

Lampson	Obey	Slaughter
Lantos	Olver	Smith (NJ)
Larson	Owens	Souder
LaTourette	Pallone	Spence
Lee	Pascrell	Spratt
Lewis (GA)	Pastor	Stabenow
Lipinski	Paul	Stark
LoBiondo	Payne	Stearns
Luther	Pelosi	Strickland
Maloney (CT)	Peterson (MN)	Stupak
Markey	Phelps	Tancredo
Mascara	Pombo	Taylor (MS)
McCarthy (MO)	Quinn	Taylor (NC)
McCarthy (NY)	Rahall	Thompson (MS)
McGovern	Riley	Tierney
McIntyre	Rivers	Towns
McKinney	Rodriguez	Traficant
McNulty	Rogers	Udall (CO)
Meek (FL)	Rohrabacher	Udall (NM)
Menendez	Ros-Lehtinen	Velazquez
Metcalf	Rothman	Vento
Mica	Roybal-Allard	Viscosky
Millender-	Rush	Wamp
McDonald	Sabo	Waters
Miller, George	Sanchez	Watt (NC)
Mink	Sanders	Weldon (FL)
Moakley	Sanford	Wexler
Mollohan	Saxton	Weygand
Murtha	Schakowsky	Wise
Nadler	Scott	Wolf
Napolitano	Sensenbrenner	Woolsey
Ney	Sherman	Wu
Norwood	Shows	Wynn
Oberstar	Sisisky	Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—
Scarborough

1741

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The title was amended so as to read: "A bill to authorize extension of non-discriminatory treatment (normal trade relations treatment) to the People's Republic of China, and to establish a framework for relations between the United States and the People's Republic of China."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 3688

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 3688.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

1745

COMMENDING ISRAEL'S REDEPLOYMENT FROM SOUTHERN LEBANON

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on International Relations be discharged from further consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 331) commending Israel's redeployment from southern Lebanon, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.
The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 331

Whereas Israel has been actively seeking a comprehensive peace with all of her neighbors to bring about an end to the Arab-Israeli conflict;

Whereas southern Lebanon has for decades been the staging area for attacks against Israeli cities and towns by Hezbollah and by Palestinian terrorists, resulting in the death or wounding of hundreds of Israeli civilians;

Whereas United Nations Security Council Resolution 425 (March 19, 1978) calls upon Israel to withdraw its forces from all Lebanese territory;

Whereas the Government of Israel unanimously agreed to implement Security Council Resolution 425 and has stated its intention of redeploying its forces to the international border by July 7, 2000;

Whereas Security Council Resolution 425 also calls for "strict respect for the territorial integrity, sovereignty and political independence of Lebanon within its internationally recognized boundaries" and establishes a United Nations interim force to help restore Lebanese sovereignty; and

Whereas the Government of Syria currently deploys 30,000 Syrian troops in Lebanon: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) commends Israel for its decision to withdraw its forces from southern Lebanon and for taking risks for peace in the Middle East;

(2) calls upon the United Nations Security Council—

(A) to recognize Israel's fulfillment of its obligations under Security Council Resolution 425 and to provide the necessary resources for the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) to implement its mandate under that resolution; and

(B) insist upon the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanese territory so that Lebanon may exercise sovereignty throughout its territory;

(3) urges UNIFIL, in cooperation with the Lebanese Armed Forces, to gain full control over southern Lebanon, including taking actions to ensure the disarmament of Hezbollah and all other such groups, in order to eliminate all terrorist activity originating from that area;

(4) appeals to the Government of Lebanon to grant clemency and assure the safety and rehabilitation into Lebanese society of all members of the South Lebanon Army and their families;

(5) calls upon the international community to ensure that southern Lebanon does not once again become a staging ground for attacks against Israel and to cooperate in bringing about the reconstruction and reintegration of southern Lebanon;

(6) recognizes Israel's right, enshrined in Chapter 7, Article 51 of the United Nations Charter, to defend itself and its people from attack and reasserts United States support for maintaining Israel's qualitative military edge in order to ensure Israel's long-term security; and

(7) urges all parties to reenter the peace process with the Government of Israel in order to bring peace and stability to all the Middle East.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 minutes to the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. GEJDENSON), the ranking minority member of our committee,

for purposes of debate only, pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 331, introduced by our distinguished majority leader, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY), which commends Israel's decision to withdraw its forces from southern Lebanon.

