

the exceptional men and women who comprise our U.S. military. He is the embodiment of the honorable, courageous, and patriotic young Americans we are privileged to have defending our country. His selfless heroism, both as a civilian and in the military, created a legacy of courage and patriotism that will not be forgotten by those who knew him.

The liberty we cherish in this Nation has come at a great cost. Zarian and his family have paid the ultimate price for our freedom—but it is not without the tremendous gratitude of this Nation, this Congress, and this Congressman.

Mr. Speaker, America cannot repay the debt we owe to Zarian and his family. What can we do?

We can say thank you, thank you, thank you to Z for his selfless commitment to serve our Nation and thank you, thank you, thank you to his family for raising such a strong, wonderful and selfless Navy hero.

Zarian Wood is a true patriot, and a grateful Nation says: Semper Fi, fair winds and following seas.

Z, may you find eternal peace in God's arms.

H.R. 2030, SENATOR PAUL SIMON WATER FOR THE WORLD ACT OF 2009

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, I submit the following summary of the bill, H.R. 2030.

The Water for the World Act sets a benchmark of providing 100 million of the world's poorest with first-time access to safe and sustainable drinking water and sanitation by 2015. To achieve this, the Act builds upon the success of the 2005 Water for the Poor Act by:

Establishing a Senior Advisor for Water within USAID to implement country-specific water strategies;

Creating a Special Coordinator for International Water within the State Department to coordinate the diplomatic policy of the U.S. with respect to global freshwater issues;

Establishing programs in countries of greatest need that invest in local capacity, education, and coordination with US efforts; and

Emphasizing cross-border and cross-discipline collaboration, as well as the utilization of low-cost technologies, such as hand washing stations and latrines.

The Water for the World Act, S. 624/H.R. 2030, is endorsed by a number of global health and environmental advocates, including Water Advocates, the Natural Resources Defense Council, ONE, Mercy Corps, International Housing Coalition, CARE, and Population Services International.

H.R. 2030 Co-sponsors: Democrats—87, Republicans—10.

IMPORTANT FACTS

The number of children who die every day from diarrheal diseases spread through poor sanitation and hygiene: 4,100.

Every day that Congress delays in addressing this problem, more children unneces-

sarily die. We have the moral obligation to get this legislation done.

The annual economic benefit to the African continent, including in saved time, increased productivity and reduced health costs if the Millennium Development Goals on water and sanitation are met by 2015: \$22 billion.

The amount national governments in sub-Saharan Africa could save in annual public health expenditures if the Millennium Development Goals on water and sanitation are met by 2015: 12% (<http://www.one.org/c/us/pastcampaign/2789/>).

According to the World Health Organization, over 10% of the world's disease are caused purely by unsanitary water supplies.

One billion people do not have access to clean drinking water, and in the past ten years, everyone who has gained access to clean water in developing countries has lived in China or India, nations that are already rapidly improving their public water and sanitation systems.

2.4 Million deaths are caused annually by poor water conditions (4.2% of all deaths), meaning over 65,000 people die everyday that this bill is not signed.

In developing nations, only 5% of rural populations have access to plumbing and over 1 billion people still do not have access to a bathroom, spreading disease and infections.

TALKING POINTS AND QUOTES

Sustainable progress is about much more than water, but never about less.

Water is medicine. Toilets are medicine. The best kind of medicine—the kind that prevents African children from getting sick in the first place. We have known how to provide this medicine—safe water, sanitation, and handwashing, for centuries.

As Martin Luther King, Jr. said: “We will not be satisfied until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream.”

Supreme Court Justice Kennedy: “This is not my area, but there are 6 billion people on the planet and over 2 billion do not have adequate drinking water. How many hours—and you can't call it man hours because it's women's work—how many hours a year are spent in sub-Saharan Africa bringing water to the family? Answer: 16 billion hours—with a “b”—and that is the lowest estimate. For some people that's 6-8 hours a day to get water for their family. You take a photo in sub-Saharan Africa of the elegant, stately African woman with the long colored dress and the water jug on her head—that jug weighs more than the luggage allowance at the airport. The temptation of the rule of law is to say well, you have the Magna Carta, you wait 600 years, then you have a revolution, then a civil war. What about Martin Luther King, Jr.'s ‘fierce urgency of now’! These people cannot and will not wait and they should not.”

The water crisis is a global phenomenon. Around the world today, nearly 1 billion people lack access to clean, safe water. More than 2 billion people lack access to basic sanitation. Most of these people live on less than \$2 a day.

In Haiti, there are no public sewage treatment or disposal systems. Even in the capital, Port-au-Prince, a city of 2 million people, the drainage canals are choked with garbage. It is no wonder that Haiti has the highest infant and child mortality rate in the Western Hemisphere. One-third of Haiti's children do not live to see the age of 5. The leading killer? Water-borne diseases like hepatitis, typhoid, and diarrhea.

In Sub-Saharan Africa, a lack of access to clean water enslaves poor women. Women and girls are forced to walk two or three hours, or more, in each direction, every day, to collect water that is often dirty and unsafe. The U.N. estimates that these women spend a total of 40 billion working hours each year collecting water. That is equivalent to all of the hours worked in France in a year.

Water is even central to the fate of the Middle East. In his book, Paul Simon quoted former Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin as saying, “If we solve every other problem in the Middle East but do not satisfactorily resolve the water problem, our region will explode. Peace will not be possible.”

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF AMERICA'S PEACEMAKER, AMBASSADOR RICHARD HOLBROOKE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SCHAUER). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

I am saddened by the occasion on which I come to the floor of the House, but it is a privilege to be able to speak about a great American, for we do not capture the life and the legacy of great Americans. We find ourselves forgetting. Some would say, if we don't remember the past, we are doomed to repeat some of those hills and valleys in the future. Tonight, I want to remember Ambassador Richard Holbrooke, whom this Nation lost on Monday evening.

It is important that his story be told for I would like to know him and for this Nation to know him as America's peacemaker, but many will say that peacemaker had a tough edge.

Before I start, I want to mention his family and express my sympathy to them for their loss—to his wife, his two sons, and his stepchildren—all who loved him so very, very much.

What I would say to you is that this was an action man. He was someone who threw himself into the world of diplomacy. Frankly, there was no challenge of peace too difficult for Ambassador Richard Holbrooke.

One newspaper, USA Today, calls him as he is known in the headline—Bulldozer, Giant of Diplomacy Holbrooke Dies.

Among his credits, the 1995 Bosnian pact, but Richard was also known around the world for being unending and unceasing in his commitment to solving a problem, and he would ask you to work with him to solve that problem.

Henry Kissinger said, If Richard calls you and asks you for something, just say, “Yes.” If you say, “No,” you will eventually get to saying “yes,” but the journey will be very painful.

Ambassador Holbrooke was not prepared to give up. He learned to become