

I firmly believe that any realistic, sustainable resolution to this crisis will require all parties including the United States to engage, directly or indirectly, to achieve a ceasefire. For that reason, I would prefer that the resolution before us were focused not on condemning one side, but rather on supporting more constructive and balanced efforts to achieve a meaningful cease fire and constructive engagement. I believe that any resolution of this conflict needs to recognize and address the current humanitarian crisis facing the people of Gaza. How many more innocent Israelis and Palestinians will die or be wounded before our country attempts a more productive policy approach?

While the Bush Administration has recently become more proactive in its efforts to attain a ceasefire, stabilize Gaza, and re-build Palestinian national unity, the policy of not including all parties and of blockading Gaza, risks making our country less and less relevant. We need more constructive leadership on all sides.

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, today I will vote "Present" on H. Res. 951.

Its stated purpose is "condemning the ongoing Palestinian rocket attacks on Israeli civilians and for other purposes." Everyone in this House, including me, condemns these rocket attacks. If that had been all that H. Res. 951 expressed, of course I would vote in favor.

But as so often happens in resolutions that concern matters of bipartisan and overwhelming support, vague and ill-considered "other purposes" were added. The United States needs the cooperation and involvement of nations throughout the region, including Syria and Iran, if we are to help bring about a stable and lasting peace to Lebanon, Iraq, and to help crack down on the very smuggling that is enabling these rocket attacks.

The State Department has repeatedly met with representatives of Iran and Syria to engage them, and is pursuing difficult diplomatic tracks with both countries. I applaud these efforts and recognize the difficult job State has. Injecting Congress into this mix, as expressed in this Resolution, at this point in time, is not helpful.

By not simply condemning the rocket attacks coming from Gaza and declaring our solidarity with the Israeli civilians threatened by them, by not simply condemning those in Gaza who are bombarding Israeli civilians, but drawing in the governments of Iran and Syria, we could diminish our diplomatic course and, at the same time, inflame tensions.

Who does this help? How does this contribute to resolving problems in the region? Why did a House vote on what should have been a simple statement turn into a complicated effort to add to difficulties with Iran and Syria?

I strongly condemn these rocket attacks; let there be no doubt about that. At the same time, I strongly support our State Department and its efforts to find a path to a lasting peace in the region. Let's not do anything that might interfere with that difficult yet vital goal.

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, I have always been a strong supporter of Israel and I am pleased with the friendship that the United States has forged with the people and government of Israel. I am appalled at the current situation in Israel and heavily condemn the ongoing Palestinian rocket attacks on Israeli civilians.

For three years, over 4,000 rockets and mortar shells have been fired at Israel from the Gaza strip by Hamas and other terrorist organizations. These destructive terrorist rocket attacks have crippled Israel's infrastructure, traumatized and injured its citizens, and severely disrupted ongoing daily life. I can only offer my unending support of Israel in its sovereign right to defend its territory and people.

I would like to join in with the rest of my colleagues in expressing my disapproval of the terrorist rocket attacks on Israel, and I look forward to the day that peace is restored to the region.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, we have no further speakers.

I do want to congratulate the gentleman from New Jersey for presenting this. The passage of time since he introduced it has only made the logic of it even more compelling. I join my colleagues on both sides of the aisle in urging passage.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. BERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 951, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. 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.

□ 1145

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 4191, by the yeas and nays;

H. Con. Res. 278, by the yeas and nays;

H. Res. 951, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

WRIGHT BROTHERS-DUNBAR NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK DESIGNATION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4191, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr.

