

numbers are constantly diminishing. This is our last brief opportunity to help them.

I urge my colleagues to join in supporting this important legislation.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2401, The U.S. Holocaust Assets Commission Extension Act of which I am a proud cosponsor. Last year Congress passed legislation creating the Presidential Advisory Commission on Holocaust Assets in the United States. The creation of the Commission made clear the Congress' belief that knowledge of the whereabouts of Holocaust assets in the possession of the U.S. Government should be documented and those assets should be dealt with in a just and prompt manner.

At a time when Holocaust survivors are aging and the U.S. Government is engaged in reparations negotiations on several fronts, we should certainly remain committed to a timely and thorough resolution of Holocaust assets issues in which the U.S. Government may be involved. H.R. 2401 will ensure that the President's Advisory Commission on Holocaust Assets in the United States is given the time and resources necessary to complete its work. While a timely resolution is indeed of the utmost importance, it is reasonable to grant a year-long extension of the Commission. This one-year extension will facilitate a thorough and fair assessment of the United States' efforts to return Holocaust era assets of which our government is in possession.

While we are actively pursuing reparations internationally on behalf of Holocaust victims and survivors, we also need to look carefully at the role of the United States. The United States has been a strong leader on Holocaust claims issues. We should also set an example of what it means to conduct transparent self-evaluation.

Passage of H.R. 2401, and the subsequent extensions of the President's Advisory Commission on Holocaust Assets in the United States, will allow the U.S. to continue to play a leadership role. Hopefully, in the year to come we will witness some measure of justice for Holocaust survivors and family members of Holocaust victims.

I commend the work the Commission has done to date as well as the sponsors of this legislation. I urge all members to vote in support of H.R. 2401.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of the U.S. Holocaust Assets Commission Extension Act of 1999, which amends the U.S. Holocaust Assets Commission Act of 1998 to extend the life of the Commission for one year and authorize it to receive \$2.5 million in additional funding.

I applaud Representatives RICK LAZIO, BENJAMIN GILMAN, JIM MALONEY and BRAD SHERMAN for their leadership on this issue. These four gentlemen are members of the Holocaust Assets Commission and original cosponsors of this important bill. In addition, Banking Committee Chairman JIM LEACH and Banking Committee Ranking Member JOHN LAFALCE are also original cosponsors of the bill.

Seventeen nations have established Holocaust historical commissions to investigate the extent to which the assets of victims of the Holocaust were handled, or mishandled, by their countries. As part of this effort Congress passed legislation last year creating the Presidential Advisory Commission on Holocaust Assets in the United States. H.R. 2401 extends

by one year (from December 31, 1999 to December 31, 2000) the deadline for the Commission to issue its final report to the President. The bill also authorizes the Commission to receive an additional \$2.5 million to cover expenses for the additional year.

Congress established the Holocaust Assets Commission (P.L. 105-186) last year to (1) study and develop a historical record of the collection and disposition of specified assets of Holocaust victims if they came into the possession or control of the federal government, including the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System or any Federal Reserve bank, at any time after January 30, 1933; (2) coordinate its activities with those of private and governmental entities; (3) review research conducted by other entities regarding such assets in the U.S.; and (4) report its recommendations to the President.

Members of the Holocaust Assets Commission were named only last November, and the Commission began its work just ten months ago. The Commission requested an additional year to complete its work due to the unexpected volume and complexity of the material it needs to examine.

The effort to create the Holocaust Assets Commission last year was a bipartisan one, and the effort to extend its life has been as well. Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

Mr. LAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MILLER of Florida). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAZIO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2401.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 2401, the bill just passed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

#### CONCERNING PARTICIPATION OF TAIWAN IN WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1794) concerning the participation of Taiwan in the World Health Organization (WHO), as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1794

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. CONCERNING THE PARTICIPATION OF TAIWAN IN THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO).

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Good health is a basic right for every citizen of the world and access to the highest standards of health information and services is necessary to help guarantee this right.

(2) Direct and unobstructed participation in international health cooperation forums and programs is therefore crucial, especially with today's greater potential for the cross-border spread of various infectious diseases such as AIDS.

(3) The World Health Organization (WHO) set forth in the first chapter of its charter the objective of attaining the highest possible level of health for all people.

(4) In 1977, the World Health Organization established "Health For All By The Year 2000" as its overriding priority and reaffirmed that central vision with the initiation of its "Health For All" renewal process in 1995.

(5) Taiwan's population of 21,000,000 people is larger than that of 3/4 of the member states already in the World Health Organization.