The events of the past few days have indeed been historic. I was pleased to be an original sponsor of this resolution, which calls on the U.N. Security Council to recognize Israel's fulfillment of U.N. Security Council Resolution 425 by withdrawing from Lebanon and to insist that all foreign forces be withdrawn from that country.

The measure we are considering today is a major foreign policy statement of the Congress. It is pro-Israel and pro-Lebanon, sends a strong bipartisan message of peace and stability to the region. As a result of this latest major development, a high priority of the United States must also be to affirm Israel's right as noted in the U.N. charter to defend itself and its civilians from attack.

H. Con. Res. 331, Mr. Speaker, also reasserts U.S. support for maintaining Israel's qualitative military edge in order to ensure Israel's long-term security.

Mr. Speaker, Israel's courageous decision to pull out of Lebanon demonstrates its strong commitment to a peaceful resolution to the conflicts that troubled that region. I hope that Israel's courage is reciprocated by both Syria and Iran in their dealings with Lebanon. This means that the 30,000 Syrian forces now occupying Lebanon should also be removed as required by the Taif Accord. Moreover, Iran must understand that it cannot continue to equip and train Hezbollah and other terrorist groups without bearing the consequences of international public opinion.

As our colleagues know, Israel has been actively seeking a comprehensive peace with all of her neighbors since its miraculous creation in 1948, yet southern Lebanon has for decades been the staging area for attacks against Israeli citizens and towns by Hezbollah and Palestinian terrorists, resulting in the death or wounding of hundreds of Israeli civilians.

H. Con. Res. 331 recognizes the courageous risks for Israel that Israel is taking, as well as confirming the strict respect for the territorial integrity, sovereignty and political independence of Lebanon. It also appeals to the government of Lebanon to grant clemency and ensure the safety and rehabilitation into Lebanese society of all members of the south Lebanon Army and their families.

This measure underscores the congressional desire for the U.N. Security Council to swiftly recognize Israel's

fulfillment of its obligation. The U.N. should also provide the necessary resources for the U.N. interim force in Lebanon, UNIFIL, to implement its mandate under resolution 425. UNIFIL, in cooperation with the Lebanese armed forces, must gain full control over southern Lebanon, including taking actions to ensure the disarmament of Hezbollah and all other such groups.

All terrorist activities originating from southern Lebanon must end and every effort must be taken to ensure that southern Lebanon does not once again become a staging ground for attacks against Israel.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, let me say that progress in the Middle East peace process is frequently measured in inches; yet the events of the past few days emphasize the miles that Israel will go to achieve peaceful co-existence with her neighbors.

Accordingly, I urge all parties to re-enter the negotiating process with the government of Israel in order to bring peace and stability to the entire region and reiterate my strongest support for the adoption of H. Con. Res. 331.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to our distinguished majority leader, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY), the sponsor of this resolution.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to preface my comments today by paying my respects, as old professors are wont to do sometimes, I would say to the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), to a former favored student, Mr. Nami Saba, a young man that had grown up in Lebanon and a young man who loved peace, who loved freedom, who loved learning and became quite a scholar in his own right. He set for me an example of what Lebanese culture, what the Lebanese people could be like and what this nation that we call Lebanon could once again be someday perhaps. So my wish tonight is not only for the people of Israel but for the people of Lebanon, those who, like Nami Saba, wanted only to be free to live in peace and to learn and to study and to share lovingly and graciously what they understood with other people.

Still, at this time, Mr. Speaker, we have a resolution that commends Israel for having the courage to take a risk for peace, and it does take a risk. As anybody watching these events now knows, Israel has again been willing to take that risk. It can only hope, as the resolution also urges, that all foreign forces will now leave Lebanon. There is no reason for the Syrians or anyone else to be there. Lebanon, its problems and its challenges, should be left to the Lebanese.

Mr. Speaker, Israel has faced dangers on its northern border and indeed from all sides, this despite the fact that her people desire only to live in peace. I firmly believe, as this resolution further states, that the United States must help maintain Israel's qualitative military edge. Israel is our best friend in the region, and we must stand with the Israeli people.

Again, I want to commend Israel for taking risks for peace; and if I might dare say again, on a personal note here, for the people of Israel and indeed for my friend, Nami Saba, I wish shalom, shalom.

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I would ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) be in control of my time at the conclusion of my remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, the courage of the head of the Israeli government, Mr. Barak, during the campaign to state with certainty that he would remove Israeli forces from Lebanon was an exhibit of the courage that he has in his commitment to the peace process. As the majority leader pointed out, this did take risks, but with a recognition that things cannot remain as they are in the Middle East. Israel took tremendous risks to remove its forces and pull back from an area that had buffered its people from constant assaults and attack.

