

**RADIO FREE AFGHANISTAN ACT OF 2001;
THE FREEDOM CONSOLIDATION ACT OF 2001;
INTERNATIONAL DISABILITY AND VICTIMS OF LANDMINDS
CIVIL STRIFE AND WARFARE ASSISTANCE ACT OF 2001;
HUNGER TO HARVEST RESOLUTION: A DECADE OF
CONCERN FOR AFRICA;
THE EXPORT EXTENSION ACT OF 2001;
RUSSIAN DEMOCRACY ACT OF 2001;
COMMENDING DAW AUNG SAN SUU KYI ON THE 10TH
ANNIVERSARY OF NOBEL PRIZE;
AND RECOGNIZING RADIO FREE EUROPE/RADIO
LIBERTY'S SUCCESS**

MARKUP

BEFORE THE

**COMMITTEE ON
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

ON

**H.R. 2998, H.R. 3167, H.R. 3169, H. Con. Res. 102,
H.R. 3189, H.R. 2121, H. Con. Res. 211, and
H. Con. Res. 242**

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**RADIO FREE AFGHANISTAN ACT OF 2001; THE FREEDOM
CONSOLIDATION ACT OF 2001; INTERNATIONAL DIS-
ABILITY AND VICTIMS OF LANDMINDS CIVIL STRIFE AND
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RACY ACT OF 2001; COMMENDING DAW AUNG SAN SUU
KYI ON THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF NOBEL PRIZE; AND
RECOGNIZING RADIO FREE EUROPE/RADIO LIBERTY'S
SUCCESS**

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2001

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS,
Washington, DC.

The Committee met, pursuant to call, at 4:20 p.m. in Room 2172, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Henry Hyde, (Chairman of the Committee) presiding.

Chairman HYDE. The Committee will come to order.

Pursuant to notice, I now call up the bill H.R. 2998, Radio Free Afghanistan Act of 2001, for purposes of markup.

Without objection, the bill will be considered as read and open for amendment at any point.

I recognize Mr. Royce to explain the bill.

[The bill, H.R. 2998, follows:]

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2998

To authorize the establishment of Radio Free Afghanistan.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 2, 2001

Mr. ROYCE (for himself, Mr. BERMAN, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. LEACH, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. KIRK, Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD, Mr. PITTS, and Mr. HOEFFEL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

A BILL

To authorize the establishment of Radio Free Afghanistan.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Radio Free Afghani-
5 stan Act of 2001”.

6 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF RADIO FREE AFGHANISTAN.**

7 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Broadcasting Board of
8 Governors is authorized to make grants for surrogate
9 radio broadcasting by RFE/RL, Incorporated (formerly
10 known as Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty) to the people

1 of Afghanistan in languages spoken in Afghanistan, such
2 broadcasts to be designated “Radio Free Afghanistan”.

3 (b) SUBMISSION OF PLAN TO BROADCASTING BOARD
4 OF GOVERNORS.—Not later than 15 days after the date
5 of the enactment of this Act, RFE/RL, Incorporated, shall
6 submit to the Broadcasting Board of Governors a detailed
7 plan for the establishment of the surrogate radio broad-
8 casting described in subsection (a).

9 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

10 (1) FISCAL YEARS 2002 AND 2003.—In addition
11 to such sums as are authorized to be appropriated
12 for each of the fiscal years 2002 and 2003 for
13 “International Broadcasting Operations”,
14 \$8,000,000 is authorized to be appropriated for the
15 fiscal year 2002 and \$6,000,000 is authorized to be
16 appropriated for the fiscal year 2003 for “Inter-
17 national Broadcasting Operations” to be available
18 only for the surrogate radio broadcasting described
19 in subsection (a).

20 (2) TRANSMITTER.—Of the amounts authorized
21 to be appropriated by paragraph (1) for the fiscal
22 year 2002, \$1,500,000 shall be available only for a
23 new transmitter for the surrogate radio broadcasting
24 described in subsection (a).

○

Mr. ROYCE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I would like to thank you for scheduling this markup, and let me just say that the bill itself now has 57 co-sponsors, 22 of which are Members of this Committee.

Long before the terrorist attacks of September 11th, bin Laden's sympathizers waged what I would call a psychological war for the minds of Afghans. They shrewdly used radio to spread hatred of the United States, hatred of democracy, of Israel and of those Muslims who rejected their hate, and they did that day in and day out on Radio Shariat.

I believe that the establishment of a Radio Free Afghanistan by Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty is essential to winning the information war. The Taliban and the terrorists they are harboring use two things to maintain power: they use propaganda and they use censorship. And they must be countered. I am just going to quote William Safire from this morning's *New York Times*, where he points out a message that could be sent to counter the lies that are sent.

He said,

"A message could be the Taliban are corrupting the Koran. Suicide bombers are not blessed with black-eyed beauties in paradise, but spend eternity in hell. The Taliban and their terrorist guests are the cause of Afghan casualties. As soon as the fanatic outsiders surrender, then peace, food and jobs will bless the land."

Now, that is one example of a message.

But anyway, what are people hearing today in that region? What is the message they heard in weeks past?

It was reported that the attacks on the World Trade Center were the work of the Israelis and of the United States and that we did that in order to blame it falsely on Osama bin Laden, who was innocent. That is what they are being told.

If we had had Radio Free Afghanistan up and running for several years now, the terrorists would not have had the fertile ground they have found in Afghanistan. We certainly would not be behind the curve, running around to ramp up broadcasting to the region now. I believe that Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty is the best organization for broadcasting there, because it has the expertise and the experience on Afghanistan. It was helpful in rallying the Afghan people against the Soviets some 20 years ago. Eight of the employees who were working there then are working there now. I have talked to three of those employees.

I think it will have the best chance of providing information that will help turn the Afghan people against the Taliban and other extremists and do it now. It is the voice of Afghans talking about the radicalism of the Taliban that will be our best ally. This is best positioned to do that task. It will broadcast 12 hours a day, 6 in Dari, 6 in Pashto; and in order for these broadcasts to be more effective, I will be offering an amendment to increase the transmission capability into Afghanistan. We have worked with the Board of Governors to do this, and so that will be an amendment to the bill.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman HYDE. The Chair recognizes Mr. Lantos, the Ranking Democrat.

Mr. LANTOS. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. This is a very important bill. I want to commend my friends Ed Royce and Howard Berman for introducing it.

I support this legislation because it is self-evident that we need to increase and improve our public diplomacy in the Muslim world. The Middle East Broadcasting Initiative announced by the Administration and Radio Free Afghanistan required by this legislation are two important initiatives that will help us to reach millions of Muslims and will provide fair, accurate information about America, our principles and our policies.

We must increase also our VOA broadcasting and Radio Free Asia, and we must increase our educational and cultural exchange programs for the region.

We must come up with new and innovative ways to reach the young people who live on the outer fringes of society. Marginalized young people who live without hope and without opportunity grow up into hate-filled men and women who choose to bring death and destruction to themselves and those around them.

H.R. 2998 is an important step in the right direction, and I urge all of my colleagues to support the legislation.

Chairman HYDE. Mr. Gilman?

Mr. GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I commend you for bringing this bill before our Committee and commend Chairman Royce for crafting this important initiative, the Radio Free Afghanistan measure.

For the past several years, the people of Afghanistan have been manipulated by foreign forces who are motivated by selfish intentions. Saudi Arabia, along with Pakistan, has created a radical Islamic fundamentalist movement in Afghanistan which threatens international stability. While we are working to ensure that the governments of those two countries permanently change their policy, the only way that the world will be safe from the disaster that they have created is by helping the Afghan people liberate themselves from the Taliban and bin Laden and to give them the tools to put together a broadbased representative form of government.

For the past several years, Members of our Committee have been working with the former king of Afghanistan and the Northern Alliance to ensure that our government supports the Afghan people's desire for a free and democratic Afghanistan. A Radio Free Afghanistan will play a significant role in this endeavor.

Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to fully support this measure.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman HYDE. Mr. Hoeffel.

Mr. HOEFFEL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I strongly support this bill. I want to compliment Mr. Royce for introducing it and for his long-time advocacy for free speech and freedom in Afghanistan, and my compliments to Mr. Berman as well.

This bill would allow the Afghan people to hear the truth about what is happening in their country. We would empower Radio Free Europe to establish a Radio Free Afghanistan along the lines of the surrogate broadcasting concept that Radio Free Europe has devel-

oped over the last 50 years, which provides local news as well as regional and international news in native languages, in factual presentations that make a difference to the people who are living behind the Iron Curtain of old or now behind the terror curtain, if you will, of the Taliban in Afghanistan.

This is a good proposal. I am saddened to see that the Administration does not support it, according to the fact sheet handed out by the Committee. The Administration, in a letter from the State Department, says it is considering a menu of other options regarding programming into South Central Asia, and the Administration is not ready at this time to commit to the concept of a Radio Free Afghanistan.

Well, the Administration astonishes me. The principle of broadcasting news, factual information free of the propaganda of repressive states is well established. In fact, the Chair and Ranking Member quite wisely are bringing before this Committee later today H. Con. Res 242, which celebrates 50 years of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty and its success through this method of surrogate broadcasting in bringing freedom to people around the world.

It astonishes me that the Administration, which has done many, many good things in the last 60 days to respond to the attacks on America, and the State Department led by a terrific Secretary of State, would not throw their support behind Mr. Royce's proposal to expand into Afghanistan a tried and true method of bringing truth and therefore liberty and personal freedom to people who do not enjoy it now.

I hope the Committee will give unanimous support to this very good bill.

Chairman HYDE. Thank you, Mr. Hoeffel.

Mr. Flake, did you seek recognition?

Mr. FLAKE. No.

Chairman HYDE. Mr. Berman, did you seek recognition?

Mr. BERMAN. Yes.

Chairman HYDE. You are recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BERMAN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I rise in support of H.R. 2998. I do not even rise, I just sit here in support of it.

I join my other colleagues in commending Congressman Royce, who has really been into a lot of these issues and anticipated some of these problems many months before September 11th.

In response to Congressman Hoeffel's point, which I thought was a good one, Congressman Royce and I know that the Committee does not intend this to be a substitute for Voice of America, it is to be a complement to it. It follows a model that has worked very effectively in other parts of the world because it focuses on people who know the surrogate radio model where they know the internal issues that the people there want to know about, and it is not a substitute for what we have to do and what Secretary Powell affirmed that we need to do in the areas of strengthening public diplomacy in this part of the world.

There are other proposals out there. There is a very important one for a Middle East radio initiative in that part of the world, where only 2 percent of the Arab population has access to Voice of America. I think all of these are a seamless web of many issues and a menu of options. You do not have to just choose one, and I

cannot believe at the end of the day that the Administration will not see the light that H.R. 2998 shines on this subject and will not go along and support this proposal. I yield back my time.

Chairman HYDE. The gentleman from California, Mr. Royce, is recognized for purposes of an amendment.

Mr. ROYCE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Let me say I have enjoyed working with Mr. Berman and Mr. Hoeffel and Members of the Chairman's staff on this important piece of legislation, along with the Broadcasting Board of Governors. There is an amendment that we have here.

Chairman HYDE. The clerk will report the amendment.

Ms. BLOOMER. Amendment offered by Mr. Royce. Page 1, line 9, strike "formerly" and insert "also."

Chairman HYDE. Without objection, further reading of the amendment is dispensed with and Mr. Royce is recognized for 5 minutes in support of his amendment.

[The amendment referred to follows:]

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2998**OFFERED BY MR. ROYCE**

Page 1, line 9, strike “formerly” and insert “also”.

Page 2, strike lines 9 through 24, and insert the following:

1 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

2 (1) INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING OPER-
3 ATIONS.—In addition to such sums as are otherwise
4 authorized to be appropriated for “International
5 Broadcasting Operations”, there are authorized to
6 be appropriated for “International Broadcasting Op-
7 erations” \$9,500,000 for the fiscal year 2002 and
8 \$8,000,000 for the fiscal year 2003 for broadcasting
9 to Afghanistan described in subsection (a).

10 (2) BROADCASTING CAPITAL IMPROVE-
11 MENTS.—In addition to such sums as are otherwise
12 authorized to be appropriated for “Broadcasting
13 Capital Improvements”, there are authorized to be
14 appropriated for “Broadcasting Capital Improve-
15 ments” \$10,000,000 for the fiscal year 2002 for
16 transmitting broadcasts into Afghanistan.

1 **SEC. 3. REPEAL OF BAN ON UNITED STATES TRANSMITTER**
2 **IN KUWAIT.**

3 The Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal
4 Years 1994 and 1995 (Public Law 103-236) is
5 amended—

6 (1) by striking section 226; and

7 (2) by striking the item relating to section 226
8 in the table of contents.

Mr. ROYCE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

In order to get the strongest possible signal into Afghanistan, three transmitters need to be moved from Spain to Kuwait. It is important to note that these transmitters could also be used to be ideally located for broadcasts in the Middle East, in Africa or in Russia, but this is a one-time cost of moving and setting up the transmitters of \$10 million.

Also there currently is a ban on shortwave transmission from Kuwait. My amendment includes a repeal of the ban on transmission from Kuwait, and this language was included in fact in the State Department authorization bill passed earlier this year. There is also an inclusion for transmission cost requirements.

And so I would like to ask for the adoption of this amendment, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman HYDE. Is there any further discussion?

Mr. Rohrabacher.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Well, I rise in support of the amendment and, of course, in support of the fundamental bill.

Let me commend Mr. Royce. Ed and I have known each other for many years, I think probably since high school. I just want to tell you how much I deeply admire his commitment to freedom and justice. It really speaks well of him that Ed has sought out an avenue where he could have an influence on the cause of human freedom in different parts of the world where people are suffering and reach out in a way that would give people hope. And that is what these radio stations are about, and that is what Voice of America was supposed to be about.

Let me just note, I think it is unfortunate that Voice of America, when it comes to Afghanistan, for whatever reason since the Taliban took over, was not doing its job and became known in Afghanistan as the Voice of the Taliban. Let me just say that we have done a study of people interviewed. It was disgraceful the number of people from the Taliban who were given free air time by our own Voice of America, and then anyone who was against them and said things against the Taliban, had to have someone on to refute them from the Taliban, which made no sense at all.

We have here an effort by Mr. Royce to be a loud and clear voice of freedom and justice and to let those people in that area know what the issues are and especially to make sure that these Muslim fanatics in the Taliban have their arguments heard. It is not just our point, it is the truth—I mean how many times have these people been heard? I would hope the Voice of America is doing this, but I know Radio Free Afghanistan will do this. Is it Islamic to murder 6000 innocent people halfway around the world like the bin Laden gang did in New York, or is it Islamic to grow opium and 60 percent of the world's heroin in Afghanistan and then to store that heroin next to mosques during a conflict?

Is it Islamic to hide armed troops in mosques during combat and in schools and hospitals?

I might also add, there are stories that need to be brought out about the shameful sexual abuse of children by Taliban mullahs. That story is not even out in the west yet, and the people of Afghanistan need to hear these things.

We need to make sure, whenever the cause of freedom and justice is in peril, that we reach out and talk to the people who are most affected. I commend Mr. Royce for mobilizing us behind this gallant project.