(6) Taiwan's achievements in the field of health are substantial, including one of the highest life expectancy levels in Asia, maternal and infant mortality rates comparable to those of western countries, the eradication of such infectious diseases as cholera, smallpox, and the plague, and the first to be rid of polio and provide children with free hepatitis B vaccinations.

(7) The World Health Organization was unable to assist Taiwan with an outbreak of enterovirus 71 which killed 70 Taiwanese children and infected more than 1,100 Taiwanese children in 1998.

(8) In recent years Taiwan has expressed a willingness to assist financially or technically in WHO-supported international aid and health activities, but has ultimately been unable to render such assistance.

(9) The World Health Organization allows observers to participate in the activities of the organization.

(10) The United States, in the 1994 Taiwan Policy Review, declared its intention to support Taiwan's participation in appropriate international organizations.

(11) In light of all of the benefits that Taiwan's participation in the World Health Organization could bring to the state of health not only in Taiwan, but also regionally and globally, Taiwan and its 21,000,000 people should have appropriate and meaningful participation in the World Health Organization.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than January 1, 2000, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Congress on the efforts of the Secretary to fulfill the commitment made in the 1994 Taiwan Policy Review to more actively support Taiwan's participation in international organizations, in particular the World Health Organization (WHO).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER).

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this Member rises in support of H.R. 1794, a resolution calling for Taiwan's participation in the World Health Organization, WHO. This is a bipartisan resolution, Mr. Speaker, which was approved unanimously by the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific of the Committee on International Relations on June 23, 1999. This Member congratulates the distinguished gentleman from Ohio (Mr.

BROWN) for bringing this matter before this body, and I was pleased to join him as a cosponsor.

The WHO is a nonpolitical United Nations affiliated agency with 191 participating entities. It seeks to provide the highest possible level of health for all people. There is strong support for the people of Taiwan being afforded the opportunity to participate in a meaningful way in the WHO and take advantage of the information and services that this international organization offers. Given the fact that international travel makes the transmission of communicable diseases much more prevalent, it is illogical to deny WHO services to Taiwan's population of more than 20 million people.

The threat of communicable disease transmission has become much more apparent to Americans in the past week with the outbreak in New York of a rare and very deadly form of African encephalitis. It is speculated this disease was brought to the United States in an aircraft or on a cargo vessel. This outbreak demonstrates just how porous America's borders have become. In such a world of easy transit, it defies logic to exclude 20 million people from this international disease prevention organization.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, there is no doubt that Taiwan can offer much in terms of medical and pharmaceutical expertise. Their longevity rate is nearly the highest in Asia. Specialists from Taiwan have unique skills in a number of areas where we in the West lack the expertise. The potential for cooperation is obvious.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1794 speaks only of "appropriate and meaningful participation in the WHO." No one, I think, can responsibly argue with that position.

H.R. 1794 also requires that the executive branch report on its effort to promote such participation. There is no desire in this body to force the executive branch to telegraph its best strategies to those who seek to deny Taiwan's appropriate treatment, and reporting requirement need not make such revelation. However, given the strong views held by many in this body, it is entirely appropriate to ask that the administration report to the Congress on its activities.

Mr. Speaker, this Member urges adoption of H.R. 1794.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1794. In addition, I would like to thank my numerous colleagues, especially the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER), who have given their support to this bill, also including the gentleman from California (Mr. COX), the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT), and others.

Two weeks ago, Mr. Speaker, Taiwan was struck by a devastating earthquake. It is not hard for us to

empathize with the thousands of Taiwanese people who found themselves trapped under rubble, praying that someone would come to their rescue; that someone would respond to their cries for help; or for us to imagine how we might react if our family members were trapped under these buildings.

Yet, in the aftermath of this disaster, unlike the immediate offers of help to the victims of the earthquakes in Greece and Turkey, international relief efforts were actually dragged out and postponed while scores of Taiwanese were fighting for their lives.

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And we know why they were forced to wait for help, even though they themselves, the Taiwanese as a people, have provided hundreds of millions of dollars in assistance to victims of wars and famines and disaster all over the world. That is because even in Taiwan's darkest hour, the United Nations first had to receive permission from the People's Republic of China before they could help Taiwan.

That is the reality of the One China policy. No matter how dire the situation, the human rights and the Taiwanese people take a back seat to Cold War geopolitics that frankly no longer serve any useful purpose. Unless we start doing something about it, unless we start to stick up for what is right, unless we start helping Taiwan instead of hindering it, then we will wind up letting China's dictators think they can continue to deny their people and the Taiwanese people their fundamental human rights.