This is an opportunity for peace. We would hope that all the countries in the region, that in particular Syria does not make any effort to exploit this movement of Israeli forces back to Israel's territory. All the world watches to see if the countries of the region will help Lebanon, that has suffered so much for so many years, to rebuild itself and gain control of its own territory.

Hezbollah should understand this is an opportunity for them to develop a political presence, not to expand a military presence in the region.

The courageous acts of the Israelis recognizing during the campaign that Israeli presence out of Lebanon was a necessity should now be supported by the U.N. and other countries helping to rebuild Lebanon, helping Lebanon to regain control of its own territory, and helping us move forward in the peace process, with the Palestinians and all the countries of the region. When we look at the Middle East and we see the courage of the new king of Jordan, the leadership of the president of Egypt, we understand there is the capacity for peace. Now we will test all the countries in the region to see if that capacity can be spread and peace can indeed return to the land.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 6 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS).

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my friend, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS), for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, there are four basic points I would like to make. First, I want to join the majority leader and my other colleagues in commending the State of Israel for withdrawing its forces from southern Lebanon. These forces were inserted into southern Leb-

anon in the first place because there were cross-border raids resulting in the death and mutilation of large numbers of Israelis, adults as well as children. The Israeli forces were in southern Lebanon not as an occupying force. Israel did not covet a single square inch of Lebanese territory. They were there as a buffer to protect the northern communities of the State of Israel from terrorist attacks.

I want to particularly commend Prime Minister Barak, Israel's most highly decorated soldier, for having the courage and taking the initiative in withdrawing these forces. Too, Mr. Speaker, we now have to ask Lebanon to act like a sovereign and independent country. Lebanon has a sizable military. That military now must move to the southern border of Lebanon, as any other country would do, so that the Lebanese military will protect its own territory. It is unacceptable that terrorist groups such as Hezbollah maintain control over the border region. Should that happen, it is easy to predict that a conflagration is just around the corner with incalculable consequences.

So the second thing we in this Congress must call for is for Lebanon to accept its own responsibility as a sovereign nation and to protect its own southern border.

1800

The third point, Mr. Speaker, I would like to make relates to Syria. Syria has had over 30,000 troops in Lebanon for years. The excuse for the stationing of such a huge Syrian military force in Lebanon was the presence in southern Lebanon of Israeli forces. That presence no longer exists. Let me repeat. That presence no longer exists. There is not a single Israeli soldier left on Lebanese territory.

I call upon President Asad to remove all of his forces from Lebanon. There is no justification in the 21st century for a neighbor to have occupying forces in a sovereign country. Syrian forces must forthwith withdraw from Lebanon if, indeed, a regional peace is to be built.

My final comment, Mr. Speaker, relates to the United Nations. The United Nations has about 4,500 troops in southern Lebanon. Some of these troops have been effective in policing. Some of the United Nations forces have performed their responsibilities well. Others have not. The Secretary General of the United Nations, Mr. Kofi Annan, whom we will welcome here tomorrow for lunch, now has the task of persuading the Security Council to send an additional United Nations force made up of dependable national contingents to assist in the policing of southern Lebanon. If these things happen, Mr. Speaker, we might look forward to the restoration of peace and stability between the state of Israel and the state of Lebanon.

May I say on a personal note, Mr. Speaker, that my first trip to Lebanon

was in 1956. In the 1960s, I was asked to assume the Presidency of the American University in Beirut, Lebanon. Lebanon used to be referred to as the Switzerland of the Middle East and justifiably so.

I hope that the Lebanese government will show the responsibility and the courage to move in this crisis. If they do, a new future will be opened to the Lebanese people who certainly deserve it, and peace between Lebanon and Israel will follow the peace that was established between Egypt and Israel and Jordan and Israel.

Once the Lebanese-Israeli peace is at long last established, President Asad of Syria will recognize that he, too, has this option to make peace with his neighbor Israel so that, at long last, this region can live in peace.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution calls for the United Nations Security Council Resolution 425 to be implemented, and it is being done or has been done by Israel in that it has now withdrawn its forces from all Lebanese territory.

Bridges of peace are buttressed by planks of good faith. Israel has acted in good faith by their actions, and they are right in this resolution by my colleagues and those of us that are cosponsors and are commended.

The time is now for all the parties to reenter the peace process. Central to this resolution are two things that I would like to point to. One, it appeals to the government of Lebanon to grant clemency and assure the safety and rehabilitation into Lebanese society of all members of the South Lebanon Army and their families. I wish that they would undertake that portion of the resolution.