Thank you very much.

Chairman HYDE. The question occurs on the amendment.

All in favor say aye.

[Chorus of ayes.]

Chairman HYDE. Opposed nay.

[No response.]

Chairman HYDE. The ayes have it. The amendment is agreed to. Are there any further amendments?

[No response.]

Chairman HYDE. If not, the question occurs on the motion to report the bill H.R. 2998 favorably as amended.

All in favor say aye.

[Chorus of ayes.]

Chairman HYDE. All opposed nay.

[No response.]

Chairman HYDE. The ayes have it. The motion to report favorably is adopted.

Without objection, the Chairman is authorized to move to go to conference pursuant to House Rule XXII.

Without objection, the staff is directed to make any technical and conforming changes.

Without objection, the bill will be reported favorably to the House in the form of single amendment in the nature of a substitute incorporating the amendment adopted here today.

Pursuant to notice, I now call up the bill H.R. 3167, the Freedom Consolidation Act of 2001, for purposes of markup.

Without objection, the bill will be considered as read and open for amendment at any point.

[The bill, H.R. 3167, follows:]

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION **H. R. 3167**

To endorse the vision of further enlargement of the NATO Alliance articulated by President George W. Bush on June 15, 2001, and by former President William J. Clinton on October 22, 1996, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 24, 2001

Mr. BEREUTER (for himself, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. HASTERT, Mr. BONIOR, Mr. ARMEY, Mr. HYDE, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. GOSS, Mr. COX, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. MICA, and Mr. TANNER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

A BILL

To endorse the vision of further enlargement of the NATO Alliance articulated by President George W. Bush on June 15, 2001, and by former President William J. Clinton on October 22, 1996, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Freedom Consolidation
5 Act of 2001”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress makes the following findings:

1 (1) In the NATO Participation Act of 1994
2 (title II of Public Law 103–447; 22 U.S.C. 1928
3 note), Congress declared that “full and active par-
4 ticipants in the Partnership for Peace in a position
5 to further the principles of the North Atlantic Trea-
6 ty and to contribute to the security of the North At-
7 lantic area should be invited to become full NATO
8 members in accordance with Article 10 of such
9 Treaty at an early date . . .”.

10 (2) In the NATO Enlargement Facilitation Act
11 of 1996 (title VI of section 101(c) of title I of divi-
12 sion A of Public Law 104–208; 22 U.S.C. 1928
13 note), Congress called for the prompt admission of
14 Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, and Slovenia
15 to NATO, and declared that “in order to promote
16 economic stability and security in Slovakia, Estonia,
17 Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Bulgaria, Albania,
18 Moldova, and Ukraine . . . the process of enlarging
19 NATO to include emerging democracies in Central
20 and Eastern Europe should not be limited to consid-
21 eration of admitting Poland, Hungary, the Czech
22 Republic, and Slovenia as full members of the
23 NATO Alliance”.

24 (3) In the European Security Act of 1998 (title
25 XXVII of division G of Public Law 105–277; 22

1 U.S.C. 1928 note), Congress declared that “Poland,
2 Hungary, and the Czech Republic should not be the
3 last emerging democracies in Central and Eastern
4 Europe invited to join NATO” and that “Romania,
5 Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Bulgaria . . . would
6 make an outstanding contribution to furthering the
7 goals of NATO and enhancing stability, freedom,
8 and peace in Europe should they become NATO
9 members [and] upon complete satisfaction of all rel-
10 evant criteria should be invited to become full NATO
11 members at the earliest possible date”.

12 (4) At the Madrid Summit of the NATO Alli-
13 ance in July 1997, Poland, Hungary, and the Czech
14 Republic were invited to join the Alliance in the first
15 round of NATO enlargement, and the NATO heads
16 of state and government issued a declaration stating
17 “[t]he Alliance expects to extend further invitations
18 in coming years to nations willing and able to as-
19 sume the responsibilities and obligations of member-
20 ship . . . [n]o European democratic country whose
21 admission would fulfill the objectives of the [North
22 Atlantic] Treaty will be excluded from consider-
23 ation”.

24 (5) At the Washington Summit of the NATO
25 Alliance in April 1999, the NATO heads of state

1 and government issued a communique declaring
2 “[w]e pledge that NATO will continue to welcome
3 new members in a position to further the principles
4 of the [North Atlantic] Treaty and contribute to
5 peace and security in the Euro-Atlantic area . . .
6 [t]he three new members will not be the last . . .
7 [n]o European democratic country whose admission
8 would fulfill the objectives of the Treaty will be ex-
9 cluded from consideration, regardless of its geo-
10 graphic location . . .”.

11 (6) In late 2002, NATO will hold a summit in
12 Prague, the Czech Republic, at which it will decide
13 which additional emerging democracies in Central
14 and Eastern Europe to invite to join the Alliance in
15 the next round of NATO enlargement.

16 (7) In May 2000 in Vilnius, Lithuania, the for-
17 eign ministers of Albania, Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia,
18 Lithuania, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Mac-
19 edonia, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia issued a
20 statement (later joined by Croatia) declaring that
21 their countries will cooperate in jointly seeking
22 NATO membership in the next round of NATO en-
23 largement, that the realization of NATO member-
24 ship by one or more of these countries would be a
25 success for all, and that eventual NATO membership

1 for all of these countries would be a success for Eu-
2 rope and NATO.

3 (8) On June 15, 2001, in a speech in Warsaw,
4 Poland, President George W. Bush stated “[a]ll of
5 Europe’s new democracies, from the Baltic to the
6 Black Sea and all that lie between, should have the
7 same chance for security and freedom—and the
8 same chance to join the institutions of Europe—as
9 Europe’s old democracies have . . . I believe in
10 NATO membership for all of Europe’s democracies
11 that seek it and are ready to share the responsibil-
12 ities that NATO brings . . . [a]s we plan to enlarge
13 NATO, no nation should be used as a pawn in the
14 agenda of others . . . [w]e will not trade away the
15 fate of free European peoples . . . [n]o more
16 Munichs . . . [n]o more Yaltas . . . [a]s we plan the
17 Prague Summit, we should not calculate how little
18 we can get away with, but how much we can do to
19 advance the cause of freedom”.

20 (9) On October 22, 1996, in a speech in De-
21 troit, Michigan, former President William J. Clinton
22 stated “NATO’s doors will not close behind its first
23 new members . . . NATO should remain open to all
24 of Europe’s emerging democracies who are ready to
25 shoulder the responsibilities of membership . . . [n]o

1 nation will be automatically excluded . . . [n]o coun-
2 try outside NATO will have a veto . . . [a] gray
3 zone of insecurity must not reemerge in Europe”.

4 **SEC. 3. DECLARATIONS OF POLICY.**

5 Congress—

6 (1) reaffirms its previous expressions of support
7 for continued enlargement of the NATO Alliance
8 contained in the NATO Participation Act of 1994,
9 the NATO Enlargement Facilitation Act of 1996,
10 and the European Security Act of 1998;

11 (2) supports the commitment to further en-
12 largement of the NATO Alliance expressed by the
13 Alliance in its Madrid Declaration of 1997 and its
14 Washington Summit Communique of 1999; and

15 (3) endorses the vision of further enlargement
16 of the NATO Alliance articulated by President
17 George W. Bush on June 15, 2001, and by former
18 President William J. Clinton on October 22, 1996,
19 and urges our NATO allies to work with the United
20 States to realize this vision at the Prague Summit
21 in 2002.

1 **SEC. 4. DESIGNATION OF SLOVAKIA TO RECEIVE ASSIST-**
2 **ANCE UNDER THE NATO PARTICIPATION ACT**
3 **OF 1994.**

4 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Slovakia is designated as eligible
5 to receive assistance under the program established under
6 section 203(a) of the NATO Participation Act of 1994
7 (title II of Public Law 103–447; 22 U.S.C. 1928 note)
8 and shall be deemed to have been so designated pursuant
9 to section 203(d)(1) of such Act.

10 (b) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—The designation of
11 Slovakia pursuant to subsection (a) as eligible to receive
12 assistance under the program established under section
13 203(a) of the NATO Participation Act of 1994—

14 (1) is in addition to the designation of Poland,
15 Hungary, the Czech Republic, and Slovenia pursu-
16 ant to section 606 of the NATO Enlargement Facili-
17 tation Act of 1996 (title VI of section 101(e) of title
18 I of division A of Public Law 104–208; 22 U.S.C.
19 1928 note) and the designation of Romania, Esto-
20 nia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Bulgaria pursuant to
21 section 2703(b) of the European Security Act of
22 1998 (title XXVII of division G of Public Law 105–
23 277; 22 U.S.C. 1928 note) as eligible to receive as-
24 sistance under the program established under sec-
25 tion 203(a) of the NATO Participation Act of 1994;
26 and

1 (2) shall not preclude the designation by the
2 President of other emerging democracies in Central
3 and Eastern Europe pursuant to section 203(d)(2)
4 of the NATO Participation Act of 1994 as eligible
5 to receive assistance under the program established
6 under section 203(a) of such Act.

7 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF SECURITY ASSISTANCE FOR**
8 **COUNTRIES DESIGNATED UNDER THE NATO**
9 **PARTICIPATION ACT OF 1994.**

10 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF FOREIGN MILITARY FINANC-
11 ING.—Of the amounts made available for fiscal year 2002
12 under section 23 of the Arms Export Control Act (22
13 U.S.C. 2763)—

14 (1) \$6,500,000 is authorized to be available on
15 a grant basis for Estonia;

16 (2) \$7,000,000 is authorized to be available on
17 a grant basis for Latvia;

18 (3) \$7,500,000 is authorized to be available on
19 a grant basis for Lithuania;

20 (4) \$8,500,000 is authorized to be available on
21 a grant basis for Slovakia;

22 (5) \$4,500,000 is authorized to be available on
23 a grant basis for Slovenia;

24 (6) \$10,000,000 is authorized to be available on
25 a grant basis for Bulgaria; and

1 (7) \$11,500,000 is authorized to be available on
2 a grant basis for Romania.

3 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection (a) of
4 section 515 of the Security Assistance Act of 2000 (Public
5 Law 106–280) is amended by striking paragraphs (1), (5),
6 (6), (7), and (8) and redesignating paragraphs (2), (3),
7 (4), and (9) as paragraphs (1) through (4), respectively.

○

Chairman HYDE. I recognize the gentleman from Nebraska, Mr. Bereuter, to explain the bill.

Mr. BEREUTER. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, for bringing H.R. 3167 before this Committee in such a timely manner, for your co-sponsorship of the bill and for giving me a role in presenting it to the Committee. As Chairman of the House delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, I appreciate that opportunity.

I would also like to thank the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee, the distinguished gentleman from California, Mr. Lantos; the Chairman Emeritus of the Committee, the distinguished gentleman from New York, Mr. Gilman; and the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Europe, the gentleman from California, Mr. Gallegly, for co-sponsoring this legislation.

Indeed, H.R. 3167 enjoys the support of Members from the elected leadership on both sides of the aisle, including the Speaker of the House, the House Majority Leader, the House Minority Whip, and the Chairman of the House Republican Policy Committee.

I would also note that among the co-sponsors are several Members of the House of Representatives delegation to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's Parliamentary Assembly (NATO P.A.), including the Chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Mr. Goss; Mr. Shimkus, Mr. Hefley, Mr. Tanner, Mr. McInnis, Mr. Lampson, and Mr. Bilirakus.

The measure before the Committee today outlines and reaffirms congressional support for further expansion of NATO. In addition, the bill endorses the vision of further enlargement of the NATO alliance as expressed in statements by former President Bill Clinton and by President George W. Bush.

Further, the bill specifically designates Slovakia to receive assistance under the NATO Participation Act of 1994 and the President is authorized to designate as he deems appropriate other countries as eligible for the assistance under the same program.

I might explain that Slovakia, one of the original Visegrad Four, took a turn away from democracy, and so despite earlier expectations, they did not come into NATO in the first round of expansion. But they have changed that course, much to the satisfaction of their own people, our appreciation and the appreciation of the other 18 members of NATO. They are back on track. They are the only one of what you might call first line likely additions to the NATO alliance that is not specifically authorized to receive assistance by one of two prior acts. This is a change that we are making so that they are assured of assistance. We want to encourage them in their continued advancement.

Finally, H.R. 3167 authorizes foreign military financing for the leading NATO alliance aspirants: Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Bulgaria and Romania. The funding levels reflect the Administration's request exactly.

As a matter of fact, you have in your folders a letter addressed to Chairman Hyde dated October 24, 2001, which endorses all aspects of the legislation signed by Paul V. Kelly, Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs for the State Department.

[The information referred to follows:]

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
 LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS,
 Washington, DC, October 24, 2001.

Hon. HENRY J. HYDE, *Chairman,*
Committee on International Relations,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This letter is to respond to your committee's request for views on H.R. the Freedom Consolidation Act of 2001.

The Department of State has reviewed the proposed legislation, and believes that the bill, by its endorsement of the President's vision of building a Europe that is whole, free, and at peace, would contribute to the advancement of this high priority foreign policy objective of the United States.

The bill reinforces the message of consistent congressional support for the process of NATO enlargement as conveyed in previous congressional Acts, including the NATO Participation Act of 1994, the NATO Enlargement Facilitation Act of 1996, and the European Security Act of 1998.

This bill would provide tangible congressional backing for President Bush's statement in Warsaw June 15 that the United States "will be prepared to make concrete, historic decisions with its Allies to advance NATO enlargement" at the 2002 Prague Summit.

The designation of Slovakia to receive assistance under the NATO Participation Act under this bill would provide an indication of congressional support for that country's candidacy similar to that provided to Slovenia, Romania, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, and Bulgaria in the previous Acts.

The bill amends the Security Assistance Act of 2000 and, like it, indicates desired levels of funding from foreign military financing for the European PFP countries. We welcome the fact that the levels reflect the Administration's requests.

The Office of Management and Budget advises that from the standpoint of the Administration's program there is no objection to the submission of this letter.

I hope this information is useful to you. Please do not hesitate to call if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

PAUL V. KELLY, *Assistant Secretary,*
Legislative Affairs.

Mr. BEREUTER. I think it is important to note that the bill does not specifically endorse the candidacies of any country. It simply endorses expansion, hopefully at the Prague Summit in 2002, for those countries which meet the criteria outlined by current NATO members at that time.

As Chairman of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly delegation from the House, I once again led a House delegation to NATO's spring meeting this year in Vilnius, Lithuania. I was very impressed with the grassroots support in Lithuania for NATO membership and, in fact, asked a street vendor why he displayed a pro-NATO sticker on his cart.

He explained that he would never forget how a family member of his had been taken to Siberia by the Soviets and had never returned. Therefore, because of this and very similar incidents affecting thousands of citizens of the three Baltic nations in the early stages of World War II, I believe that security is first and foremost on the minds of the citizens within countries which aspire to join NATO.

Indeed, the countries seeking to join the NATO alliance have much to offer in assisting the U.S. and other countries in the war against terrorism, too.

Without a doubt, NATO has been the most effective collective defense alliance in the history of the world. It has provided collective security to the member nations of western Europe. It is no surprise that many countries of the former Warsaw Pact now aspire to NATO membership. Therefore, I urge strong support for H.R. 3167.

