

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 127

Declaring that the provision of humanitarian assistance, including United States agricultural products, for Iraq is in the national security interest of the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 27, 2003

Mr. FILNER submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Declaring that the provision of humanitarian assistance, including United States agricultural products, for Iraq is in the national security interest of the United States.

Whereas Iraq is currently suffering a humanitarian crisis which could worsen during Operation Iraqi Freedom;

Whereas an estimated 4,500,000 to 10,000,000 people in Iraq, or approximately 40 percent of the population, could require food assistance within weeks of the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom;

Whereas most of the warehouses in Iraq that store food under the “Oil-for-Food” program are empty, which means there are few food reserves in Iraq;

Whereas food security is important for the reconstruction of Iraq and improving the living conditions of the civilian population of Iraq;

Whereas the Department of Defense has recognized the need for, and taken an inter-agency approach to, the delivery of humanitarian and reconstruction assistance for Iraq through the Department's Office of Reconstruction and Humanitarian Assistance;

Whereas the United States has a deep and enduring interest in the welfare of the citizens of Iraq who have been living under the regime of Saddam Hussein for decades; and

Whereas providing United States agricultural commodities to Iraq to alleviate the humanitarian crisis in Iraq and therefore provide food security for Iraq would also help strengthen our Nation's economy: Now, therefore, be it

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

3 (1) commends the Department of Defense for
4 recognizing the need for, and taking an inter-agency
5 approach to, the delivery of humanitarian and recon-
6 struction assistance for Iraq through the Depart-
7 ment's Office of Reconstruction and Humanitarian
8 Assistance;

9 (2) declares that the provision of humanitarian
10 assistance, including United States agricultural com-
11 modities, for Iraq is in the national security interest
12 of the United States; and

1 (3) further declares that all such United States
2 humanitarian assistance should be transported to
3 Iraq on United States-flag vessels as required by
4 law.

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