

May 19, 1999

INTRODUCTION OF THE STALKING
PREVENTION AND VICTIM PRO-
TECTION ACT OF 1999

HON. SUE W. KELLY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today for the purpose of introducing the Stalking Prevention and Victim Protection Act of 1999. This legislation addresses a problem of increasing prevalence in our nation. While stalking is perhaps most popularly regarded as a crime only to be dealt with by celebrities with bodyguards and fortress-like estates, this is simply not the case. According to statistics released by the Justice Department, over 1,000,000 women and 370,000 men are victimized by stalkers every year. These estimates greatly exceed previous estimates, and clearly indicate a need for legislative redress. For this reason, I am reintroducing legislation that will provide greater protection to stalking victims.

This legislation builds on an important anti-stalking law enacted in 1996. The Interstate Stalking Punishment and Prevention Act, which was introduced by my colleague Congressman Royce, marked a significant stride in the effort to stop and prevent stalking, as it established for the first time federal penalties for interstate stalking. My bill seeks to enhance the ability of law enforcement to arrest and prosecute stalkers by broadening the definition of stalking to include interstate communications such as mail and e-mail. Furthermore, by criminalizing "threatening behavior" as opposed to "the demonstration of specific threats," this bill closes a loophole commonly used by accused stalkers to avoid conviction. The bill also include bail restrictions and enhanced sentencing provisions for repeat-offenders, along with the requirement that a mandatory protection order be issued for the victim.

I've seen first-hand the horrible effects wrought on the lives of innocent people by stalkers. I've met people who face each day with an overwhelming fear for their safety, people whose spirits have been worn down by a undaunted menace. Congress must do more to protect these people, and I see this legislation as an important step in that direction. I certainly hope that my colleagues will agree with me.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 1835,
NORTH KOREA THREAT REDUC-
TION ACT OF 1999

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce the introduction of the North Korea Threat Reduction Act of 1999, H.R. 1835. I am joined in introducing this legislation by a very distinguished bipartisan list of cosponsors, including Congressmen SHERRON BROWN and MARK SANFORD of our Committee on Inter-

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national Relations, CHRIS COX, chairman of our House Republican Policy Committee, JOHN KASICH, chairman of our Committee on the Budget, JOE KNOLLENBERG of our Committee on Appropriations, and DAVID MCINTOSH of our Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

This legislation seeks to improve U.S. policy toward North Korea by weaving together the various elements of our policy into a comprehensive whole, and redirecting our policy in ways that will better advance our national interest.

It has long been obvious that U.S. policy toward North Korea is in need of an overhaul. That is why the Administration agreed last year to appoint a Special Policy Coordinator for North Korea, Dr. William Perry, to review the policy and make recommendations for restructuring it.

The legislation that we are introducing today is designed to complement and reinforce Dr. Perry's efforts to rationalize U.S. policy toward North Korea. Our new policy must be: comprehensive; integrated and coordinated with our Japanese and South Korean allies; backed by strengthened conventional military deterrence and theater missile defense; engender a willingness to undertake tough measures in the name of national security; and be founded on a step-by-step program of conditional reciprocity.

There remains a great deal of skepticism in the Congress about the 1994 Agreed Framework between the United States and North Korea, under which North Korea has become the largest recipient of U.S. foreign assistance in East Asia. The underground facility at Kumchang-ri may indicate that North Korea continues to pursue a nuclear weapons program notwithstanding the Agreed Framework. Other press reports suggest that North Korea may be building a parallel, uranium-based nuclear program.

Despite the skepticism of many of us in Congress, H.R. 1835 does not seek to terminate U.S. support for the Agreed Framework. To the contrary, our legislation would, for the first time ever, authorize the Administration's full request for U.S. assistance to the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization in FY 2000. The Administration's request of \$55 million includes a \$20 million increase over this year's funding level, and we have not taken issue with this increase.

We have, however, insisted on strict adherence by North Korea to its obligations under the Agreed Framework before these funds can be released. Our conditions are, with one exception, based on those contained in current law, and therefore should be acceptable to the Administration.

The one exception is a new requirement we have added for a certification by the President that North Korea is not seeking to develop or acquire the capability to enrich uranium. This requirement is intended to draw attention to the fact that it would make no sense for the United States to proceed with the Agreed Framework—which fundamentally is intended to deny North Korea plutonium that it could use to build nuclear bombs—if North Korea is developing the capability to enrich uranium as an alternative source of fissile material.

Our legislation also insists on strict compliance by North Korea with its obligations under

the Agreed Framework before key U.S. nuclear components can be transferred to North Korea in connection with the construction there of two light water nuclear reactors. The Agreed Framework's most important requirements in this respect are that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) must be fully satisfied that North Korea is not cheating on its obligations under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, and that North Korea must allow the IAEA to carry out whatever inspections it deems necessary to verify that North Korea is not cheating. Under our legislation, key U.S. nuclear reactor components cannot be transferred to North Korea unless the President certifies that these requirements of the Agreed Framework have been met, and Congress has approved legislation concurring in the President's certification.

Our legislation addresses the North Korean missile threat by conditioning any relaxation of the current U.S. trade embargo of North Korea on progress in eliminating that threat. Specifically, our legislation requires North Korea to accept the Administration's current demands that North Korea institute a total ban on missile exports, and terminate its long-range missile program.

Finally, our legislation addresses a number of other elements of our North Korea policy. The legislation requires effective monitoring of U.S. food shipments to North Korea to ensure that the assistance is not being diverted to the North Korean military. It authorizes \$10 million to begin to set up a joint early warning system in the Asia-Pacific region to continuously share information on missile launches detected by governments participating in the system. It authorizes \$30 million to assist North Korean refugees in China and to support the resettlement of such refugees in South Korea and other neighboring countries.

We do not anticipate moving H.R. 1835 forward through the legislative process until we have received Dr. Perry's recommendations regarding U.S. policy toward North Korea. As Dr. Perry completes his final deliberations later this month, it is imperative that his policy recommendations address the issues identified in H.R. 1835 if the Administration hopes to garner the support of Congress and the American people. We are confident that Dr. Perry's recommendations will address these issues, and that the upshot will be a convergence between Congress and the Administration over policy toward North Korea.

H.R. 1835

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "North Korea Threat Reduction Act of 1999".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Under the Agreed Framework of October 21, 1994, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) committed to freeze and eventually dismantle its nuclear program, in exchange for annual deliveries of 500,000 tons of heavy fuel oil, and the construction of two 1,000 megawatt light water nuclear power reactors costing approximately \$5,000,000,000.

(2) The discovery of an apparent underground nuclear-related facility at