Finally, I am also very pleased to offer an amendment on behalf of myself and Mr. Gilman, the dean of the New York delegation, in just a few minutes, which changes the title of the bill from the current one to "The Gerald B.H. Solomon Freedom Consolidation Act of 2001."

I can think of few more fitting legislative memorials to our distinguished former colleague who, through his service in this body and as a long-time member of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly delegation, consistently championed efforts to strengthen and expand NATO. Indeed, Jerry Solomon wrote a book entitled *The NATO Enlargement Debate: 1990 Through 1997: The Blessings of Liberty*, which was published in April 1998.

Congressman Solomon and I were first elected to Congress together in November 1978 and, with the exception of Congressman Ralph Regula and now myself, Jerry Solomon served longer on the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, or its predecessor the North Atlantic Assembly, than any Member of the House or Senate.

He served the maximum number of years allowable as Chairman of one of the five important Committees of the Assembly. Additionally, he served as Vice President of the Assembly. And, in fact, he is responsible for encouraging me to become a part of the effort in 1984.

I would also note that his daughter, Linda, is a very valued and important part of our International Relations Committee staff today.

Jerry Solomon has taken so much leadership in the past on NATO expansion. He was proud to be a part of the House's effort to encourage NATO expansion. Indeed, I am proud of the fact that the House of Representatives was the first entity in the world to take the leadership on NATO expansion, endorsing expansion even before the Senate, before the Executive Branch, and before any other nation on earth. We took the leadership here, and Jerry was very pleased to have been a part of President Clinton's small delegation to the Madrid Summit of the North Atlantic Council in 1997.

I think it would be entirely appropriate for us to name this act for Jerry Solomon. As you know, he was a former Member of this Committee and his first love was always this Committee, then known as the Foreign Affairs Committee, and veterans issues. I will offer with Mr. Gilman that amendment shortly.

At this point, I encourage Members to support the legislation.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I yield back the balance of my time.
Chairman HYDE. Mr. Lantos?

Mr. LANTOS. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I strongly support this legislation and I commend you for introducing it.

Before commenting on the legislation, I want to commend my friends Doug Bereuter and Ben Gilman for renaming the bill in honor of Jerry Solomon. Nobody deserves it more than our former colleague.

Mr. Chairman, this Committee has consistently led the way in supporting NATO enlargement and a strong and robust role for NATO in Europe. NATO is the longest surviving alliance of modern times and it has endured because it is an alliance of free nations.

No country was ever forced to join the alliance by a larger and stronger power, not the case with the Soviet Union's parallel alliance, where every country was forced into joining it. And there can be no better endorsement of NATO's success and perseverance than the desire of newly emerging countries in central and eastern Europe to join this alliance.

The post-September 11 era has brought us new realities and one of them is the critical role that NATO can and does play in the fight against international terrorism.

I want to commend our NATO allies once again on their action invoking Article 5 of the NATO treaty.

You may remember, Mr. Chairman, when we debated the resolution authorizing the use of force in response to the attacks, the word just came through and we had the opportunity on the floor to recognize the contributions of our NATO allies.

Although the war on terrorism is now our top national priority, we must remain engaged with our allies on a wide spectrum of issues, including NATO enlargement. The NATO Prague summit next year will be the first opportunity for the applicant countries to present their bids for membership in a formal manner. This bill demonstrates our strong belief that this process should not be sidelined.

Invitations will be extended to the applicants consistent with their compliance with the NATO membership action plan. We want to underscore that the summit in Prague will be the first, not the last, of such meetings and part of a measured and carefully managed process.

We on this Committee support a Europe whole and free and we strongly endorse the statement of the ten applicant countries that the eventual NATO membership for all of these countries would be a success both for Europe and for NATO.

Lastly, Mr. Chairman, I would like to emphasize the need for continued strong cooperation and support the Russian federation under the Permanent Joint Council is giving this process. While our relationship with Russia has been rocky at times, it has endured because the Russian leadership, especially since the events of September 11, has made it increasingly clear that it intends to anchor Russia in Europe.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this legislation and I yield back.

Chairman HYDE. The gentleman from New York, Mr. Gilman.

Mr. GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I want to commend our former Vice Chairman of our Committee, the gentleman from Nebraska, Mr. Bereuter, for introducing this bill and for his strong support, as always, for NATO enlargement.

The past decade has shown a remarkable expansion of freedom in Europe without firing a single shot under the aegis of NATO.

It is ironic that our NATO allies would invoke the attack on one is an attack on all clause of NATO's treaty after a terrorist attack on our nation originating from abroad. We have special reason, therefore, to value the contribution that NATO makes to our own defense.

We need to bring as many democratic stable and capable European nations into the alliance as possible. This bill makes it clear

that the door does remain truly open. It is fitting for Congress to begin and to ask our President to sign into law a policy declaration of this type.

It is in our interests in the opening to the east which laid the groundwork for the eventual accession of the Czech Republic, of Hungary and Poland into NATO in the last decade.

I am pleased to join the gentleman from Nebraska, Mr. Bereuter, in making one change to our bill, and that is naming it after our close friend and our former colleague on this Committee, the late gentleman from New York, Mr. Solomon.

Mr. Solomon was truly a dedicated public servant, a person who cared deeply about our national security and how much we have depended on the NATO alliance. Accordingly, it is all together fitting that we name this bill after him, the Gerald B.H. Solomon Freedom Consolidation Act.

I would like to note to my colleagues that Jerry Solomon wrote a book called *The NATO Enlargement Debate: 1990 Through 1997: The Blessings of Liberty*. This allusion to our own Constitution's preamble was meant to convey the view that people everywhere ought to be able to live in liberty. This was a view to which he dedicated much of his life.

Mr. Chairman, we appreciate your leadership on this issue and I thank the gentleman from Nebraska, Mr. Bereuter, for his initiative in support of the measure and I enthusiastically support the adoption of the Solomon bill and urge my colleagues to do the same.

Chairman HYDE. Mr. Rohrabacher.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. I rise in opposition to the proposal. I would like to say that Mr. Bereuter is a very good hearted person. He is a patriot. He is my friend. But we disagree on several things, and keeping NATO alive is one of them. But, of course, that puts me in disagreement with a lot of other people as well, so let me just proceed to say that I believe that NATO did a magnificent job in the 1950s and in the 1960s and in the 1970s and in the 1980s. And, guess what? It is time for us to sing our accolades about this time period when NATO did so much to preserve the peace and then to let it die, as it should die, because it is no longer part of our era. It is part of another era.

NATO was established when we were afraid of the Soviet Union invading western Europe, and we were willing to spend the money and the resources and coordinate our efforts with the Europeans to deter that attack. And it worked magnificently.

But in case someone has not noticed, the Cold War is over. For us to be basing our defense strategies on the foundations that were laid in a totally different world is not going to serve our country well.

Let me note that the first country that called us on September 11th was not NATO. It was Mr. Putin from Russia who called us to offer us as much support as he could.

Now, what does that tell you?

That tells you—and I will have to say this, I would certainly think it is better for us to try to establish a very good cooperative relationship and a defense cooperating relationship with Russia

than it is to depend on our European allies to try to come to some decision at a time of crisis.

I will tell you right now that had the United States of America had to wait after September 11th to get approval from our allies in Europe before we decided exactly what our strategy was going to be, we might now, just at this moment, have reached some kind of a consensus of where we were going to have the next meeting in order to discuss the issue.

The point is the United States of America has got to be able to defend itself. We have limited budgets. We no longer should be subsidizing the defense of Europe to the tune of 20 to 30 billion dollars a year. That money would be better spent elsewhere, and we should be instead developing relationships with countries like Russia and England and other countries who want to be our friends and will join us when our national security is threatened.

There is no reason for us to maintain this very expensive structure called NATO. It does nothing but deter and prevent us from having the type of cooperation with Russia that we could have now that Russia is on the road to a more democratic society.

Yes, Russia could veer in the other direction, but I doubt it. I think that China is going to make sure that Russia keeps coming in our direction and that we will then have to face together the other threat on the other side of the world. Our focus on NATO is something that is counterproductive in that it takes our attention away from some of the real enemies of freedom and enemies of our security.

Mr. GILMAN. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. ROHRABACHER. I certainly will.

Mr. GILMAN. I just want to correct one thing when you said the NATO alliance did not come forward immediately. NATO invoked Article 5 of the treaty and committed its support within 24 hours of the September 11th attack on our own nation. They were the first one there for us when we were in need.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. I think it was the first one after Putin called and after Tony Blair called. I also remember some of our friends in Germany making derogatory comments, just prior to September 11th, about how the United States is operating as a cowboy, independent of some sort of multi-national approach.

NATO has served its purpose, and for us to keep pouring 20, 30 billion dollars into NATO subsidizing our European friends' defense is not warranted. I would suggest that if they want to expand NATO, let us let them expand NATO by giving them our seat in NATO.

Thank you very much.

Chairman HYDE. The gentleman from Nebraska is recognized for the purpose of an amendment.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk which I offer with Mr. Gilman.

Chairman HYDE. The clerk will report the amendment.

Ms. BLOOMER. Amendment offered by Mr. Bereuter and Mr. Gilman. Page 1, strike lines 4 and 5 and insert the following: "This act may be cited as the Gerald B.H. Solomon Freedom Consolidation Act of 2001."

[The amendment referred to follows:]

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3167
OFFERED BY MR. BEREUTER AND MR. GILMAN

Page 1, strike lines 4 and 5 and insert the following:
“This Act may be cited as the ‘Gerald B. H. Solomon
Freedom Consolidation Act of 2001’”.

Chairman HYDE. Because the amendment has been fully discussed by both Mr. Gilman and Mr. Bereuter, I think there is no need for further discussion.

The question occurs on the amendment.

All those in favor say aye.

[Chorus of ayes.]

Chairman HYDE. Opposed nay.

[No response.]

Chairman HYDE. The ayes have it. The amendment is agreed to. Are there further amendments?

[No response.]

Chairman HYDE. If not, the question occurs on the motion to report the bill H.R. 3167 favorably as amended.

All in favor say aye.

[Chorus of ayes.]

Chairman HYDE. Opposed nay.

[No response.]

Chairman HYDE. The ayes have it. The motion to report favorably is adopted.

Without objection, the Chairman is authorized to move to go to conference pursuant to House Rule XXII.

Without objection, the staff is directed to make any technical and conforming changes.

Without objection, the bill will be reported favorably to the House in the form of single amendment in the nature of a substitute incorporating the amendment adopted here today.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Hyde, regarding H.R. 3167, follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE HENRY J. HYDE, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, AND CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

H.R. 3167, THE FREEDOM CONSOLIDATION ACT OF 2001

The Committee will now consider H.R. 3167, "The Freedom Consolidation Act of 2001," a bill introduced by Mr. Bereuter of Nebraska.

This bill endorses the process of admitting to NATO seven new members: Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Bulgaria and Romania. I will not dwell on the qualifications of the individual countries other than to say that each has made great progress in the difficult transition from the prison house of communism to the promise of democracy and the free market. Forcibly separated from the West for decades, each is now reclaiming its rightful place in the Western community of nations. It would be shameful for us to ignore their pleas to become members of the Atlantic Alliance.

For over half a century, NATO has been the foundation upon which the security of the West has rested. NATO's continuing importance to the United States was most recently demonstrated in its unified response to the terrorist attacks of September 11th, when Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty—which states that an attack on one member of NATO shall be considered an attack upon them all—was invoked for the first time in the Alliance's history.

It is my hope that this next phase of NATO's enlargement will see an end to Russia's opposition to NATO, an opposition needlessly inherited from the Soviet Union and one inconsistent with Russia's own desire to become a part of the West. For this reason, I commend President Putin for his recent remarks indicating that his government will not object to further enlargement of NATO.

I now turn to Mr. Lantos, the Distinguished Ranking Member of the Committee, for his comments.

Chairman HYDE. Pursuant to notice, I now call up the bill H.R. 3169, the International Disability and Victims of Land Mines Act, for purposes of markup.

Without objection, the bill will be considered as read and open for amendment at any point.

[The bill, H.R. 3169, follows:]

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3169

To authorize assistance for individuals with disabilities in foreign countries, including victims of landmines and other victims of civil strife and warfare, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 25, 2001

Mr. LANTOS (for himself, Mr. WOLF, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. EVANS, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. GILMAN, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. ENGLISH, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. FORD, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. ISSA, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. HALL of Ohio, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. FALCONE, Mr. UNDERWOOD, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. ACKERMAN, Ms. PELOSI, Ms. LEE, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. KELLY, Mr. QUINN, Ms. SOLIS, Mrs. MORELLA, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Mr. PITTS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

A BILL

To authorize assistance for individuals with disabilities in foreign countries, including victims of landmines and other victims of civil strife and warfare, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “International Dis-
3 ability and Victims of Landmines, Civil Strife and Warfare
4 Assistance Act of 2001”.

5 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

6 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
7 ing:

8 (1) According to the World Health Organiza-
9 tion (WHO), between 7 percent and 10 percent of
10 the world’s population, or almost 500,000,000 peo-
11 ple, live with disabilities. About 80 percent of these
12 individuals live in developing countries, where only 1
13 percent to 2 percent have access to the necessary re-
14 habilitation services, and many face numerous phys-
15 ical and social barriers that inhibit their full partici-
16 pation in their communities.

17 (2) Factors contributing to the number of indi-
18 viduals with disabilities include war and other forms
19 of violence, inadequate medical care, and natural
20 and other disasters.

21 (3)(A) According to the International Com-
22 mittee of the Red Cross, there are tens of millions
23 of landmines in over 60 countries around the world,
24 and it has estimated that as many as 24,000 people
25 are maimed or killed each year by landmines, mostly

1 civilians, resulting in amputations and disabilities of
2 various kinds.

3 (B) While the United States Government in-
4 vests more than \$100,000,000 in mine action pro-
5 grams annually, including funding for mine aware-
6 ness and demining training programs, only about
7 ten percent of these funds go to directly aid land-
8 mine victims.

9 (C) The Patrick Leahy War Victims Fund, ad-
10 ministered by the United States Agency for Inter-
11 national Development, has provided essential pros-
12 thetics and rehabilitation for landmine and other
13 war victims in developing countries who are disabled
14 and has provided long-term sustainable improve-
15 ments in quality of life for victims of civil strife and
16 warfare, addressing such issues as barrier-free acces-
17 sibility, reduction of social stigmatization, and in-
18 creasing economic opportunities.

19 (D) Enhanced coordination is needed among
20 Federal agencies that carry out assistance programs
21 in foreign countries for victims of landmines and
22 other victims of civil strife and warfare to make bet-
23 ter use of interagency expertise and resources.

24 (4) According to a review of Poverty and Dis-
25 ability commissioned by the World Bank, “disabled

1 people have lower education and income levels than
2 the rest of the population. They are more likely to
3 have incomes below poverty level than the non-dis-
4 abled population, and they are less likely to have
5 savings and other assets . . . [t]he links between
6 poverty and disability go two ways—not only does
7 disability add to the risk of poverty, but conditions
8 of poverty add to the risk of disability.”.