Today we are taking a step in the right direction, because regardless of the One China policy, access to first-rate medical care is a fundamental human right. I said it before, and I will say it again. Children cry the same tears whether they are in Lorain, Ohio, or Taipei, Taiwan. Denying them access to the latest medical innovations that can ease those tears is just as criminal as violating their other basic rights.

H.R. 1794 is a step in the right direction and recognizes that human suffering obviously transcends politics. For the first time ever, Congress is requiring the State Department to find a role for Taiwan in the most beneficial of all international institutions, the World Health Organization, an outfit that is dedicated to eradicating disease and improving the health of people around the world regardless of the conditions imposed on them by any of the world's governments.

Its achievements in this regard are nothing short of remarkable. In this past century, smallpox claimed hundreds of millions of lives, killing more people than every war and epidemic put together. Because of the tireless efforts of the World Health Organization, this scourge has been totally eradicated.

In 1980, only 5 percent of the world's children were vaccinated against pre-

ventable diseases. Today, the WHO has vaccinated more than 80 percent of the kids in the world, saving the lives of three million children each year. These diseases include polio, a virus unparalleled in its cruelty and suffering. The WHO has eradicated it from the Western Hemisphere. Similarly, measles, a killer of a quarter of a million children worldwide each year, is targeted for eradication by 2001.

Infectious disease and sickness are not limited to political borders, and the results of Taiwan's exclusion from the WHO have been tragic. Young children and older citizens who are particularly vulnerable to a host of emerging infectious diseases, such as the Asian Bird Flu, are without the knowledge and expertise shared among the member nations of the WHO.

With increased travel and trade among many members of our global village, these diseases do not stop at national borders. So why should we erect boundaries to shared information which would help improve the health of Taiwanese children?

Mr. Speaker, denial of Taiwanese participation in the WHO is an unjustifiable violation of its people's fundamental human rights. Good health is a basic right for every citizen of the world, and Taiwan's admission to the WHO would help foster that right for its people.

I call on all of my colleagues to support H.R. 1794 and Taiwan's right to participate in the World Health Organization.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT).

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1794.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my friend from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) in sponsoring this legislation, and I am hopeful that we will garner the overwhelming support of the House.

As my colleague has stated, H.R. 1724 requires the Secretary of State to report to Congress on the efforts of the State Department to fulfill the commitments made in the 1994 Taiwan Policy Review to more actively support Taiwan's participation in international organizations, in particular the World Health Organization.

The people of Taiwan have a great deal to offer the international community. It is terribly unfortunate that even though Taiwan's achievements in the medical field are certainly substantial and it has expressed a repeated willingness to assist both financially and technically in World Health Organization activities, it has not been allowed to do so. Passage of H.R. 1794 will, hopefully, prompt our Government to promote that effort.

It is simply a travesty that during times of crisis, such as the 1998 entovirus outbreak in Taiwan, the World Health Organization has been unable to help. That virus killed 70

Taiwanese children and infected more than a thousand.

Only 2 weeks ago, the tragic earthquake in Taiwan that claimed more than 2,000 lives occurred. Sadly, we learned in published reports that the Communist Government of the People's Republic of China, whose belligerent insistence that Taiwan be denied a role in international organizations, demanded that any aid for Taiwan provided by the United Nations and the Red Cross receive prior approval from the dictators in Beijing.

Mr. Speaker, in times of national emergency, Taiwan is deserving of assistance from the international community. The absurd policy denying or delaying that assistance must be changed.

I want to again thank and commend my colleague from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and also the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) for their work on this very important legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to my friend, the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD).

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) for yielding me the time.

I certainly rise in congratulations of both gentlemen from Ohio in drafting H.R. 1794.

This measure is concerned with Taiwan's participation in the World Health Organization. Public health is a basic right and concern of all people no matter what their political status or their political standing in the world.

The mission of the World Health Organization is to promote, maintain, and advocate on public health issues globally, who includes as one of its objectives the goal of attaining the highest possible level of health for all people. And Taiwan in many respects has one of the more advanced scientific and medical establishments in Asia, as those of us in Guam, which is 3½ hours flying time from Taiwan, know well.

Yet, because Taiwan has been prohibited from full participation in international organizations associated with the U.N., many opportunities are lost to help the people of Taiwan. And in turn, the world may lose out from their experiences and expertise.

Indeed, tragically because of these political obstacles, WHO was unable to assist the government of Taiwan during a serious viral outbreak in 1998. This is why it is altogether appropriate that we support this resolution. Since common sense dictates that good health transcends politics and history, Taiwan should be permitted to participate in a meaningful way with the WHO. This can be done without violating U.S. foreign policy that supports the One China policy. Without compromising that policy, the U.S. Government could support Taiwan's participation in the WHO in the name of saving lives and promoting universal public health.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this measure.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time in order to close.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to favorably consider and vote for the resolution.

