

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 404

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the position of Iraqi Reconstruction Coordinator should be established within the Department of State to be accountable for all reconstruction funding in Iraq, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 16, 2003

Ms. DELAURO (for herself, Mr. EMANUEL, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. FARR, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. PASCRELL, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. WATSON, Mr. GORDON, Mr. BERRY, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. HOLT, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. STRICKLAND, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. BELL, Ms. LEE, Mr. WATT, Mr. ISRAEL, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. HONDA, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. CAPUANO, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. HINCHEY, Ms. WOOLSEY, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. SPRATT, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. INSLEE, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. SOLIS, Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. KLECZKA, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. OWENS, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. PALLONE, and Ms. KILPATRICK) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the position of Iraqi Reconstruction Coordinator should be established within the Department of State to be accountable for all reconstruction funding in Iraq, and for other purposes.

Whereas the United States has accepted the enormous responsibility of restoring freedom, self rule, and democracy in Iraq, and has pledged to help restore and rebuild a functioning market economy in that country and to assist in repairing Iraq's physical infrastructure;

Whereas the United States has embarked on similar international nation-building efforts in the last half century, the most comprehensive of which was the Marshall Plan, which enabled war torn European countries to rebuild their economies and to build successful democratic societies, and was largely responsible for defeating post-war Soviet designs on western Europe;

Whereas the success of the Marshall Plan was due in part to President Truman's desire to eliminate political considerations and special interests from the decision-making process by creating a new governmental authority to manage planning and funding decisions independent of the White House executive administration in conjunction with European governments, and these governments exercised a major role in determining reconstruction priorities, planning and implementation, and contributed resources to their efforts;

Whereas in his speech before the United Nations on September 23, 2003, President Bush characterized the reconstruction plan for Iraq as "the greatest financial commitment of its kind since the Marshall Plan" and high-ranking officials of the Administration have publicly declared that the United States is engaged in a modern version of the Marshall Plan;

Whereas the fiscal year 2004 supplemental appropriations request of \$18,649,000,000 for Iraq reconstruction transmitted to Congress by the President is very unlike the

Marshall Plan in that it is open-ended without a specific time limitation or total funding level, while the Marshall plan as authorized under the Economic Cooperation Act of 1948 provided a total of \$13,000,000,000 over a four-year period;

Whereas, in addition, the President's plan is unlike the Marshall Plan in that the effort would be overseen, managed, and implemented with little or no decisional input from current or future Iraqi authorities and in a top-down fashion structured by funds appropriated directly to the President, who apportions the funds to the Secretary of Defense, who in turn apportions the funds to the Administrator of the Coalition Provisional Authority;

Whereas the President's proposal is significantly different from the Marshall Plan because it fails to mandate a multilateral approach to the common economic problems of the region while the plan that former Secretary of State Marshall enunciated at Harvard University on June 5, 1947, required the 16 European countries to organize to produce a rational, multilateral approach to their common economic problems;

Whereas the goal of the United States is to restore self-government to the Iraqi people, which means incorporating the Iraqi people to the maximum extent possible in high-level economic and planning decisions relating to reconstruction of Iraq;

Whereas under the Emergency Wartime Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2003 (Public Law 108–11), the President was given sole authority to spend the \$2,475,000,000 appropriated to the Iraq Relief and Reconstruction Fund, and in entering into contracts for such relief and reconstruction of Iraq, normal competitive bidding require-

ments of the Federal government were waived and bids from businesses which were perceived to have preexisting qualifications were requested; and

Whereas a functioning electrical system, water distribution system, oil production system and other key elements of the Iraqi national infrastructure continue to be non-functioning six months after the conclusion of Operation Iraqi Freedom: Now, therefore, be it

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

3 (1) the position of Iraqi Reconstruction Coordi-
4 nator at the level of Undersecretary should be estab-
5 lished within the Department of State, with such
6 Coordinator reporting directly to the Secretary of
7 State, and that the individual first appointed to the
8 position should be appointed on an acting basis but
9 with subsequent confirmation by and with the advice
10 and consent of the Senate;

11 (2) the Coordinator, under the authority of the
12 Secretary of State, should be accountable for all re-
13 construction funding in Iraq;

14 (3) 20 percent of the amount appropriated for
15 Iraq reconstruction under an Act making emergency
16 supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2004
17 should be made immediately available to the Coali-
18 tion Provisional Authority through the Department

1 of State to meet the Coalition Provisional
2 Authority's immediate needs;

3 (4) the amount appropriated for Iraq recon-
4 struction under an Act making emergency supple-
5 mental appropriations for fiscal year 2004 should be
6 contingent upon a detailed and comprehensive pres-
7 entation to Congress by the Administration and the
8 Coalition Provisional Authority consistent with a
9 plan proposed by the President to restore freedom,
10 self-rule, and democracy in Iraq;

11 (5) further funding for Iraq reconstruction
12 should be made available as such plans are devel-
13 oped and agreed to between the appropriate Iraqi
14 authorities and the Coalition Provisional Authority;

15 (6) the expenditure of funds for Iraq recon-
16 struction should be obligated to the maximum extent
17 possible in Iraq with the objective of promoting the
18 redevelopment of Iraq, and steps should be taken to
19 ensure transparency in contracting to prevent profit-
20 eering;

21 (7) local procurement and local management in
22 Iraq should be encouraged wherever feasible, includ-
23 ing through local prime contracting as such capacity
24 can be developed; and

1 (8) the Secretary of State should work with the
2 governments of other countries to establish an Iraqi
3 Reconstruction Council to consist of all major donor
4 countries, all neighboring countries, and the Iraqi
5 Governing Council with the mandate to set donor
6 priorities and foster regional economic cooperation.

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