9 (5) Numerous international human rights con-
10 ventions and declarations recognize the need to pro-
11 tect the rights of individuals regardless of their sta-
12 tus, including those individuals with disabilities,
13 through the principles of equality and non-discrimi-
14 nation.

15 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to author-
16 ize assistance for individuals with disabilities, including
17 victims of landmines and other victims of civil strife and
18 warfare.

19 **SEC. 3. INTERNATIONAL DISABILITIES AND WAR VICTIMS**
20 **ASSISTANCE.**

21 The Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151
22 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 134 the fol-
23 lowing:

1 **“SEC. 135. INTERNATIONAL DISABILITIES AND WAR VIC-**
2 **TIMS ASSISTANCE.**

3 “(a) AUTHORIZATION.—The President, acting
4 through the Administrator of the United States Agency
5 for International Development, is authorized to furnish as-
6 sistance to individuals with disabilities, including victims
7 of civil strife and warfare, in foreign countries.

8 “(b) ACTIVITIES.—The programs established pursu-
9 ant to subsection (a) may include activities such as the
10 following:

11 “(1) Development of local capacity to provide
12 medical and rehabilitation services for individuals
13 with disabilities, including victims of civil strife and
14 warfare, in foreign countries, such as—

15 “(A) support for and training of medical
16 professionals, including surgeons, nurses, and
17 physical therapists, to provide effective emer-
18 gency and other medical care and for the devel-
19 opment of training manuals relating to first aid
20 and other medical treatment;

21 “(B) support for sustainable prosthetic
22 and orthotic services; and

23 “(C) psychological and social rehabilitation
24 of such individuals, together with their families
25 as appropriate, for the reintegration of such in-
26 dividuals into local communities.

1 “(2) Support for policy reform and advocacy ef-
2 forts related to the needs and abilities of individuals
3 with disabilities, including victims of civil strife and
4 warfare.

5 “(3) Coordination of programs established pur-
6 suant to subsection (a) with existing programs for
7 individuals with disabilities, including victims of civil
8 strife and warfare.

9 “(4) Support for establishment of appropriate
10 entities in foreign countries to coordinate programs,
11 projects, and activities related to assistance for indi-
12 viduals with disabilities, including victims of civil
13 strife and warfare.

14 “(5) Support for primary, secondary, and voca-
15 tional education, public awareness and training pro-
16 grams and other activities that help prevent war-re-
17 lated injuries and assist individuals with disabilities,
18 including victims of civil strife and warfare, with
19 their reintegration into society and their ability to
20 make sustained social and economic contributions to
21 society.

22 “(c) PRIORITY.—To the maximum extent feasible, as-
23 sistance under this section shall be provided through non-
24 governmental organizations, and, as appropriate, through
25 governments to establish appropriate norms, standards,

1 and policies related to rehabilitation and issues affecting
2 individuals with disabilities, including victims of civil strife
3 and warfare.

4 “(d) FUNDING.—Amounts made available for a fiscal
5 year to carry out the other provisions of this part (includ-
6 ing chapter 4 of part II of this Act) are authorized to
7 be made available for such fiscal year to carry out this
8 section and are authorized to be provided notwithstanding
9 any other provision of law.”.

10 **SEC. 4. RESEARCH, PREVENTION, AND ASSISTANCE RE-**
11 **LATED TO INTERNATIONAL DISABILITIES**
12 **AND LANDMINE AND OTHER WAR VICTIMS.**

13 (a) AUTHORIZATION.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and
15 Human Services, acting through the Director of the
16 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, is
17 authorized—

18 (A) to conduct programs in foreign coun-
19 tries related to individuals with disabilities, in-
20 cluding victims of landmines and other victims
21 of civil strife and warfare;

22 (B) to provide grants to nongovernmental
23 organizations for the purpose of carrying out
24 research, prevention, public awareness and as-
25 sistance programs in foreign countries related

1 to individuals with disabilities, including victims
2 of landmines and other victims of civil strife
3 and warfare.

4 (2) APPROVAL OF SECRETARY OF STATE.—Ac-
5 tivities under programs established pursuant to
6 paragraph (1) may be carried out in foreign coun-
7 tries only after consultation with the Administrator
8 of the United States Agency for International Devel-
9 opment, and upon approval for such activities in
10 such countries by the Secretary of State.

11 (b) ACTIVITIES.—Programs established pursuant to
12 subsection (a) may include the following activities:

13 (1) Research on trauma, physical, psychological,
14 and social rehabilitation, and continuing medical
15 care related to individuals with disabilities, including
16 victims of landmines and other victims of civil strife
17 and warfare, including—

18 (A) conducting research on psychological
19 and social factors that lead to successful recov-
20 ery;

21 (B) developing, testing, and evaluating
22 model interventions that reduce post-traumatic
23 stress and promote health and well-being;

1 (C) developing basic instruction tools for
2 initial medical response to traumatic injuries;
3 and

4 (D) developing basic instruction manuals
5 for patients and healthcare providers, including
6 for emergency and follow-up care, proper ampu-
7 tation procedures, and reconstructive surgery.

8 (2) Facilitation of peer support networks for in-
9 dividuals with disabilities, including victims of land-
10 mines and other victims of civil strife and warfare,
11 in foreign countries, including—

12 (A) establishment of organizations at the
13 local level, administered by such individuals, to
14 assess and address the physical, psychological,
15 economic and social rehabilitation and other
16 needs of such individuals, together with their
17 families as appropriate, for the purpose of eco-
18 nomic and social reintegration into local com-
19 munities; and

20 (B) training related to the implementation
21 of such peer support networks, including train-
22 ing of outreach workers to assist in the estab-
23 lishment of organizations such as those de-
24 scribed in subparagraph (A) and assistance to

1 facilitate the use of the networks by such indi-
2 viduals.

3 (3) Sharing of expertise from limb-loss and dis-
4 ability research centers in the United States with
5 similar centers and facilities in war-affected coun-
6 tries, including promoting increased health for indi-
7 viduals with limb loss and limb deficiency and epide-
8 miological research on secondary medical conditions
9 related to limb loss and limb deficiency.

10 (4) Developing a database of best practices to
11 address the needs of the war-related disabled
12 through comprehensive examination of support ac-
13 tivities related to such disability and access to med-
14 ical care and supplies.

15 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
16 are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of
17 Health and Human Services to carry out this section such
18 sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2002
19 through 2004.

20 **SEC. 5. EXPERTISE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS**
21 **AFFAIRS.**

22 The Secretary of Veterans Affairs is authorized—

23 (1) to provide advice and expertise on pros-
24 thetics, orthotics, physical and psychological rehabili-
25 tation and treatment, and disability assistance to

1 other Federal departments and agencies, including
2 providing for temporary assignment on a non-reim-
3 bursable basis of appropriate Department of Vet-
4 erans Affairs personnel, with respect to the imple-
5 mentation of programs to provide assistance to vic-
6 tims of landmines and other victims of civil strife
7 and warfare in foreign countries and landmine re-
8 search and health-related programs, including pro-
9 grams established pursuant to section 135 of the
10 Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (as added by section
11 3 of this Act) and programs established pursuant to
12 section 4 of this Act; and

13 (2) to provide technical assistance to private
14 voluntary organizations on a reimbursable basis with
15 respect to the planning, development, operation, and
16 evaluation of such landmine assistance, research,
17 and prevention programs.

18 **SEC. 6. INTERAGENCY GROUP.**

19 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of State shall
20 establish and chair an interagency group to ensure coordi-
21 nation of all Federal programs that furnish assistance to
22 victims of landmines and other victims of civil strife and
23 warfare, and conduct landmine research, demining and
24 prevention programs.

1 (b) OTHER MEMBERS.—Members of the interagency
2 group shall include, but not be limited to, representatives
3 from—

4 (1) the United States Agency for International
5 Development;

6 (2) the Department of Health and Human
7 Services;

8 (3) the Department of Education;

9 (4) the Department of Defense; and

10 (5) the Department of Veterans Affairs.

11 (c) PUBLIC MEETINGS.—At least once each calendar
12 year, the interagency group should hold a public meeting
13 in order to afford an opportunity for any person to present
14 views regarding the activities of the United States Govern-
15 ment with respect to assistance to victims of landmines
16 and other victims of civil strife and warfare and related
17 programs. The Secretary of State shall maintain a record
18 of each meeting and shall make the record available to
19 the public.

○

Chairman HYDE. The Chair recognizes the distinguished gentleman from California, Mr. Lantos, to explain the bill.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Chairman, I first would like to express my appreciation to you for your support of my legislation and for scheduling the bill for this markup.

I would also like to thank the many Members of this Committee who are original co-sponsors of H.R. 3169, including our former Chairman, Ben Gilman; our Vice Chairman, Chris Smith; and our colleagues Darrell Issa, Gary Ackerman, Eni Faleomavaega, Donald Payne, Sherrod Brown, Elliott Engel, Barbara Lee, Joe Crowley, Earl Blumenauer, Grace Napolitano and others.

I must also thank the many representatives of the Bush Administration with whom we have worked very closely in crafting this legislation. We have adopted a consensus approach to this bill and the Administration has no objection to the legislation.

Mr. Chairman, as this morning's hearing so clearly demonstrated, Afghanistan is in the midst of a major humanitarian crisis and the Afghan people continue to suffer. Tens of thousands of Afghan men, women and children are currently at risk of starvation and many do not have shelter over their heads as winter approaches.

The populace of many Muslim nations look at the suffering and question the wisdom of their leadership's decision to support the international coalition against terrorism. It is therefore imperative that the United States continue to lead the charge to obtain the humanitarian resources necessary to avert a monumental disaster among Afghan refugees.

H.R. 3169, the legislation I introduced which is now before the Committee, can directly assist the Administration's effort to hold together the anti-Taliban coalition. As we move forward in our fight to defeat terrorism in Afghanistan and support the creation of a new government that could end decades of conflict, we must also help innocent Afghans rebuild their lives.

Assisting in the rehabilitation of survivors of land mines and other war injuries is one important way to build popular support for the war against terrorism.

Mr. Chairman, land mines kill and maim more civilians in Afghanistan than any other country on the face of this planet. It is authoritatively reported that some 800,000 Afghans are in some way disabled, nearly a quarter of them from land mine injuries.

Estimates of additional land mine injuries in Afghanistan range from 100 to 300 per month. With so much of the population now on the move, there is no telling how high this figure will go.

There may be as many as 10 million land mines left in Afghanistan from the Soviet era. Land mines have been planted indiscriminantly over most of Afghanistan. Grazing areas, agricultural land, irrigation systems, residential areas, roads, and footpaths both in urban and rural areas are contaminated with mines. For years, mines have been a major obstacle to repatriation, relief, rehabilitation and development.

Now, Mr. Chairman, land mines unfortunately are not just an Afghanistan problem. Worldwide, about 8,000 people are killed and 1,200 are injured by land mines every single month, an average of one life shattered every 20 minutes. Between 8,000 and 10,000

children are injured by land mines and unexploded ordnance every single year.

Mr. Chairman, my bill is an important step to increase awareness of the scope of this global problem and the need to continue to expand assistance that our government has already undertaken.

Amending the foreign assistance act to authorize these programs elevates for the first time these activities into law and brings them under the general oversight and coordination of our Secretary of State. Many of these assistance programs have sprung up without regard to what various agencies are doing. This bill establishes an effective interagency coordination mechanism under the leadership of the Department of State.

The bill also gives authority to the Department of Health and Human Services, acting through the Center for Disease Control, to continue and expand their assistance program.

Mr. Chairman, over 20 organizations which work in this field have endorsed our legislation, including the American Red Cross, Handicap International, and the Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation.

We have all been focused for the last 5 weeks on defending ourselves and pursuing the terrorists that have perpetrated the most heinous act of terrorism in our history. It is a struggle that will severely test our character, and perhaps the most redeeming aspect of our national character is the dignity and compassion we ascribe to all members of our human family.

Let us affirm this quality in ourselves and aid those suffering from land mine disabilities in Afghanistan and across the globe.

Mr. Chairman, I have had several conversations with my good friend and colleague, Mr. Bereuter, regarding the funding levels in this legislation. The Congressional Budget Office informs us that they score this legislation as maintaining the current funding levels for existing land mine programs.

I have agreed to accept an amendment which authorizes the AID portion of this legislation at \$15 million, which is a \$3 million increase over current levels. This bill is an important humanitarian gesture with global ramifications and I ask all of my colleagues to support it.

Chairman HYDE. The Chair recognizes Mr. Bereuter for purposes of an amendment.

Mr. BEREUTER. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

I want to very sincerely compliment Mr. Lantos on the legislation he has crafted. It is exceptional in all respects, and it is very articulately presented, as usual, by the gentleman from California.

The concern that I expressed when I first saw this legislation is that it could be an open-ended funding responsibility, and as I see the concern that we do not have enough funds to support our own foreign policy or to take care of our State Department personnel, I do not want us to become a Health and Human Services Department for the world.

Now, there was a period of time when I was in Angola frequently, and I saw very directly the very high proportion of young people, and adults as well, who lost one or both of their legs as a result of land mines. Indeed, the number of land mines in Angola, for example, is just extraordinary yet today. The gentleman from

California has brought to our attention once again the huge number that exists in Afghanistan. Additionally, you could say the same for parts of Yugoslavia, Cambodia, and many other places.

It needs to be recognized that the United States has done more to de-mine these and other areas across the world than any other country by far.

I checked with Mr. Lantos this morning, and he confirmed my understanding that we are spending about \$12 million from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) sources at this point. I would expect this is going to continue for some period of time, but after an offer and counteroffer, I am extremely pleased that the gentleman has agreed to an amendment which I now offer and ask the clerk if she would present the amendment, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman HYDE. The clerk will report the amendment.

Ms. BLOOMER. Amendment offered by Mr. Bereuter. Page 7, strike line 4 and all that follows through line 9 and insert the following:

“(d) Authorization of Appropriations. There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$15,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2002 and 2003. Amounts appropriated pursuant to the authorization of appropriations under the preceding sentence are authorized to be provided notwithstanding any other provision of law.”

[The amendment referred to follows:]

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3169
OFFERED BY MR. BEREUTER

Page 7, strike line 4 and all that follows through
line 9 and insert the following:

1 “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
2 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
3 \$15,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2002 and 2003.
4 Amounts appropriated pursuant to the authorization of
5 appropriations under the preceding sentence are author-
6 ized to be provided notwithstanding any other provision
7 of law.”.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Chairman, I think I have fully explained the reason for it. I stand ready to answer any questions, if there are any, but otherwise I ask for its adoption.

Chairman HYDE. Mr. Lantos has indicated he accepts it.

Is there any further discussion?

[No response.]

Chairman HYDE. If not, the question occurs on the amendment. All those in favor say aye.

[Chorus of ayes.]

Chairman HYDE. Opposed no.

[No response.]

Chairman HYDE. The ayes have it. The amendment is agreed to. Mr. Gilman is recognized to strike the last word.

Mr. GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do strike the last word, just to show my support for this amendment. I want to commend Mr. Lantos for bringing it before us. These anti-personnel mines cause unspeakable suffering and they cause extensive injuries which often lead to amputation, severe disability and psychological problems, and I thank Mr. Lantos for bringing it before our Committee.

