

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

URGING ESTABLISHMENT OF U.S. CONSULATE IN KURDISTAN REGION OF IRAQ

SPEECH OF

HON. BILL DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Mr. DELAHUNT Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this amended resolution calling for the establishment of a United States Consulate in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, as well as in other regions of Iraq.

For years, I have been closely following issues related to United States policy towards Iraq, as well as that nation's own internal politics as its people develop their democracy. During the previous American Administration, I chaired a series of hearings in the House Foreign Affairs Oversight Subcommittee that examined the bilateral accord—the so-called “status of forces agreement” (SOFA)—between the United States and Iraq, which provides for the withdrawal of our military forces by December 31, 2011. I also closely followed the concurrent negotiation of the civilian-focused Strategic Framework Agreement (SFA), in which the U.S. and Iraq committed to a number of mutually supporting efforts in the areas of economy, culture, science, technology, health and trade.

While I had reservations about the so-called SOFA, I strongly support the SFA, because I believe that America has a moral obligation to the Iraqi people to help their country get back on its feet. Yes, we liberated them from Saddam Hussein, but in doing so we unleashed a wave of horrific violence upon that nation. We now have a duty to alleviate some of the damage, and the SFA will enable that to happen.

Some of those efforts at implementation of the SFA will require Americans to work in Iraq. Currently, most American citizens in that country must receive consular services in Baghdad. Given Iraq's size and challenges to travel, this can be very difficult. Establishing U.S. Consulates in several regions in Iraq would make it easier for Americans to work throughout Iraq and thus fulfill our obligations under the SFA. Therefore I believe that such efforts should get underway immediately.

As a follower of Iraq politics, particularly the controversies regarding the latest parliamentary elections, I am well aware of the sensitivities regarding the establishment of a U.S. Consulate in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. That is why I am pleased that this resolution has been amended to reflect the need for U.S. Consulates elsewhere in Iraq. Yes, at the moment, the Kurdistan Region of Iraq has been identified by the State Department as one of the more stable and secure regions of Iraq, which is why the resolution mentions that specific region as a site for a U.S. Consulate. But such a designation also comes with responsibility—specifically, the Kurds must demonstrate their commitment to ensuring the stability and security of all of Iraq, not just their

region. They can do so by encouraging the creation of an inclusive government that represents all four major coalition in the parliament, including their own.

As peace and security spreads throughout Iraq as a result, America should establish U.S. Consulates in other areas as well. That way, the American and Iraqi people can literally work together in creating a better future for Iraq.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF JAMES SPRING & WIRE COMPANY

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the owners and employees of James Spring & Wire Company of Frazer, Chester County as they celebrate the Company's 50th anniversary.

Company founder Richard James may be best known for turning a simple, high-tension spring into “a wonderful toy” that, as the jingle said, was “fun for a girl or a boy.” The toy James created is the Slinky.

In 1960, the current owners of James Spring & Wire bought the Company and built it into a leading manufacturer of custom springs, wire and strip forms and stampings. The Company's success over the last half-century is no doubt the result of exemplary leadership and entrepreneurial vision combined with highly-skilled and hard-working employees.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in congratulating the owners and employees of James Spring & Wire Company on reaching this memorable milestone and recognizing the important role small businesses such as this one play in making Chester County and all of Southeastern Pennsylvania a great place to live, work and raise a family.

RECOGNIZING MAY AS NATIONAL CANCER RESEARCH MONTH

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, May is National Cancer Research Month and I rise to pay tribute to the invaluable contributions made by scientists and clinicians across the United States who are working not only to overcome this devastating disease, but also to prevent it.

This year, nearly 1.5 million Americans will be diagnosed with cancer and over 500,000 Americans will die from cancer. But the good news is that our nation's investment in cancer

research is having a remarkable impact. The five-year survival rate for all cancers has improved over the past 30 years to more than 65 percent. Discoveries and developments in prevention, early detection, and treatment have led to cures for many types of cancer and have led others to be transformed into manageable chronic conditions. Furthermore, many of these advancements have had significant impacts on developing treatments for other common and costly diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, Alzheimer's, HIV/AIDS and macular degeneration.

Madam Speaker, National Cancer Research Month is the time to reaffirm our further commitment to finding treatments, cures and better tools for prevention, building on the momentum of recent years. As the more than 31,000 members of the American Association for Cancer Research and their partners continue their quest for cancer prevention and cures, Congress must stand behind them and invest in our research infrastructure.

I salute America's cancer researchers and their ongoing efforts and vow to be a partner in the ongoing war on cancer.

RECOGNIZING MONACAN HIGH SCHOOL FOR ORGANIZING PROJECT 186

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Mr. CANTOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank the students and teachers of Monacan High School in Chesterfield County, Virginia, for collecting and shipping much needed school supplies for students in Afghanistan.

Jessica M. Heising, an English teacher at Monacan High, organized Project 186 with the purpose of collecting 186 backpacks and school supplies for each student in an all-girls school in the Paktika province of Afghanistan. The project was successful, and the supplies will improve the learning outcomes of the 186 students.

I commend the teachers, students, faculty, and families who gave of their time and talents to influence the lives of students in Afghanistan for good.

EXPRESSING SYMPATHY TO FAMILIES OF SOUTH KOREAN SEAMEN KILLED BY NORTH KOREA

SPEECH OF

HON. RICK LARSEN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 24, 2010

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my support for H. Res. 1382, a resolution expressing sympathy to the families of those killed by North Korea

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.