In addition, it calls upon the international community to ensure that southern Lebanon does not once again become a staging ground for attacks against Israel and to cooperate in bringing about the reconstruction and reintegration of southern Lebanon. Syria has a role to play in that, the United Nations has a role to play in that, and Hezbollah law has a critical role to play in ensuring that that takes place.

I would like to commend Mr. Barak and his colleagues for their foresightedness with reference to this matter and urge all parties to reenter the negotiations so that there can be peace and stability in the Middle East.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to my distinguished gentleman from Florida (Mr. WEXLER) whose district abuts mine.

Mr. WEXLER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I think that there are two points that need to be made very clearly and could not be more dramatic. First and foremost, from here on in, nobody can say anything other than Israel has, in fact, fulfilled its ob-

ligations under the United Nations Security Council Resolution 425.

As a result of Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon, could it also not be said that the ball is now in the court of the Lebanese people, their leadership, as well as the Syrian people and their leadership.

This is an extraordinary opportunity for the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon to be an impetus for peace. But Israel's actions, as they represent a risk for peace, will only result in peace if they are followed by similar risks by the Lebanese government and the Syrian government.

There can be no more excuses. Those that allege a fight in the name of some kind of redeployment or removal from Israel from Lebanon have no more excuses. It is time for Hezbollah to put down its arms. It is time for the United Nations to ensure peace in southern Lebanon and Israel's northern border.

The world should be put at alarm because, for now, it is the Lebanese people and the Syrian leadership that have the opportunity to create a real and lasting peace.

This resolution first and foremost sends our message, sends our strong will to the Israeli people and, at the same time, sends our great hope to the Lebanese people that they will reassert sovereignty over their country.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL), a tireless worker for peace in the Middle East.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Florida, my mother's congressman, for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 331, commending Israel's redeployment from southern Lebanon. Israel has fully complied with UN Resolution 425, removing its troops from Lebanon. Now I think it is fairly obvious that Syria ought to do the same.

There are currently 35,000 Syrian troops in Lebanon, and clearly those troops stop the Lebanese people from being masters of their own destiny. Syria allows Hezbollah, has allowed Hezbollah to stage attacks on the Israeli soldiers who were in southern Lebanon. If Hezbollah attempts to go across the border and attack Israel proper, the blame will surely be and squarely be at Syria's doorstep.

Indeed, when Israel announced that it was withdrawing from southern Lebanon, something that the United Nations and the Syrians and other Nations, the Arab Nations, have all said that they wanted for all these years, it was the Syrians who warned Israel and said they better not do that, they better not leave, which, to me, was simply mind boggling. When Israel said it will remove its troops from Lebanon, the Syrians were the ones who objected.

So it clearly shows that Syria has been using Lebanon and the Lebanese people as bargaining chips and for

whatever purposes, other purposes they have for many, many years. Syria should get out of Lebanon now and allow the Lebanese people to control their own destiny.

I commend Prime Minister Barak and the Israeli government and the Israeli people for clearly showing that they want peace. What better way to show peace is at hand than to have Syria pull out as well?

When President Clinton met with Mr. Asad in Europe not long ago trying to help broker a peace between Syria and Israel, it was painfully clear to all that Mr. Asad and the Syrian government was not really interested in a genuine peace. In order to have peace, there has to be give-and-take. There has to be compromise. Both sides need to give in. But Mr. Asad, unfortunately, wanted it to be only a one-sided peace.

So the world really can look now at the Middle East and see which country is prepared to take risks for peace, which country is taking risks for peace, which country wanted to do it together, and not being allowed to do it together is now doing it unilaterally taking risks for peace. That country is Israel. Syria ought to do the same.

We ought to pass this resolution unanimously.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, how much time do we have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska). The gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) has 15 minutes remaining.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY), a new member of the Committee on International Relations who has distinguished himself with his service there.

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Con. Res. 331, commending Israel's redeployment from southern Lebanon.

I would like to thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY), the majority leader; the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT), the minority leader; the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN), Committee on International Relations chairman; and the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. GEJDENSON), ranking member, for their leadership on this issue and for bringing this resolution to the floor so quickly.

As a cosponsor of H. Con. Res. 331, I am extremely pleased to see this legislation come before the House this evening.

Israel has shown great courage in unilaterally withdrawing its forces from Lebanon.