Through this legislation, we hope to develop an integrated approach for rehabilitating and reintegrating mine victims by building local capacity regarding medical training, providing prosthetic and orthotic services, and assisting the psychological and social rehabilitation of these victims.

This approach certainly will allow the survivors to engage in sustainable livelihoods and play active roles in their communities and recovery in their countries.

Accordingly, I urge support for the measure.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Chairman?

Chairman HYDE. Mr. Payne.

Mr. PAYNE. I would like to strike the last word.

Chairman HYDE. Only if you will yield to Mr. Lantos for about 30 seconds.

Mr. PAYNE. I would be happy to yield to Mr. Lantos.

Chairman HYDE. The gentleman is recognized.

Mr. PAYNE. I will give him even more time because I doubt if he would take 30 seconds only.

Chairman HYDE. He is pretty quick.

Mr. LANTOS. I want to thank my good friend for yielding and I want to acknowledge the principal Republican co-sponsor who is not a Member of this Committee and who has worked very hard on this legislation, our colleague Frank Wolf of Virginia.

I yield back.

Chairman HYDE. Mr. Payne?

Mr. PAYNE. Thank you. I just wanted to express my support and commend Mr. Lantos, who often comes up with very sound resolutions and bills. Also to Mr. Bereuter and the other principal sponsors.

Land mines are certainly a real plague on the world. The Red Cross reports that there are tens of millions of land mines in over 60 countries and a quarter of a million people are killed or maimed each year by land mines. I think that in particular we have heard

about Angola, and there are land mines in Mozambique. During the 16-year civil war between the Frelimo government and Renamo rebels, thousands of innocent people were maimed and killed with land mines.

I visited several times a land mine clearing program in Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe, where land mines that were put down during the battles with Ian Smith during the 1970s are still there.

This is a terrible plight on the world. I would go even further and urge the United States of America to once again get in step with the world and support the treaty banning land mines, which has been before the United States Senate for the last 5 or 6 years and which we have failed to ratify. I certainly support this resolution.

Chairman HYDE. Is there any further discussion?

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Chairman?

Chairman HYDE. Who is seeking recognition?

Mr. Rohrabacher? Well, nice to hear from you.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Thank you.

We have put a lot of land mines down in the last 40 years, and certainly Mr. Lantos is to be commended for trying to take the first steps to make up for the fact that many of the people who were hurt by those land mines were not our enemies but instead just civilians who were caught in the middle of tragic conflicts. I certainly support the underlying concept there, and I commend Mr. Lantos for having a good heart and a good idea.

Let me just say, however, about the land mine treaty that we have not ratified, that I originally wanted to work very hard on that treaty, but the people who were involved in it had to go that extra step. We could have had it passed a long time ago, but they had to say that we are going to ban all land mines. Instead, those of us who were trying to develop a consensus that would be more feasible than that just said, wanted to ban all land mines that cannot be turned off or that do not have timers on them so that they continue to pose hazards.

But the people who were pushing the movement were so political that they could not accept some very common sense approaches that would have made passage possible. The fact that it is lingering there indicates that there were some very political people on the other side of that issue who did not take into consideration some of the realities that exist in the world. I certainly would be in favor of banning land mines that are in some way a threat to the civilian population, and this is done by banning all land mines that you cannot just turn off or do not have an automatic switch that makes them ineffective after a period of time.

But with that said, I thank you, Mr. Lantos, I think you are right on target. We owe this especially to the people of Afghanistan, but also to Angola. Mr. Payne is absolutely right. We gave a lot of land mines to those people, too. And Cambodia, you name it. Let us try to go to work and get those land mines cleared up and help those people who were hurt.

Chairman HYDE. The question occurs on the motion to report the bill H.R. 3169 favorably as amended.

All in favor say aye.

[Chorus of ayes.]

Chairman HYDE. Opposed nay.

[No response.]

Chairman HYDE. The ayes have it. The motion to report favorably is adopted.

Without objection, the Chairman is authorized to move to go to conference pursuant to House Rule XXII.

Without objection, the staff is directed to make any technical and conforming changes.

Without objection, the bill will be reported favorably to the House in the form of single amendment in the nature of a substitute incorporating the amendment adopted here today.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Hyde regarding H.R. 3169 follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE HENRY J. HYDE, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, AND CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

H.R. 3169, INTERNATIONAL DISABILITY AND VICTIMS OF LANDMINES, CIVIL STRIFE AND WARFARE ASSISTANCE ACT OF 2001

The Committee will now consider H.R. 3169, the "International Disability and Victims of Landmines, Civil Strife and Warfare Assistance Act of 2001," a bill introduced by Mr. Lantos of California, the Committee's distinguished Ranking Member, and co-sponsored by eleven Members of the Committee.

This bipartisan bill authorizes numerous landmine victims assistance programs that are carried out by government agencies, including the Agency for International Development, and the Departments of Health and Human Services, Veterans Affairs and State. This bill's objective is to prioritize landmine victims' programs by encouraging those agencies that carry out these international programs to coordinate their activities and make resources available to non-governmental organizations whenever possible.

The bill also establishes an inter-agency group that will enable the State Department and the Agency for International Development to gain additional insights on landmine victims assistance programs by learning more about the landmine research programs administered by the Departments of Health and Human Services and Veterans Affairs.

I wish to commend Mr. Lantos for his important work and efforts to highlight the importance of landmine victims programs and the need to ensure that these international assistance programs remain a priority for the United States.

Chairman HYDE. Without objection, the Chairman is directed to seek consideration of the following bills on the suspension calendar:

H. Con. Res. 102, Hunger to Harvest Resolution: A Decade of Concern for Africa;

H.R. 3189, The Export Extension Act of 2001;

H.R. 2121, Russian Democracy Act of 2001;

H. Con. Res. 211, commending Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on the 10th anniversary of her receiving the Nobel Peace Prize; and

H. Con. Res. 242, recognizing Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty.

[The information referred to follows:]

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 102

Relating to efforts to reduce hunger in sub-Saharan Africa.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 4, 2001

Mr. LEACH (for himself and Mr. PAYNE) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Relating to efforts to reduce hunger in sub-Saharan Africa.

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring),*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This concurrent resolution may be cited as the “Hun-
5 ger to Harvest Resolution: A Decade of Concern for Afri-
6 ca”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

8 Congress finds the following:

9 (1) Despite progress in recent years, sub-Saha-
10 ran Africa enters the new millennium with many of
11 the world’s poorest countries and is the one area of

1 the world where hunger is both pervasive and in-
2 creasing.

3 (2) 33 of the world's 41 poorest debtor coun-
4 tries are in sub-Saharan Africa, and approximately
5 291,000,000 individuals in sub-Saharan Africa,
6 nearly half of sub-Saharan Africa's total population,
7 currently live in extreme poverty on less than \$1 a
8 day.

9 (3) One in three people in sub-Saharan Africa
10 is chronically undernourished, and the number of
11 chronically undernourished people in the region has
12 doubled in the past three decades. One child out of
13 every seven dies before his or her fifth birthday, and
14 one-half of these deaths are due to malnutrition.

15 (4) Sub-Saharan Africa is the region in the
16 world most affected by global infectious disease, ac-
17 counting for one-half of infectious disease-caused
18 deaths worldwide, according to a January 2000 re-
19 port by the Central Intelligence Agency. Deaths
20 from HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, cholera, and
21 several other diseases in sub-Saharan Africa exceed
22 those in all other regions.

23 (5) Sub-Saharan Africa is home to 70 percent
24 of adults and 80 percent of children living with the
25 HIV virus, and to three-quarters of the people

1 worldwide who have died of AIDS since the epidemic
2 began.

3 (6) According to the World Bank, the HIV/
4 AIDS pandemic has erased many of the development
5 gains of the past generation in sub-Saharan Africa
6 and now threatens to undermine economic and social
7 prospects for the next generation, with life expect-
8 ancy in parts of sub-Saharan Africa having already
9 decreased on average by 10-20 years as a result of
10 AIDS.

11 (7) Despite these development challenges, the
12 number of sub-Saharan African countries that are
13 moving toward open economies and more account-
14 able government has increased, and these countries
15 are together beginning to establish local solutions to
16 the problems of the region.

17 (8) To make lasting improvements in the lives
18 of their people, sub-Saharan African governments
19 need to be supported as they take meaningful steps
20 to reduce conflict, advance economic reform, stimu-
21 late growth, improve governance, and make essential
22 investments in people and infrastructure.

23 (9) Notwithstanding sub-Saharan Africa's enor-
24 mous development challenges, United States compa-
25 nies hold approximately \$15,000,000,000 in invest-

1 ments in sub-Saharan Africa, greater than United
2 States investments in either the Middle East or
3 Eastern Europe, and total United States trade with
4 sub-Saharan Africa currently exceeds that with all of
5 the independent states of the former Soviet Union,
6 including the Russian Federation. This economic re-
7 lationship could be put at risk without greater atten-
8 tion to growth and poverty-focused development in
9 sub-Saharan Africa.

10 (10) Bread for the World Institute calculates
11 that the goal of reducing world hunger in one-half
12 not later than 2015 is achievable through an in-
13 crease of \$4,000,000,000 in annual funding for ef-
14 fective, poverty-focused development from all donors.
15 If the United States were to shoulder one-fourth of
16 the aid burden—approximately \$1,000,000,000 a
17 year—the obligation of America would amount to a
18 penny per day per citizen.

19 (11) According to a recent nationwide poll by
20 the Program on International Policy Attitudes, 83
21 percent of Americans think that the United States
22 should be willing to commit to a joint plan for cut-
23 ting world hunger by one-half by the year 2015.

1 (12) Sustainable development and poverty re-
2 duction in sub-Saharan Africa cannot occur without
3 additional public and private sector investment.

4 (13) Failure to effectively address sub-Saharan
5 Africa's crisis of development could result in height-
6 ened instability on the continent, greater political
7 conflict, and increased poverty, increasing the pros-
8 pect of humanitarian intervention and potentially
9 threatening a wide range of United States interests.

10 (14) Efforts to reduce hunger and poverty
11 should begin in sub-Saharan Africa, where condi-
12 tions are both widespread and increasing. The right
13 to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness should
14 not be denied to people simply because they live on
15 an impoverished continent.

16 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

17 It is the sense of Congress that—

18 (1) a moral people cannot tolerate the existence
19 of hunger, poverty, and disease in any part of the
20 world;

21 (2) the United States should declare A Decade
22 of Concern for Africa and commit to increased levels
23 of effective, poverty-focused development assistance
24 to sub-Saharan Africa until significant progress is

1 made toward reversing current levels of hunger and
2 poverty;

3 (3) the President should work with the heads of
4 other advanced industrial countries and sub-Saharan
5 African countries, and with United States and sub-
6 Sharan African private voluntary organizations and
7 other civic organizations, to increase development as-
8 sistance for sub-Saharan Africa and ensure that
9 such assistance is used effectively to reduce hunger
10 and poverty;

11 (4) Congress should undertake a multi-year
12 commitment with other donors to provide the re-
13 sources necessary to cut hunger by one-half in sub-
14 Saharan Africa, with funding directed toward—

15 (A) health, including efforts to prevent,
16 treat, and control HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and
17 malaria, and promote maternal health and child
18 survival;

19 (B) education, with an emphasis on equal
20 access to learning for girls and women;

21 (C) agriculture, food systems, infrastruc-
22 ture and rural development;

23 (D) micro-finance development; and

24 (E) bilateral and multilateral debt relief
25 that enables sub-Saharan African countries to

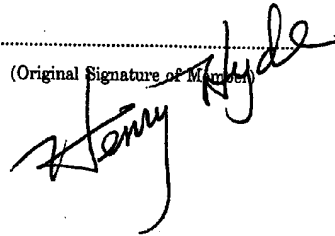
1 invest in poverty-focused development, and
2 strengthens and expands democratic participa-
3 tion, free markets, trade, and investment;

4 (5) such funding should support both bilateral
5 and multilateral poverty-focused development efforts
6 in sub-Saharan Africa, including efforts by non-
7 governmental and private voluntary organizations,
8 including faith-based institutions; and

9 (6) the Administrator of the United States
10 Agency for International Development, in consulta-
11 tion with the heads of other appropriate agencies,
12 should annually prepare and submit to Congress a
13 report on the progress achieved in the implementa-
14 tion of paragraphs (3) and (4).

○

(Original Signature of Member)



107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3189

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. HYDE (for himself and Mr. LANTOS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To extend the Export Administration Act until April 20, 2002.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the "Export Extension Act
5 of 2001".

1 **SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF THE EXPORT ADMINISTRATION ACT**
2 **OF 1979.**

3 Section 20 of the Export Administration Act of 1979
4 (50 U.S.C. App. 2419) is amended by striking "August
5 20, 2001" and inserting "April 20, 2002".

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2121

To make available funds under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to expand democracy, good governance, and anti-corruption programs in the Russian Federation in order to promote and strengthen democratic government and civil society in that country and to support independent media.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 12, 2001

Mr. LANTOS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

A BILL

To make available funds under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to expand democracy, good governance, and anti-corruption programs in the Russian Federation in order to promote and strengthen democratic government and civil society in that country and to support independent media.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Russian Democracy
5 Act of 2001”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

2 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
3 ings:

4 (1) Since the dissolution of the Soviet Union,
5 the leadership of the Russian Federation has pub-
6 licly committed itself to building—

7 (A) a society with democratic political in-
8 stitutions and practices, observance of univer-
9 sally recognized standards of human rights and
10 religious and press freedom; and

11 (B) a market economy, based on inter-
12 nationally accepted principles of transparency,
13 accountability, and the rule of law.

14 (2) In order to facilitate this transition, the
15 international community provided multilateral and
16 bilateral technical assistance, and the United States
17 contributions to these efforts played an important
18 role in influencing the Government of the Russian
19 Federation to abandon expansionist and
20 confrontational policies of the former Soviet Union
21 and start developing new institutions built on demo-
22 cratic and liberal economic foundations and the rule
23 of law.

24 (3)(A) Since 1992, United States Government
25 democratic reform programs and public diplomacy
26 programs, including training, small grants, and tech-

1 nical assistance to independent television, radio, and
2 print media across the Russian Federation, has
3 strengthened nongovernment-owned media, provided
4 access to and training in the use of the Internet,
5 brought nearly 40,000 Russian citizens to the
6 United States and has led to the establishment of
7 over 65,000 nongovernmental organizations, thou-
8 sands of vibrant independent media outlets and nu-
9 merous political parties.

10 (B) These efforts also contributed to the con-
11 duct of substantially free and fair Russian par-
12 liamentary elections in 1995 and 1999 and Presi-
13 dential elections in 1996 and 2000.

14 (4) The United States has also assisted Russian
15 efforts to dismantle its centrally planned state-con-
16 trolled economy and helped create institutions and
17 infrastructure for a market economy by encouraging
18 transparent privatization of state-owned enterprises,
19 and two-thirds of the Russian Federation's domestic
20 product is now generated by the private sector.

21 (5)(A) The United States fostered grassroots
22 entrepreneurship in the Russian Federation by fo-
23 cusing United States economic assistance on small-
24 and medium-sized businesses and by providing train-

1 ing, consulting services, and small loans to more
2 than 250,000 Russian entrepreneurs.

