

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. CON. RES. 50

Expressing the sense of Congress concerning the continuous repression of freedom of expression and assembly, and of individual human rights, in Iran, as exemplified by the recent repression of the democratic movement of Iran.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 4, 1999

Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. LOTT, Mr. HELMS, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MACK, Mr. WELLSTONE, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress concerning the continuous repression of freedom of expression and assembly, and of individual human rights, in Iran, as exemplified by the recent repression of the democratic movement of Iran.

Whereas freedom of expression and assembly, individual human rights, and pursuit of democratic ideals have been systematically repressed by the government of Iran;

Whereas in recent months several members of the press and other individuals who peacefully criticized the policies of the Islamic Republic of Iran were assassinated by ele-

ments that are now known to have belonged to the Iranian government's security forces;

Whereas this continuous repression of freedom has been once more exemplified by the vicious and unjustifiable assault by the government of Iran and its vigilantes on students who marched peacefully and within the law on July 8, 1999, to protest, on the grounds of democracy, freedom of the press, and individual and civil rights, the closure of a reformist newspaper, Salaam;

Whereas the Iranian government forces and vigilantes killed, wounded, and incarcerated students and destroyed their dormitories, rooms, and belongings;

Whereas the Iranian government now has accused falsely and unjustifiably a number of students and other seekers of democracy and human rights of high crimes, theoretically punishable by death under Iranian law; and

Whereas freedom of expression and assembly are fundamental human rights which are recognized as such under the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights: Now, therefore, be it

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

3 **SECTION 1. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING THE RE-**
4 **PRESSION OF THE DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT**
5 **OF IRAN.**

6 (a) CONDEMNATION.—Congress hereby condemns the
7 repressive actions taken by the Iranian government
8 against the democratic movement of Iran.

1 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
2 gress that—

3 (1) the Iranian government should respect the
4 fundamental principles contained in the Universal
5 Declaration of Human Rights and, thereby, to cease
6 its repression of peaceful dissent and to release
7 unharmed the student leaders and the other pro de-
8 mocracy activists the government continues to de-
9 tain;

10 (2) the President of the United States should
11 give clear voice to—

12 (A) the abhorrence of the American people
13 for the violence used against the Iranian stu-
14 dents and pro-democracy activists; and

15 (B) the solidarity of the United States
16 with the values and objectives that the students
17 and activists have espoused;

18 (3) the European allies of the United States,
19 who maintain political and economic relations with
20 Iran, should convey their own concerns and objec-
21 tions to the Iranian authorities;

22 (4) the Secretary of State should urge the Sec-
23 retary General of the United Nations to exercise his
24 influence with the Iranian government to secure the
25 release of the student leaders and other pro-democ-

1 racy activists who are now being detained and whose
2 lives are threatened;

3 (5) the Secretary of State should urge the
4 United Nations High Commissioner for Human
5 Rights to convey her concern for the safety of the
6 Iranian student leaders and other pro-democracy ac-
7 tivists to the Iranian government and should assist
8 in securing their prompt release; and

9 (6) the United States delegate to the United
10 Nations Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimi-
11 nation and Protection of Minorities, at its upcoming
12 meeting, should introduce a resolution calling for the
13 release of the Iranian student leaders and other pro-
14 democracy activists and the termination of repres-
15 sive actions against the nonviolent and democratic
16 student movement of Iran.

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