian people's Resistance for freedom. On behalf of the Iranian people's Resistance, I want to remind the Western countries to learn of the catastrophic experience of giving concessions to the religious One day, the late Dr. Mossadeq in his trip to the United States told President Harry Truman, I have not come to ask for anything. I have come to ask you to remain neutral in the dispute over oil. Today, we are not asking you for anything, neither money, nor weapons. But we demand that you remain neutral in the struggle the Iranian nation is waging to attain freedom and democracy. We are demanding that you remove the MEK from the terrorist list and recognize the right of the Iranian people to resist dictatorship. The declaration by 5.2 million Iraqis who demanded the eviction of the clerical regime from Iraq and the recognition of the status of the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran is a brilliant achievement by this front. This declaration is a great victory and breakthrough which presents Iraq and the rest of the world with the correct path to democracy, security and independence of Iraq, by rejecting the Iranian regime's meddling which has targeted Iraq's survival and democracy. The fact that some 5.2 million Iraqis above the age of 18 declared that "the