3 (B) There are now more than 900,000 small
4 businesses in the Russian Federation, producing 12–
5 15 percent of the gross domestic product of the Rus-
6 sian Federation.

7 (C) United States-funded programs help to
8 fight corruption and financial crimes, such as money
9 laundering, by helping to establish a commercial
10 legal infrastructure, develop an independent judici-
11 ary, support the drafting of a new criminal code,
12 civil code, and bankruptcy law, develop legal and
13 regulatory framework for the Russian Federation’s
14 equivalent of the United States Securities and Ex-
15 change Commission, support Russian law schools,
16 create legal aid clinics, and bolster law-related activi-
17 ties of nongovernmental organizations.

18 (6)(A) Despite these successes, political and
19 economic freedoms in the Russian Federation re-
20 main tenuous. Since the election of President Putin
21 in May 2000, the Government of the Russian Fed-
22 eration has launched administrative and political re-
23 forms that run counter to the democratic achieve-
24 ments of the past 8 years, restrict political plurality,
25 threaten the nongovernmental sector, and call into

1 question the Government's commitment to freedom
2 of the press, including the concerted campaign by
3 Russian authorities against independent television
4 station NTV and its founder, Vladimir Guzinsky.

5 (B) The Department of State's Country Re-
6 ports on Human Rights Practices for 2000 con-
7 cluded that during 2000 "the [Russian Federation]
8 Government's record on media freedom worsened
9 and significant problems persist" and that "[t]here
10 was persistent evidence of government pressure on
11 the media."

12 (7)(A) Furthermore, despite the Russian eco-
13 nomic recovery of 1999 and 2000 due to higher oil
14 prices and due in part because of the failure of
15 President Putin to carry through with his promise to
16 implement genuine economic reform, except for the
17 approval of important tax code reform legislation,
18 the Russian economy also remains highly resistant
19 to reform and continues to be plagued with corrup-
20 tion and organized crime.

21 (B) This corruption and crime is estimated to
22 cost the Russian economy \$15,000,000,000 annu-
23 ally, and the Government of the Russian Federation
24 has not yet genuinely addressed the problems of
25 crime, corruption, violation of property and investor

1 rights, weak rule of law, absence of an independent
2 judiciary, and the lack of transparency in corporate
3 governance.

4 (8) In addition, while the Government of the
5 Russian Federation allowed for elections in
6 Chechnya to establish the Chechen civilian adminis-
7 tration, the perilous economic, social, and political
8 situation in Chechnya and the transfer of the re-
9 sponsibility for the conduct of the Chechen operation
10 from the Russian military to the Russian security
11 services threatens to undermine indigenous Chechen
12 authorities and increase human rights abuses.

13 (9) These developments and actions by the Gov-
14 ernment of the Russian Federation led more than
15 1,000 civic and human rights activists representing
16 430 groups from throughout the Russian Federation
17 to meet in Moscow in January 2001 to take the un-
18 precedented step of declaring a human rights emer-
19 gency in response to what they see as the growing
20 threat to civil liberties.

21 (10) Because the capability of Russian demo-
22 cratic forces and the civil society to organize and de-
23 fend democratic gains without international support
24 is uncertain, and because the gradual integration of
25 the Russian Federation into the global order of free-

1 market democratic nations will further Russian co-
2 operation with the United States on a wide-range of
3 political, economic, and security issues, the success
4 of democracy in Russia is in the national security in-
5 terest of the United States and the United States
6 Government needs to develop a far-reaching and
7 flexible strategy aimed at rejuvenating Russian soci-
8 ety's support for democracy and market economy,
9 particularly by enhancing Russian democratic insti-
10 tutions and education, promoting the rule of law,
11 and supporting Russian independent media.

12 (b) PURPOSES.— The purposes of this Act are—

13 (1) to strengthen and advance institutions of
14 democratic government and free and independent
15 media and to sustain the development of the inde-
16 pendent civil society in the Russian Federation
17 based on religious and ethnic tolerance, internation-
18 ally recognized human rights, and internationally
19 recognized rule of law; and

20 (2) to target United States foreign assistance to
21 the political and economic reality in the Russian
22 Federation, and, to the extent possible, to focus
23 United States foreign assistance programs on using
24 local expertise and giving local organizations a great-
25 er role in designing and implementing such pro-

1 grams, while maintaining appropriate oversight and
2 monitoring.

3 **SEC. 3. UNITED STATES POLICY TOWARD THE RUSSIAN**
4 **FEDERATION.**

5 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
6 gress that the United States Government should—

7 (1) consider the transition undertaken by the
8 Russian Federation to be a work in progress, where
9 the influence and the prominence of the United
10 States can be a persuasive factor in gradual Russian
11 integration in Western institutions;

12 (2) recognize that a democratic and economi-
13 cally stable Russian Federation is inherently less
14 confrontational and destabilizing in its foreign policy
15 and therefore promotion of democracy in Russia is
16 in the national security interests of the United
17 States;

18 (3) continue and increase assistance to the
19 democratic forces in the Russian Federation, includ-
20 ing to independent media, progressive regional ad-
21 ministrations, democratic political parties, and non-
22 governmental organizations; and

23 (4) express its opposition to antidemocratic and
24 authoritarian tendencies in countries with important
25 relationships with the United States.

1 (b) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It shall be the policy
2 of the United States—

3 (1) to engage the Government of Russian Fed-
4 eration and Russian society to strengthen demo-
5 cratic reform and institutions, and to promote good
6 governance principles based on the internationally
7 recognized norms of transparency in business prac-
8 tices, the rule of law, religious freedom, and human
9 rights;

10 (2) to advance a dialogue between United
11 States Government officials and private sector indi-
12 viduals and representatives of the Government of the
13 Russian Federation on Russian integration into the
14 western community of nations;

15 (3) to encourage United States Government of-
16 ficials and private sector individuals to meet regu-
17 larly with democratic activists, human rights activ-
18 ists, representatives of the independent media, rep-
19 resentatives of nongovernmental organizations, civic
20 organizers, and reform-minded politicians from Mos-
21 cow and the various regions of the Russian Federa-
22 tion;

23 (4) to incorporate democratic reforms, inde-
24 pendent media, and economic reforms in the broad

1 United States agenda with the Government of the
2 Russian Federation;

3 (5) to encourage the Government of the Rus-
4 sian Federation to address cross-border issues, in-
5 cluding environment, crime, trafficking, and corrup-
6 tion in a cooperative and transparent manner con-
7 sistent with internationally recognized and accepted
8 principles of the rule of law;

9 (6) to consult with the Government of the Rus-
10 sian Federation and the Russian Parliament on
11 adoption of economic and social reforms necessary to
12 sustain Russian economic growth since 1999;

13 (7) to persuade the Government of the Russian
14 Federation to honor its commitments made to the
15 Organization for Security and Cooperation in Eu-
16 rope (OSCE) at the November 1999 Istanbul Con-
17 ference and to conduct a genuine good neighbor pol-
18 icy toward the other independent states of the
19 former Soviet Union in the spirit of internationally
20 accepted principles of regional cooperation; and

21 (8) to encourage the G-7 partners and inter-
22 national financial institutions, including the World
23 Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and the
24 European Bank for Reconstruction and Develop-
25 ment, to develop financial safeguards and trans-

1 parenency practices in lending to the Russian Federa-
2 tion.

3 **SEC. 4. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING POLICY OF THE**
4 **RUSSIAN FEDERATION.**

5 It is the sense of Congress that—

6 (1) the Government of the Russian Federation
7 and Russian President Putin should resolve out-
8 standing taxation issues that hinder deliverance of
9 United States assistance programs and to completely
10 fulfill its obligations under existing bilateral agree-
11 ments; and

12 (2) the Parliament of the Russian Federation
13 should adopt necessary legislation and procedures
14 for the exemption of United States assistance from
15 all forms of taxation and customs duties.

16 **SEC. 5. AMENDMENTS TO THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT**
17 **OF 1961.**

18 (a) AMENDMENTS.—

19 (1) DEMOCRACY AND RULE OF LAW.—Section
20 498(2) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22
21 U.S.C. 2295(2)) is amended—

22 (A) in the heading, by striking “DEMOC-
23 RACY” and inserting “DEMOCRACY AND RULE
24 OF LAW”;

1 (B) by striking subparagraphs (E) and
2 (G);

3 (C) by redesignating subparagraph (F) as
4 subparagraph (I);

5 (D) by inserting after subparagraph (D)
6 the following:

7 “(E) development and support of grass-
8 roots and nongovernmental organizations pro-
9 moting democracy, rule of law, transparency,
10 and accountability in the political process, in-
11 cluding grants in small amounts to such organi-
12 zations;

13 “(F) international exchanges to promote
14 greater understanding by Russian Federation
15 citizens on how democracy, public policy pro-
16 cess, market institutions, and independent judici-
17 ary function in Western societies;

18 “(G) political parties committed to pro-
19 moting democracy, human rights, and economic
20 reforms;

21 “(H) support for civic organizations com-
22 mitted to promoting human rights; and”;

23 (E) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(J) strengthened administration of justice
2 through programs and activities carried out in
3 accordance with section 498B(e), including—

4 “(i) support for nongovernmental or-
5 ganizations, civic organizations, and polit-
6 ical parties that favor a strong and inde-
7 pendent judiciary based on merit;

8 “(ii) support for local organizations
9 that work with judges and law enforcement
10 officials in efforts to achieve a reduction in
11 the number of pretrial detainees; and

12 “(iii) support for the creation of Rus-
13 sian legal associations or groups that pro-
14 vide training in human rights and advoca-
15 cy, public education with respect to
16 human rights-related laws and proposed
17 legislation, and legal assistance to persons
18 subject to improper government inter-
19 ference.”.

20 (2) INDEPENDENT MEDIA.—Section 498 of the
21 Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2295) is
22 amended—

23 (A) by redesignating paragraphs (3)
24 through (13) as paragraphs (4) through (14),
25 respectively; and

1 (B) by inserting after paragraph (2) the
2 following:

3 “(3) INDEPENDENT MEDIA.—Developing a free
4 and independent media, including—

5 “(A) supporting all forms of nonstate-
6 owned media reporting, including print, radio,
7 and television;

8 “(B) providing special support for, and un-
9 restricted public access to, nongovernmental
10 Internet-based sources of information, dissemi-
11 nation and reporting, including providing tech-
12 nical and other support for web radio services,
13 providing computers and other necessary re-
14 sources for Internet connectivity and training
15 new Internet users in nongovernmental and
16 other civic organizations on methods and uses
17 of Internet-based media; and

18 “(C) training in journalism, including in-
19 vestigative journalism techniques which educate
20 the public on the costs of corruption and act as
21 a deterrent against corrupt officials.”.

22 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 498B(e) of
23 such Act is amended by striking “paragraph (2)(G)” and
24 inserting “paragraph (2)(J)”.

1 **SEC. 6. ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT THE RUSSIAN FEDERA-**
2 **TION.**

3 (a) ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.—In providing assistance
4 to the Russian Federation under chapter 11 of part I of
5 the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2295 et
6 seq.), the President is authorized to carry out the fol-
7 lowing specific activities:

8 (1) Work with the Government of the Russian
9 Federation, the Duma, and representatives of the
10 Russian Federation judiciary to help implement a
11 revised and improved code of criminal procedure and
12 other laws.

13 (2) Establish civic education programs relating
14 to democracy, public policy, rule of law, and the im-
15 portance of the independent media, including the es-
16 tablishment of “American Centers” and public policy
17 schools at Russian universities and programs by uni-
18 versities in the United States to offer courses
19 through Internet-based off-site learning centers at
20 Russian universities.

21 (3) Support the Regional Investment Initiatives
22 (RII) program, which provides targeted assistance in
23 those regions of the Russian Federation that have
24 demonstrated commitment to reform, democracy,
25 and rule of law, and promote the concept of such

1 program as a model for all regions of the Russian
2 Federation.

3 (b) RADIO FREE EUROPE/RADIO LIBERTY AND
4 VOICE OF AMERICA.—Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty
5 and the Voice of America should use new and innovative
6 techniques, in cooperation with local independent media
7 sources and to the extent possible, to disseminate informa-
8 tion throughout the Russian Federation relating to democ-
9 racy, free-market economics, rule of law, and human
10 rights.

11 **SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF ASSISTANCE FOR DEMOCRACY,**
12 **INDEPENDENT MEDIA, AND THE RULE OF**
13 **LAW.**

14 Of the amounts made available to carry out the provi-
15 sion of chapter 11 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act
16 of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2295 et seq.) and the Freedom for
17 Russia and Emerging Eurasian Democracies and Open
18 Markets Support Act of 1992 for fiscal year 2002, not
19 less than \$50,000,000 is authorized to be available for the
20 activities authorized by paragraphs (2) and (3) of section
21 498 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended
22 by section 5(a) of this Act.

○

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 211

Commending Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on the 10th anniversary of her receiving the Nobel Peace Prize and expressing the sense of the Congress with respect to the Government of Burma.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 2, 2001

Mr. KING (for himself, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. ROHRBACHER, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. PITTS, Mr. STARK, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. OWENS, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. ENGLISH, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. EVANS, Mr. UNDERWOOD, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. CASTLE, and Mr. CHABOT) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Commending Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on the 10th anniversary of her receiving the Nobel Peace Prize and expressing the sense of the Congress with respect to the Government of Burma.

