

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 344

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Syria, Lebanon, and Iran should be held accountable for the well-being of abducted Israeli civilian Elchanan Tannenbaum, provide the International Committee of the Red Cross access to Elchanan Tannenbaum, and take all necessary measures to secure the release of Elchanan Tannenbaum.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 25, 2003

Mr. LANTOS (for himself, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. ENGEL, and Mr. CROWLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Syria, Lebanon, and Iran should be held accountable for the well-being of abducted Israeli civilian Elchanan Tannenbaum, provide the International Committee of the Red Cross access to Elchanan Tannenbaum, and take all necessary measures to secure the release of Elchanan Tannenbaum.

Whereas on October 15, 2000, Hizballah announced that Israeli civilian Elchanan Tannenbaum, missing after traveling to Belgium, was being held hostage by Hizballah;

Whereas Elchanan Tannenbaum remains a hostage held by Hizballah in Lebanon;

Whereas on January 5, 2003, Hizballah announced that Elchanan Tannenbaum is alive;

Whereas the taking of hostages or participating as an accomplice in the taking of hostages is considered an act of terror under the International Convention Against the Taking of Hostages;

Whereas the Secretary of State has designated Hizballah as a foreign terrorist organization pursuant to section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act;

Whereas the 2002 State Department Report on Foreign Terrorist Organizations stated that Hizballah receives financial, military, political, diplomatic, and organizational support from Iran and from Syria;

Whereas the 2002 State Department Report Patterns of Global Terrorism states that the Lebanese government has recognized Hizballah as a legal organization, allows Hizballah to maintain offices in Beirut, and has refused to freeze the financial assets of Hizballah in Lebanon;

Whereas Syria, Iran, and Lebanon voted in favor of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in the United Nations General Assembly;

Whereas Elchanan Tannenbaum suffers from several serious medical conditions that are potentially life-threatening without appropriate medical care;

Whereas U.N. General Assembly resolution 43/173 of 9 December 1988, regarding the protection of all persons under any form of detention or imprisonment, requires a proper medical examination to be offered to a detained or imprisoned person as promptly as possible after his

admission to the place of detention or imprisonment, and thereafter medical care and treatment shall be provided whenever necessary;

Whereas U.N. General Assembly resolution 43/173 of December 9, 1988, requires that the name of the physician and the results of such an examination shall be duly recorded and access to such records ensured;

Whereas under the provisions of U.N. General Assembly resolution 43/173 of December 9, 1988, Iran, Syria, and Lebanon are obligated to provide medical care for Elchanan Tannenbaum;

Whereas the International Committee of the Red Cross has been denied access to Elchanan Tannenbaum; and

Whereas Israel went to extraordinary lengths to assist the United States in helping to secure the release of Terry Anderson and other American hostages held in Lebanon in 1991: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-
2 resentatives that—

3 (1) the Governments of Syria, Lebanon, and
4 Iran shall be held responsible for the well-being of
5 Elchanan Tannenbaum, who is being held hostage in
6 Lebanon by the terrorist organization Hizballah;

7 (2) the Governments of Syria, Lebanon, and
8 Iran shall immediately and unconditionally provide a
9 complete medical accounting of Elchanan Tannen-
10 baum's present state of health to the International
11 Committee of the Red Cross;

1 (3) the Governments of Syria, Lebanon, and
2 Iran shall immediately and unconditionally take all
3 necessary measures to provide the International
4 Committee of the Red Cross with ongoing access to
5 Elchanan Tannenbaum; and

6 (4) the Governments of Syria, Lebanon, and
7 Iran shall immediately and unconditionally take all
8 necessary measures to secure the release of
9 Elchanan Tannenbaum from captivity.

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