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask for the support of the House in passing H.R. 1749, the resolution to support Taiwan for membership in the World Health Organization.

Let us begin by asserting a simple truth: disease and disaster know no borders. This resolution will be progress made possible by a policy the United States adopted in 1994, which encouraged Taiwan's participation in various international organizations.

When I was in Taiwan in August, I met and spoke personally with the country's surgeon general. We talked about the virtues of Taiwan's admission to the WHO, and that was prior to the devastating earthquake which killed and injured so many people. The international response to Taiwan in this hour of need was slowed by the fact that Taiwan was not a member country of the WHO.

Taiwan's progression on matters related to health care is legendary in Asia. They have the highest life expectancy levels in Asia; they have implemented successful vaccination programs; and their maternal and infant mortality rates are comparable to those of Western nations. It was also the first Asian nation to eliminate polio and it was the first country worldwide to inoculate its children (for free) for hepatitis B.

Taiwan has a world class economy and their health care system is quite advanced. Their membership in the WHO would be just as beneficial (or more so) to the other member nations as it would be for themselves.

This bill requires the State Department to find a role for Taiwan in one of the most important international organizations, the World Health Organization. The WHO is dedicated to eradicating disease and improving the health of people worldwide.

So, let me end where I began \* \* \* infectious disease and disasters are not limited by political borders, and Taiwan's exclusion from WHO is tragic. Taiwan's young people and the elderly population, who are particularly vulnerable to many emerging diseases, such as the Asian Bird Flu, simply should not be without the knowledge and expertise shared by the member nations of WHO.

Please join me in passing this resolution.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in support of H.R. 1794 concerning Taiwan's participation in the World Health Organization (WHO).

I want to commend the gentleman from Ohio, Mr. BROWN, for introducing, advocating this measure and for his perseverance on this issue.

I also thank the gentleman from Nebraska, Mr. BEREUTER, chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, for helping to bring the measure before us today.

We all agree that good health is the basic human right of people everywhere. That right, though, can only be guaranteed if all people have unfettered access to all available resources regarding health care.

The World Health Organization, a United Nations body which has 191 participating enti-

ties, is one of those important resources. But today, regrettably, Taiwan, a nation of 21 million people, has been denied a share in that basic human right. This is wrong and it is high time we correct that wrong.

There are opportunities for Taiwan to pursue observer status in the WHO which would allow the people of Taiwan to participate in a substantive manner in the scientific and health activities of this important health organization.

It is time for the Clinton administration to do the right thing, to take affirmative action, and to seek appropriate participation for Taiwan in the WHO.

Accordingly, I call upon the administration to pursue all initiatives in the WHO which will allow these 21 million people to share in the health benefits that the WHO can provide.

I am proud to be a cosponsor of this bill and I urge my colleagues to fully support this measure.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1794 concerning the participation of Taiwan in the World Health Organization (WHO). I want to pay tribute to our distinguished colleague from Ohio, Mr. SHERROD BROWN, for introducing this important bill. I also want to express my thanks for their support of this legislation the Chairman of the Asia Subcommittee, Congressman DOUG BEREUTER of Nebraska, as well as the Chairman of the International Relations Committee, Congressman BENJAMIN A. GILMAN of New York, and the Ranking Democratic Member of the Committee, Congressman SAM GEJDENSON of Connecticut.

The time is long overdue for Taiwan to participate in the World Health Organization, Mr. Speaker. Taiwan, with its population approaching 22 million people, is larger than three-quarters of the countries which are members of the World Health Organization. Taiwan has a large, highly-educated and well-trained medical community. Many of these, I should add, are individuals who have been trained in the finest medical institutions here in the United States. Furthermore, Taiwan is a country with extensive economic, social and cultural links with the rest of the world. It has the resources to make an important contribution to the activities of the World Health Organization. It is unfortunate and counterproductive to continue to exclude Taiwan from participation in the work of the World Health Organization.

Mr. Speaker, some five years ago, in the 1994 Taiwan Policy Review, the Department of State agreed more actively to support the participation of Taiwan in international organizations, and in particular its participation in the World Health Organization. Our legislation will help focus our government's efforts to encourage this laudable goal.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important piece of legislation.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MILLER of Florida). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1794, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 1794.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nebraska?

There was no objection.

#### CONDEMNING KIDNAPPING AND MURDER BY THE REVOLUTIONARY ARMED FORCES OF COLOMBIA OF THREE UNITED STATES CITIZENS

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 181) condemning the kidnapping and murder by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) of 3 United States citizens, Ingrid Washinawatok, Terence Freitas, and Lahe'ena'e Gay.