Whereas, since 1962, the people of Burma have lived under a repressive military regime;

Whereas, in 1988, the people of Burma rose up in massive pro-democracy demonstrations;

Whereas, in response to this call for change, the Burmese military brutally suppressed these demonstrations;

Whereas opposition leader Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was placed under house arrest after the start of these demonstrations;

Whereas, in the 1990 Burmese elections, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi led the National League for Democracy to a landslide victory, winning 80 percent of the parliamentary seats;

Whereas the ruling military regime rejected this election and proceeded to arrest hundreds of members of the National League for Democracy;

Whereas Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's freedom of speech was restricted by the military regime;

Whereas in recognition of her efforts to bring democracy to Burma, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize on October 14, 1991;

Whereas Daw Aung San Suu Kyi remained under unlawful house arrest until 1995;

Whereas, even after her release, the Burmese military regime, known as the State Peace and Development Council, has continued to ignore the basic human rights of 45,000,000 Burmese citizens and has brutally suppressed any opposition to its authority;

Whereas, according to the State Department, the Burmese Government has made no significant effort to stop the practice of human trafficking, whereby thousands of people have been sent to Thailand for the purpose of factory and household work and for sexual exploitation;

Whereas the Burmese Government has forced civilians to work in industrial, military, and infrastructure construction operations throughout Burma, and on a large-scale

basis has targeted ethnic and religious minorities for this work;

Whereas a Department of Labor report in 2000 described the human rights abuses of forced laborers, including beating, torture, starvation, and summary executions;

Whereas Burma significantly contributes to the worldwide scourge of heroin and methamphetamines through large-scale cultivation and production of these drugs;

Whereas the Drug Enforcement Agency has reported that Burma is the world's second largest producer of opium and opiate-based drugs;

Whereas officials in Thailand have estimated that as many as 800 million tablets of methamphetamine will be smuggled into their country this year, contributing to the growing methamphetamine problem in Thailand;

Whereas there are more than 5,000,000 internal refugees in Burma;

Whereas the Burmese Government has restricted Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's political activities through threats and intimidation;

Whereas in September 2000, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was placed under house arrest when she attempted to visit a National League for Democracy party office on the outskirts of Rangoon, and again when she attempted to travel by train to Mandalay;

Whereas the Burmese Government has recently allowed the National League for Democracy to open some political offices, and has released some political prisoners, although over 1,800 such prisoners are believed to remain imprisoned;

Whereas the Burmese Government has made little progress in improving human rights conditions and opening the way for free elections;

Whereas the Burmese Government has rejected the efforts of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi to establish a timetable for a dialogue on national reconciliation;

Whereas the Burmese Government has continued to restrict the political power of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the National League for Democracy;

Whereas Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's struggle to assert the rights of her people has spread beyond politics and into popular culture, as evidenced by others championing her cause, most notably the rock group U2 in their song "Walk On", which is banned in Burma; and

Whereas, in the face of oppression, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi has remained an outspoken champion of democracy and freedom: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring), That—*

3 (1) the Congress commends and congratulates
4 Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on the 10th anniversary of
5 her receiving the Nobel Peace Prize, and recognizes
6 her remarkable contributions and tireless work to-
7 ward bringing peace and democracy to Burma;

8 (2) it is the sense of the Congress that the
9 President and Secretary of State should continue to
10 encourage the Government of Burma to restore basic
11 human rights to the Burmese people, to eliminate

1 the practice of human trafficking, to address the
2 manufacture of heroine and methamphetamines, to
3 continue the process of releasing political prisoners,
4 to recognize the results of the 1990 democratic elec-
5 tions, and to allow Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the
6 National League for Democracy to enjoy unfettered
7 freedom of speech and freedom of movement; and
8 (3) it is the sense of the Congress that Daw
9 Aung San Suu Kyi should be invited to address a
10 joint meeting of the Congress.

○

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 242

Recognizing Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty's success in promoting democracy and its continuing contribution to United States national interests.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 4, 2001

Mr. HYDE (for himself and Mr. LANTOS) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Recognizing Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty's success in promoting democracy and its continuing contribution to United States national interests.

Whereas on May 1, 1951, Radio Free Europe inaugurated its full schedule of broadcast services to the people of Eastern Europe and, subsequently, Radio Liberty initiated its broadcast services to the peoples of the Soviet Union on March 1, 1953, just before the death of Stalin;

Whereas now fifty years later, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL, Inc.) continues to promote democracy and human rights and serve United States national interests by fulfilling its mission "to promote democratic values and institutions by disseminating factual information and ideas";

Whereas Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty were established in the darkest days of the cold war as a substitute for the free media which no longer existed in the communist-dominated countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union;

Whereas Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty developed a unique form of international broadcasting known as surrogate broadcasting by airing local news about the countries to which they broadcast as well as providing regional and international news, thus preventing the communist governments from establishing a monopoly on the dissemination of information and providing an alternative to the state-controlled, party dominated domestic media;

Whereas the broadcast of uncensored news and information by Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty was a critical element contributing to the collapse of the totalitarian communist governments of Central and Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union;

Whereas since the fall of the Iron Curtain, RFE/RL has continued to inform and therefore strengthen democratic forces in Central Europe and the countries of the former Soviet Union, and has contributed to the development of a new generation of political and economic leaders who have worked to strengthen civil society, free market economies, and democratic government institutions;

Whereas United States Government funding established and continues to support international broadcasting, including RFE/RL, and this funding is among the most useful and effective in promoting and enhancing

the Nation's national security over the past half century;

Whereas RFE/RL has successfully downsized in response to legislative mandate and adapted its programming to the changing international broadcast environment in order to serve a broad spectrum of target audiences—people living in fledgling democracies where private media are still weak and do not enjoy full editorial independence, transitional societies where democratic institutions and practices are poorly developed, as well as countries which still have tightly controlled state media;

Whereas RFE/RL continues to provide objective news, analysis, and discussion of domestic and regional issues crucial to democratic and free-market transformations in emerging democracies as well as strengthening civil society in these areas;

Whereas RFE/RL broadcasts seek to combat ethnic, racial, and religious intolerance and promote mutual understanding among peoples;

Whereas RFE/RL provides a model for local media, assists in training to encourage media professionalism and independence, and develops partnerships with local media outlets in emerging democracies;

Whereas RFE/RL is a unique broadcasting institution long regarded by its audience as an alternative national media that provides both credibility and security for local journalists who work as its stringers and editors in the broadcast region; and

Whereas RFE/RL fosters closer relations between the United States and other democratic states, and the

states of Central Europe and the former Soviet republics: Now therefore be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That the Congress—

3 (1) congratulates the editors, journalists, and
4 managers of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty on a
5 half century of effort in promoting democratic values,
6 and particularly their contribution to promoting
7 freedom of the press and freedom of expression in
8 areas of the world where such liberties have been denied
9 or are not yet fully institutionalized; and

10 (2) recognizes the major contribution of Radio
11 Free Europe/Radio Liberty to the growth of democracy
12 throughout the world and its continuing efforts
13 to advance the vital national interests of the United
14 States in building a world community that is more
15 peaceful, democratic, free, and stable.

○

[The prepared statements of Mr. Hyde follow:]

PREPARED STATEMENTS OF THE HONORABLE HENRY J. HYDE, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, AND CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

H. CON. RES. 102, HUNGER TO HARVEST RESOLUTION: A DECADE OF CONCERN FOR AFRICA

The Committee will now consider H. Con. Res. 102, the "Hunger to Harvest Resolution: A Decade of Concern for Africa." H. Con. Res. 102 expresses the sense of Congress that much more needs to be done to promote sustainable development in Africa. This resolution's objective is to make significant progress toward reversing currently high and unacceptable levels of poverty on the African continent. The resolution also calls on the President to develop a five and a ten-year development plan to significantly reduce poverty in Africa.

This resolution commits Congress to this effort by advocating that adequate levels of bilateral and multilateral assistance in annual appropriations bills are allocated to Africa during the next ten years.

In addition, by reviewing an annual report that the Administration is encouraged to submit to Congress, progress on these worthy goals can be assessed and necessary adjustments in policy made on a timely basis.

I wish to commend the resolution's sponsors, Mr. Leach, the distinguished Chairman of the Asia Subcommittee, and Mr. Payne of New Jersey, as well as the other 17 co-sponsors who are Members of this Committee. I fully support this legislation that has the strong endorsement of many worthy non-governmental organizations, including Catholic Relief Services and Bread for the World.

I understand that Mr. Leach intends to offer an Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute.

H.R. 3189, THE EXPORT EXTENSION ACT OF 2001

The Committee will now take up H.R. 3189, "The Export Extension Act of 2001" which will extend the authorities of the Export Administration Act of 1979 through April 20, 2002. The Ranking Member, Mr. Lantos, is an original cosponsor of this stop-gap measure which will ensure that the Commerce Department officials who administer our export control system have the enforcement powers and the administrative flexibility they need to maintain control of dual use U.S. exports that have both civilian and military applications.

The underlying Export Administration Act expired on August 20 of this year, and the Administration is now administering the export control system on an ad hoc basis through the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA).

At a time when the Bureau of Export Administration is making every effort to step up its enforcement activities in light of the terrorist attack of September 11th, I would urge my colleagues to support this simple EAA extension that will put our system back on a firm statutory basis and will give the House sufficient time to consider a comprehensive rewrite of our export control regulations.

[This comprehensive measure, H. R. 2581, "The Export Administration Act of 2001" was considered by this Committee on August 1st and will, I understand, be referred to a number of other committees for their consideration and review.]

I would now turn to the Ranking Member, Mr. Lantos for his comments.

H.R. 2121, RUSSIA DEMOCRACY ACT OF 2001

The Committee will now consider H. R. 2121, the "Russia Democracy Act of 2001," a bill introduced by Mr. Lantos of California, the Committee's distinguished Ranking Member.

This bipartisan bill authorizes a number of efforts aimed at promoting democracy and the rule of law in Russia. These include cooperation with the central government, local governments, and non-government organizations in Russia to support the strengthening of democratic institutions and practices, promote an independent judiciary, and encourage the development of a free and independent media, among other goals. The bill authorizes not less than \$50 million for these activities in fiscal year 2002, an amount that encourages the Administration to continue current spending levels for these programs.

I wish to commend Mr. Lantos for his continuing efforts regarding the promotion of democracy and the rule of law in Russia and for his work to ensure that this objective remains a priority for the United States, even as our attention is directed

elsewhere. I understand that he is prepared to offer an amendment in the nature of a substitute, and I now turn to him.

H. CON. RES. 242, RECOGNIZING RADIO FREE EUROPE/RADIO LIBERTY'S 50 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

This resolution recognizes 50 years of outstanding broadcasts by Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty. Earlier this year we celebrated the one-half century of service of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, and now we bring before this Committee a resolution to memorialize this occasion. Today REF/RL continues its mission "to promote democratic values and institutions by disseminating factual information and ideas."

As we face the war against terrorism and continued suppression of free media in many countries, it is clear that there is still a mission for U.S. supported international broadcasting to provide factual information about world events, events within a country, and the context for those events.

The resolution before us recognizes the work of the broadcasters, the editors, journalists and the managers of RFE/RL who see their work, not just as a job, but as a mission. Their purpose is to bring hope to people who do not have access to fair and independent media.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution to formally recognize the work and the successes of Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty and our support for their ongoing work to promote democratic values around the world.

Chairman HYDE. Any Member who wishes is without objection given leave to insert a statement in the record for or against or neutral on any of these measures.

Is there any objection?

Mr. LEACH. Reserving the right to object.

Chairman HYDE. The gentleman from Iowa is reserving the right to object.

Mr. LEACH. Just briefly on H. Con. Res. 102, does your unanimous consent request envision an amendment in the nature of a substitute with certain technical and conforming amendments at the table?

Chairman HYDE. I am told this could occur in the manager's amendment on the suspension calendar.

Mr. LEACH. Very good. Thank you. And I appreciate your raising this.

Chairman HYDE. And other bills, too, may have similar treatment.

Mr. LEACH. All right.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Chairman?

Chairman HYDE. The gentleman from New York.

Mr. GILMAN. As a point of information, are we allowed then to submit all of our statements in relation to these bills at this time?

Chairman HYDE. Every statement that you have, Mr. Gilman, will be welcome.

Mr. GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Chairman?

Chairman HYDE. The gentleman from Oregon.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Thank you. I apologize coming into this a little late. I had an inquiry regarding your intention regarding H. Con. Res. 211 dealing with Aung San Suu Kyi.

Chairman HYDE. Yes? What is your inquiry?

Mr. BLUMENAUER. When we got to the discussion on this, I had some concerns about the last resolve that talked about our inviting her to address a session of Congress. I did not know if what you were doing moved this on, and we would not be discussing this?

Chairman HYDE. Well, we are not discussing it, we are moving it by unanimous consent to the suspension calendar, where amendments are not in order, except by the manager.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Could I state my concern, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman HYDE. You certainly may.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Thank you. I appreciate your courtesy.

For me, one of the most moving experiences I ever had was meeting with Aung San Suu Kyi when she was still, I think, under house arrest in Burma. I really appreciate our Committee moving forward, keeping the spotlight on this terrible situation, but I would hope that we would consider the nature of the invitation that we extend to her because the authorities there would like nothing more than for this woman to leave. She had the courage to stay in Burma, even when her husband was dying of cancer and the thugs who rule the country would not assure her ability to return if she left the country in order to visit him.

My question, and had we been working this, I would have sought the opportunity for us, for the first time, to have a person address a joint session of Congress via telecommunications so that she could deliver her message to us and to the world, without having to choose to leave the country that she is such an important symbol for and risk never being allowed to come back.

Chairman HYDE. Well, if I may say, I do not think the resolution requires her to leave the country. It is an invitation for her to do one of the most solemn things in government, namely address a joint session of the House and Senate. And I think that trumps a satellite transmission, although that is better than nothing.

But Mr. Lantos would like to respond to that.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Would the Chairman yield?

Chairman HYDE. Let Mr. Lantos respond.

Mr. LANTOS. Well, I fully appreciate the sentiments of my good friend from Oregon. The assumption behind this invitation is that her condition will improve to the point politically where she will be able to accept such an invitation and then return to the Burma that she so dearly loves. This is not designed as a subterfuge for the junta to expel her. It is an invitation without a time limit looking forward to the day when she will be able to leave and return to Burma as she sees fit.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. I appreciate the thrust of what the Chairman and Mr. Lantos are saying, but it seems to me that we might be able to focus the spotlight and ratchet up the pressure if we extended an immediate invitation for her to address this Congress and this country via a satellite hookup or telecommunication because then it could happen tomorrow. Then, it would be the thugs who prevented her speaking, and she would not have to choose between coming here to put this issue in the spotlight and thereby leaving the country, which they would like her to do.

I respectfully would hope that we could consider framing the invitation in that fashion because I think it might advance the interests of this resolution.

Chairman HYDE. If the gentleman would yield?

That certainly can be done. Mr. Peter King is the chief sponsor, and I suggest you and he could talk. There is still plenty of time to have a manager's amendment that would solve your problem.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman HYDE. That is true of all of these bills. They are not locked in concrete.

Mr. Leach? No?

Mr. Flake?

Mr. FLAKE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want unanimous consent to submit a statement for the record with regard to the extension of the export control.

Chairman HYDE. Without objection, so ordered.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Flake, regarding H.R. 3189, follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE JEFF FLAKE, A REPRESENTATIVE IN
CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF ARIZONA

H.R. 3189, EXPORT ADMINISTRATION EXTENSION ACT OF 2001

Once again, this Committee finds itself in the troublesome position of attempting to remedy an enormous problem with a band-aid. Merely extending the current existing export control regime is a lose-lose situation—both for our national security interests, and our nation's economy. Instead of pursuing the extension of our outdated export control regime, the Members of the Committee should focus their efforts on the Export Administration Act of 2001, which has the support of the President, National Security Advisor, and Secretaries of State, Defense and Commerce.

The Export Administration Act of 2001 (EAA) would not merely extend the current existing export control regime. The new EAA would *improve* upon it in areas that are of concern not only for industry, but also for those who are concerned with our national security. This new EAA adopts the recommendations of defense and national security experts by establishing a smarter, more effective export control framework tailored to fit today's world, rather than the world of 1979.

The events of September 11th certainly have brought home the critical necessity of maintaining the superiority of America's armed forces. Without a robust export trade, the U.S. private sector will fail to remain competitive and produce technology that fuels our global military edge. Also, given the current economic downturn, stifling American business by grid-locking our export control system will have appalling consequences.

Moreover, the Export Administration Act specifically authorizes the President to impose export controls in order to deter and punish acts of terrorism.

As our inaction continues, the system for export controls has expired, and in its place the International Economic Emergency Powers Act has taken over. As a result, violators of our export controls face financial penalties that are so absurdly low as to not be true deterrents at all. The EAA supported by myself and the Administration establishes tough new criminal and civil penalties for export control violations, which go significantly further than the slap on the wrist violators currently face.