RAHALL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4191.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 407, nays 4, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 91]

YEAS—407

Abercrombie	Davis, David	Jackson-Lee
Ackerman	Davis, Lincoln	(TX)
Aderholt	Davis, Tom	Jefferson
Akin	Deal (GA)	Johnson (GA)
Alexander	DeFazio	Johnson (IL)
Allen	DeGette	Johnson, Sam
Altmire	Delahunt	Jones (NC)
Andrews	DeLauro	Jones (OH)
Arcuri	Dent	Jordan
Baca	Diaz-Balart, L.	Kagen
Bachmann	Diaz-Balart, M.	Kanjorski
Bachus	Dicks	Kaptur
Baird	Dingell	Kennedy
Baldwin	Donnelly	Kildee
Barrett (SC)	Doolittle	Kilpatrick
Barrow	Doyle	Kind
Bartlett (MD)	Drake	King (IA)
Barton (TX)	Dreier	King (NY)
Bean	Duncan	Kingston
Becerra	Edwards	Kirk
Berkley	Ehlers	Klein (FL)
Berman	Ellison	Kline (MN)
Berry	Ellsworth	Knollenberg
Biggert	Emanuel	Kuhl (NY)
Bilbray	Emerson	LaHood
Bilirakis	Engel	Lamborn
Bishop (GA)	English (PA)	Lampson
Bishop (NY)	Eshoo	Langevin
Bishop (UT)	Etheridge	Larsen (WA)
Blackburn	Everett	Larson (CT)
Blumenauer	Fallin	Latham
Blunt	Farr	LaTourette
Boehner	Feeney	Latta
Bonner	Ferguson	Lee
Bono Mack	Filner	Levin
Boozman	Forbes	Lewis (CA)
Boren	Fortenberry	Lewis (GA)
Boswell	Fossella	Lewis (KY)
Boucher	Fox	Linder
Boustany	Frank (MA)	Lipinski
Boyd (FL)	Franks (AZ)	LoBiondo
Boyda (KS)	Frelinghuysen	Loeb
Brady (PA)	Gallely	Loeb, Zoe
Braley (IA)	Garrett (NJ)	Lowey
Brown (SC)	Gerlach	Lucas
Brown, Corrine	Giffords	Lungren, Daniel
Buchanan	Gilchrest	E.
Burgess	Gillibrand	Lynch
Burton (IN)	Gingrey	Mack
Butterfield	Gohmert	Mahoney (FL)
Buyer	Goode	Maloney (NY)
Calvert	Goodlatte	Manzullo
Camp (MD)	Gordon	Markey
Campbell (CA)	Granger	Marshall
Cannon	Graves	Matheson
Cantor	Green, Al	Matsui
Capito	Green, Gene	McCarthy (CA)
Capps	Grijalva	McCarthy (NY)
Capuano	Gutierrez	McCaul (TX)
Cardoza	Hall (NY)	McCollum (MN)
Carnahan	Hall (TX)	McCotter
Carney	Hare	McCreery
Carter	Harman	McDermott
Castle	Hastings (FL)	McGovern
Castor	Hastings (WA)	McHenry
Chabot	Hayes	McHugh
Chandler	Heller	McIntyre
Clarke	Hensarling	McKeon
Clay	Herger	McMorris
Cleaver	Herseth Sandlin	Rodgers
Clyburn	Higgins	McNerney
Coble	Hill	McNulty
Cohen	Hinche	Meek (FL)
Cole (OK)	Hinojosa	Meeks (NY)
Conaway	Hirono	Melancon
Cooper	Hobson	Mica
Costa	Hodes	Michaud
Costello	Hoekstra	Miller (FL)
Courtney	Holden	Miller (MI)
Cramer	Holt	Miller (NC)
Crenshaw	Honda	Miller, Gary
Crowley	Hooley	Miller, George
Cubin	Hoyer	Mitchell
Cuellar	Hulshof	Mollohan
Culberson	Hunter	Moore (KS)
Cummings	Inglis (SC)	Moore (WI)
Davis (AL)	Inslee	Moran (KS)
Davis (CA)	Israel	Moran (VA)
Davis (IL)	Issa	Murphy (CT)
Davis (KY)	Jackson (IL)	Murphy, Patrick