The Clerk read as follows:

#### H. RES. 181

Whereas Ingrid Washinawatok, a member of the Menominee Indian Nation of Wisconsin, Terence Freitas of California, and Lahe'ena'e Gay of Hawaii, were United States citizens involved in an effort to help the U'wa people of northeastern Colombia;

Whereas Ms. Washinawatok, Mr. Freitas, and Ms. Gay were kidnapped on February 25, 1999 by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), a group designated a foreign-based terrorist organization by the United States Department of State;

Whereas the FARC brutally murdered these 3 innocent United States civilians, whose bodies were discovered March 4, 1999;

Whereas this Congress will not tolerate violent acts against United States citizens abroad;

Whereas the FARC has a reprehensible history of committing atrocities against both Colombian and United States citizens, including over 1,000 Colombians abducted each year and 4 United States civilians who were seized for a month in 1998;

Whereas it is incumbent upon the Government of Colombia to quickly and effectively investigate, arrest, and extradite to the United States those responsible for the murders of Ms. Washinawatok, Mr. Freitas, and Ms. Gay; and

Whereas the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is empowered to investigate terrorist acts committed against United States citizens abroad: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) decries the murders of Ingrid Washinawatok, Terence Freitas, and Lahe'ena'e Gay;

(2) strongly condemns the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC);

(3) calls on the Government of Colombia to find, arrest, and extradite to the United States for trial those responsible for the deaths of these United States citizens; and

(4) emphasizes the importance of this investigation to the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and urges the FBI to use any and every available resource to see that those who are responsible for the

deaths of these United States citizens are swiftly brought to justice.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER).

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H. Res. 181.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nebraska?

There was no objection.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, the distinguished gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GREEN) and a bipartisan group of cosponsors brought this important resolution before the House.

In early March, three Americans were in Colombia trying to help an indigenous group when they were brutally murdered by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC). The FARC, designated by the State Department as a foreign-based terrorist group, killed these people in cold blood. These senseless deaths have brought the total of innocent American lives taken in Colombia by the FARC and the National Liberation Army to 15.

This resolution will put the House of Representatives on record as condemning this heinous crime and calling for those responsible to be swiftly brought to justice. I urge my colleagues to unanimously support H. Res. 181.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD).

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution to condemn the slaying of these three individuals, three Americans.

We should be mindful that we should not tolerate the murder of U.S. citizens anywhere in the world. But we should also take this opportunity to remind ourselves of the work of these three individuals, Ingrid Washinawatok, Terence Freitas, and Lahe'ena'e Gay of Hawaii.

These three individuals were involved in the work of helping indigenous groups in Colombia. It is entirely appropriate that we draw attention to the efforts on behalf of native groups around the world in this, the international decade of the world's indigenous peoples.

While we take the time and the effort to call upon the Colombian Government to exert all effort to make sure

that the perpetrators of these heinous crimes be brought to justice, we should also take the time to understand that the work of helping indigenous peoples throughout the world continues on and that we need to support their work.

We need to support their work not only individually. And as our hearts go out to the families of these three individuals, we should also remind ourselves and call upon the State Department to continue to support resolutions and actions in support of indigenous groups, particularly in our own State Department's work in the United Nations as declarations are pursued there and in the organization of American States.

Again, I rise in very strong support of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GREEN), the author of the resolution.

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) for yielding me time. I also want to extend my thanks to the gentleman from New York (Chairman GILMAN) for his work on this resolution. I appreciate their support very much.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H. Res. 181, decrying the murder of these three U.S. citizens in Colombia, particularly Ms. Ingrid Washinawatok, a member of the Menominee Indian Nation in my own congressional district in northeastern Wisconsin. Ingrid deserves our gratitude and admiration.

In these times when so many people offer little more than words and wishes, Ingrid walked the walk. She backed up her words and beliefs with constructive action. Time after time, Ingrid put her life on the line for what she believed in, often operating in dangerous, treacherous environments all around the world. She sacrificed throughout her life; and, in the end, she sacrificed her life itself.

She was only 42 years old when she died at the hands of terrorists in Colombia. At the time that she was kidnapped, she and her two companions, as was mentioned by my colleague from Guam, were involved in an effort to better the lives of the U'wa people in northeastern Colombia through education.

She had a vision, a vision of a better world, and she devoted her life to turning that vision into reality. But her work in Colombia was only the latest example of her devotion to that great vision. She traveled throughout the globe and tried to leave, she and her companions, each place that she worked just a little bit better than when she had first arrived.

She is survived by her family and friends both in Wisconsin and in New York. But I think we all will miss her