Despite the best intentions of the authors of the Export Extension Act to provide a framework for our export control system, they are attempting to revive a system that has outlived its usefulness. It is time to act responsibly and bring our export control system into the 21st century.

Mr. FLAKE. Also, I just wanted to just register just a little disappointment that we did not deal with this or we are not going to deal with this in this session. I think that it is important that what we are dealing with right now is an outdated regime. We need to move forward and actually have something that is not a drift net, where it actually targets those who are abusing the system and punishes them more than they are now, but also allows those who simply want to export to be able to do so.

Thank you.

Chairman HYDE. I want to thank the gentleman for his comments and suggest this is a very important piece of legislation. It needs to be worked on. There are problems with the other body and

this is simply an extension, so we do not lose the effect of the law, but we will continue to work on satisfactory language.

Thank you.

Mr. FLAKE. Thank you.

Chairman HYDE. There being no other business before the House, the Committee stands adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 5:22 p.m., the Committee was adjourned.]

A P P E N D I X

MATERIAL SUBMITTED FOR THE HEARING RECORD

PREPARED STATEMENTS OF THE HONORABLE BENJAMIN A. GILMAN, A
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF NEW YORK

H.R. 2998, RADIO FREE AFGHANISTAN ACT OF 2001

I commend Chairman Hyde for bringing this bill before our Committee, and I commend Chairman Royce for crafting this Radio Free Afghanistan initiative.

For the past several years, the people of Afghanistan have been manipulated by foreign forces who are motivated by selfish intentions. Saudi Arabia, along with Pakistan, has created a radical Islamic fundamentalist movement in Afghanistan which threatens international stability. While we work to ensure that the governments of those two countries permanently change their policies, the only way that the world will be safe from the disaster that they have created is by helping the Afghan people to liberate themselves from the Taliban and bin Laden, and to give them the tools to put together a broad-based representative form of government.

For the past several years, Members of our Committee have been working with the former King of Afghanistan and the Northern Alliance to ensure that our government supports the Afghan people's desire for a free and democratic Afghanistan. A Radio Free Afghanistan will play a significant role in this endeavor. Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to fully support this bill.

H.R. 3169, INTERNATIONAL DISABILITY AND VICTIMS OF LANDMINES, CIVIL STRIFE AND
WARFARE ACT OF 2001

Mr. Chairman, I strongly urge my colleagues to support the "International Disability and Victims of Landmines, Civil Strife and Warfare Assistance Act of 2001," and I commend Mr. Lantos for bringing this measure before us. Landmines do not distinguish between civilians and combatants, and, as a result, between 1,000 and 2,000 people are maimed and killed by mines every month. Most of these are innocent men, women, and children.

These Anti-personnel mines cause unspeakable suffering. They cause extensive injuries which often lead to amputation, severe disability and psychological trauma. Nonetheless, it is common to associate the damage created by landmines only with the severe injuries resulting from a mine blast. Injuries associated with landmines are sometimes fatal and almost always debilitating, preventing those injured from working and providing much-needed support to their families. They not only kill but cause the breakdown of social and economic life by isolating local communities, depopulating entire areas and preventing refugees from returning home. As a result, the majority of the world's abandoned minefields are located in war-torn and economically-depressed nations.

Through this legislation, we hope to develop an integrated approach for rehabilitating and reintegrating mine victims by building local capacity regarding medical training, providing prosthetic and orthotic services, and assisting the psychological and social rehabilitation of these victims. This approach will allow the survivors to engage in sustainable livelihoods and play active roles in their communities and the recovery of their countries.

Accordingly, I urge support for this measure.

H. CON. RES. 102, AFRICA'S HUNGER TO HARVEST

Mr. Chairman, I want to add my voice in support for H. Con. Res. 102. Sub-Saharan Africa is clearly a region afflicted by poverty. Despite some positive economic and political changes in sub-Saharan Africa, it remains an area of the world where hunger is pervasive and steadily increasing with one of every three persons being

chronically undernourished. This hunger has multiple causes, including severe poverty, the HIV/AIDS pandemic, civil wars, continued foreign debt, degraded land, and inadequate education.

African nations need additional U.S. aid to develop their human and natural resources—and thereby strengthen their capacity to deal with hunger, poverty, and related problems. Sub-Saharan Africa needs additional resources to improve farming and support farmer-owned businesses; to help prevent and treat HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, and other infectious diseases; to encourage the enrollment of more children in school; and to help develop microenterprises and other business opportunities.

However, assistance alone will not solve their problems. Although such poverty-focused development aid has proven effective, our efforts to assist sub-Saharan Africans to overcome poverty must remain focused on encouraging their participation in the private sector. The foundation for sustained economic growth in sub-Saharan Africa depends upon the development of an environment receptive to trade and investment. This can only be brought about by investments in human resources, domestic economic development, the implementation of free market policies, and the widespread application of the rule of law and democratic governance by the sub-Saharan nations themselves.

H.R. 2121, RUSSIAN DEMOCRACY ACT OF 2001

The United States has a proud record of assisting Russia in its transformation from totalitarianism to democracy. We have supported the free media, the rule of law, the emergence of a stable and viable civil society and a free and productive market economy in that country. This bill will allow us to continue this good work in an even more effective fashion, and I thank the gentleman from California, Mr. Lantos, for bringing this bill forward.

The turn of history that the world experience on September 11th reemphasizes our dependence on friendly nations that embrace the principles of a free and open society. But Russia still has a long way to go before a confident assertion that this country has accomplished the free, open and fair society can be made.

We have continuously called to the attention of the Russian government its severe breaches of religious freedom, its trade barriers and financial obstacles. I would like to take this opportunity to address those issues again.

Since 1992, the world has repeatedly witnessed how the road to democracy and a free society is ripe with pitfalls. An alarming rate of organized crime, corruption and social deterioration is posing a danger to liberalization. Russia desperately needs assistance in adopting new regulations and reforming its worn out bureaucracy.

The continuation of the process of democratization and liberalization in Russia is not only a dire need for the people of Russia and a prerequisite for our presently good relations with this country, it is also a necessary precondition for America's campaign against terrorism. Our struggle to protect our free and open societies from the threats of traditionalist backlashes means that we need to be able to rely on allies, or potential allies, such as Russia.

It is our duty as the world's greatest democracy to aid those who agree with us on the basic values of a liberal society governed by the rule of law and governed by the popular will of a people enjoying freedom and the basic rights of the individual.

Accordingly, as this is a bill which is necessary both for our benefit and for the benefit of the citizens of Russia and the world, it deserves our warm support.

H. CON. RES. 211, EXPRESSING SENSE OF CONGRESS WITH RESPECT TO GOVERNMENT OF BURMA AND COMMENDING DAW AUNG SAN SUU KYI

I wish to thank Chairman Hyde for bringing H. Con. Res. 211 before the Committee. I want to commend Congressman King for drafting this important resolution which commends Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on the 10th anniversary of her receiving the Nobel Peace Prize and expresses the sense of the Congress with respect to the military junta.

Daw Suu was under house arrest from 1989 to 1995 for winning a democratic election. She was rearrested a year ago and has again been under house arrest since then. One year ago talks began between her party, the National League for Democracy, and the military government. Since then we have seen the release of 2,180 political prisoners and the opening of approximately 30 National League for Democracy offices. While we welcome these actions, Amnesty International reports that there are close to 1,800 political prisoners in Burma. At this pace of release, it could be another 10 years between we see them all freed. This is not acceptable.

Human rights abuses continue, narcotics production and trafficking continue, and the NLD and ethnic supporters of the democracy movement are not allowed to freely associate or express their views. Just last week, the State Department issued its report on international religious freedom, and once again it cited Burma as a country of concern as to its religious persecution.

Accordingly, Mr. Chairman, I strongly support H. Con. Res. 211 and urge my colleagues to vote for the bill.

H. CON. RES. 242, COMMENDING RADIO FREE EUROPE/RADIO LIBERTY FOR ITS
CONTRIBUTION TO PROMOTING DEMOCRACY

Mr. Chairman, I want to add my full support for H. Con. Res. 242, that congratulates Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty on a half century of effort in promoting democratic values, and recognizes the organization's contribution to the growth of democracy throughout the world, as we strive towards creating a world of free democratic states living in peace with one another.

One of the most effective and efficient ways to promote the growth of democratic institutions on every continent is for Americans to communicate directly with people in other countries, and for fifty years, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty has continued to broadcast daily news, analysis, and current affairs programming in a coherent and objective manner throughout the world. Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty programs continue to provide 35 million listeners with balanced and reliable information, aimed at bolstering democratic development and market economies in countries where peaceful evolution to civil societies is of vital national interest to the United States.

With the advent of the war on terrorism, it becomes vital that Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty continues to demonstrate to other societies how having the freedom to live and do business creates a dynamic economy and a vibrant society. Explaining the value of freedom by directly communicating with the general population of other countries and their power elites is the best example of public diplomacy.

Accordingly, I urge adoption of this Resolution.

PREPARED STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE DOUG BEREUTER, A REPRESENTATIVE IN
CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF NEBRASKA

H. CON. RES. 102, THE HUNGER TO HARVEST RESOLUTION: A DECADE OF CONCERN FOR
AFRICA

Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank you for bringing House Concurrent Resolution 102, the Hunger to Harvest Resolution: A Decade of Concern for Africa, before the Committee today. Additionally, I would like to thank the distinguished gentleman from Iowa (Mr. Leach) and the distinguished gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. Payne) for introducing this important legislation.

Mr. Chairman, the terrorist attacks of September 11th highlighted the extent to which American security is placed at risk when we fail to provide development aid and assistance to areas at risk of falling into the hands of unfriendly regimes. Indeed, sub-Saharan Africa currently faces many of the same conditions which coalesced to create the Afghanistan in which the Taliban has thrived. Much of sub-Saharan Africa has fought ravaging civil wars, demoralizing poverty, recurring droughts, and debilitating disease.

Our own long-term security depends to a large extent on stability in sub-Saharan Africa. The micro-enterprise, agriculture development, debt relief, and health programs which are outlined in this bill have the potential to serve as key investments in preventing terrorism against the U.S. and against U.S. interests.

I strongly support the passage of H.Con.Res. 102.

Thank you.

PREPARED STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH, A
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

H. CON. RES. 211, COMMEMORATING AUNG SAN SUU KYI ON THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF
HER RECEIVING THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE AND EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS
WITH RESPECT TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BURMA

Mr. Chairman, I urge a unanimous vote in favor of this resolution, which makes clear the continued strong support of Congress for freedom and democracy in Burma and for the struggle of Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi and the National League for Democracy to assert the fundamental rights of the Burmese people.

I want to thank and congratulate Congressman King and the 35 bipartisan cosponsors of this timely and important resolution. I do have an amendment in the nature of a substitute, which makes technical and drafting changes that have been agreed to by Mr. King, Mr. Leach, Mr. Lantos, and others.

Mr. Chairman, ten years ago this month the Nobel committee recognized what the whole world knew: that the only way to restore peace and prosperity to the once-proud nation of Burma is to restore legitimacy.

Burma is different from most other countries in which power is wielded by totalitarian dictatorships, in that we do not have to theorize about what the people would choose if they were allowed to govern themselves. Eleven years ago the military government did allow an election, which they figured they would be able to win by fraud and intimidation and by dividing and conquering the different ethnic groups that comprise the nation of Burma. To their surprise, the good guys won, with overwhelming support from all ethnic groups in all parts of the country. So the dictators simply cancelled the results of the election. Nevertheless, it laid to rest any doubt about the desire of the Burmese people for freedom and democracy and about the fundamental illegitimacy of the military dictatorship that has continued to govern Burma.

This resolution commends Aung San Suu Kyi on the tenth anniversary of her receiving the Nobel Peace Prize. That anniversary occurred on October 14 of this year. The resolution also describes the suppression of freedom and democracy by the Burmese military junta and the continuing struggle of Aung San Suu Kyi and the National League for Democracy to assert the rights of the Burmese people. It declares the sense of Congress that the United States government should continue to encourage the Government of Burma to restore basic human rights to the Burmese people, to eliminate the practice of human trafficking, to address the manufacture of heroin and methamphetamines, to continue the process of releasing political prisoners, to recognize the results of the 1990 democratic elections, and to allow Aung San Suu Kyi and the National League for Democracy to enjoy unfettered freedom of speech and freedom of movement. Finally, Mr. Chairman, this resolution declares the sense of Congress that Aung San Suu Kyi should be invited to address a joint meeting of the Congress. It is my hope that this meeting will occur when Aung San Suu Kyi has taken her rightful place as the leader of a free and democratic Burma.

Mr. Chairman, I urge a unanimous YES vote in favor of H. Con. Res. 211 as amended.

PREPARED STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE HOWARD L. BERMAN, A REPRESENTATIVE
IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

H.R. 2998, LEGISLATION TO ESTABLISH RADIO FREE AFGHANISTAN

The Afghan people are desperate for information about what is going on in their own country. Deprived of television and the Internet by the repressive Taliban regime, radio is their only link to the outside world.

Radio Shariat—the Taliban's propaganda machine—has been off the air since early October. This has left a huge information void—a void that can be filled by Radio Free Afghanistan.

This legislation provides for 12 hours a day of original broadcasting into Afghanistan—six hours in Pashto and six hours in Dari, the two major languages in the country. These broadcasts will help the Afghan people understand that the Taliban and the foreign terrorists they harbor are the cause of the current conflict, that we mean no harm to civilians, and that we are not enemies of Islam.

The battle for public opinion is a key element of the war on terrorism. But changing hearts and minds in the South Asia and the Middle East won't be easy. It will require a long-term, sustained effort.

Radio Free Afghanistan is a crucial first step.

I would also urge my colleagues to support the Broadcasting Board of Governor's proposed Middle East Radio Network, which would greatly expand Arabic language broadcasts throughout the region.

I commend Ed Royce for taking the initiative on this legislation, and I look forward to working with him and other Members of the Committee to see that Radio Free Afghanistan receives full funding.

PREPARED STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE DONALD M. PAYNE, A REPRESENTATIVE
IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF NEW JERSEYH.R. 3169, INTERNATIONAL DISABILITY AND VICTIMS OF LANDMINES, CIVIL STRIFE, AND
WARFARE ASSISTANT ACT

Mr. Chairman, I stand in strong support of H.R. 3169. According to the WHO, between seven and ten percent of the world's population (that's about five hundred thousand people) live with disabilities. And 80 percent of these individuals live in developing countries, where only one to two percent have access to rehabilitation services. These kinds of physical barriers prevent individuals with disabilities from participating fully in their communities. And this has far-reaching effects on the society as a whole, including social and economic impacts.

We need to provide assistance to individuals living with disabilities. The Red Cross reports that there are tens of millions of land mines in over 60 countries, and a quarter of a million people are killed or maimed each year by land mines. It is absolutely wrong to leave these victims of war, violence, inadequate medical care, and natural disasters without any other means of taking full part in all that society offers. It is wrong, and that is why I fully support the bill.

Land mines are particularly a problem in Africa. For instance, about two million land mines were planted across Mozambique during the 16-year civil war between the current Frelimo government and the former Renamo rebel movement. Thousands of innocent people are maimed and killed in Africa. This is a serious problem, and this bill should address the issue.