Israeli Prime Minister Barak is to be commended for keeping his word to the Israeli people and removing Israeli defense forces from southern Lebanon. This action clearly demonstrates that Prime Minister Barak is firmly committed to moving the peace process

forward, despite the intransigence of the Syrians and the security risks associated with this withdrawal.

I am pleased that the UN just yesterday endorsed a plan for verifying Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon. The UN has also called for all parties to show restraint and cooperate with UN peacekeepers in Lebanon. UN officials must now verify that Israel has returned over the borders that it crossed in 1978. I urge them to do this quickly.

In another positive move, the Lebanese government indicated that it was ready to delay pressing its claim, although tenuous at best, to the land in the Golan Heights. Unfortunately, Hezbollah guerrillas appear committed to continuing the war.

Israel has withdrawn. The UN peacekeepers must now be allowed to do their work in that region. It is my hope that Hezbollah will show some restraint and refrain from attacks against Israel and the Israeli people. But if Hezbollah does not respect Israel's borders, then Israel has every right to defend itself.

Israel has taken an enormous leap of faith to make peace with its neighbors, and I call upon Syria to resume its negotiations with Israel in good faith and broker a lasting peace with Israel.

Finally, I would like to say that I am ready to work with the leadership of this House, the Committee on International Relations, and the government of Israel should assistance in settling the SLA and their families either here or in Israel be needed.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), a tireless worker, a person that has worked actively for peace in the Middle East.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Florida so much for yielding me this time. He has been such a leader.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Con. Res. 331. As we know, this resolution commends Israel for its decision to withdraw its troops from southern Lebanon and for taking risks for peace and the Middle East.

1815

And we should be commending them, all of us together, unanimously hopefully, for the risks that they have taken for peace.

This resolution also calls upon the United Nations Security Council to recognize Israel's fulfillment of its obligations under Security Council Resolution 425 and to provide the necessary resources for the United Nations interim force in Lebanon to implement its mandate under that resolution. It also insists upon the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon territory so that Lebanon may exercise sovereignty throughout its territory.

It is also important that this resolution calls upon the entire international

community to ensure that southern Lebanon does not once again become a staging ground for attacks against Israel, and to cooperate in bringing about the reconstruction and reintegration of southern Lebanon.

It is important that we are here this evening. It is important that we are here recognizing the risks that have been taken for peace, and I hope that we will all join together in supporting Israel's actions, the independence of Lebanon, and a secure Middle East peace.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. McNULTY), who has worked tirelessly in this effort and others for peace throughout the world.

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time, and I rise in strong support of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot emphasize too much how big a risk this is for peace. Since the establishment of the State of Israel, a little more than 50 years ago, the people of Israel have had to fight five wars just to survive, and I am proud of the fact that the United States of America has been an ally to Israel all throughout those years. I am proud of the fact that Harry Truman was the first world leader to step forward and recognize the State of Israel.

From time to time I am asked by my constituents why I am such a strong supporter of aid to Israel, and I give them many answers. Two of them are these: Israel is the only democracy in the Middle East, and Israel is the best ally that the United States has at the U.N.

Another thing Harry Truman used to say is, "Let's look at the record." I have looked at the record and Israel is our best ally. Now, some might say, well, we have a lot of other allies around the world. But a lot of time when push comes to shove, they are not there for us, they do not vote with us, they do not act with us.

I remember in the early days of the Reagan administration, when President Ronald Reagan wanted to do a retaliatory strike against Libya for its terrorist activities. We went to one of our traditional allies, which would not exist if it were not for the United States of America and what we did in World War II, and we did not ask for money, we did not ask for any military personnel, and we did not ask for planes. The President said, on our way to do the mission, can we fly through your airspace. And our ally said, no.

I submit to my colleagues that with allies like that, we do not need enemies.

So I stand here before my colleagues today in support of a true ally, who once again takes the risk for peace. And as they step forward and take that risk again, I join with my colleagues in making the point that it is now time for Syria to reciprocate.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gen-

tlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY), a person who has spent years working for Middle East peace and for peace in this country as well. She is a mentor of mine and one who has no peer on this subject, a person with whom I have had the pleasure of being in Israel with on three different occasions.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I stand in strong support of this resolution. And, first, I want to thank my good colleague, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS), for that very gracious introduction.

I remember that trip to Israel, and I remember very well when the gentleman and I and the black caucus visited all the sites, and every one came back committed, understanding the strong relationship between Israel and the United States and the importance of that relationship, and that our support for Israel is in the interest of the United States. I appreciate the gentleman's generosity as a very, very strong supporter, which the gentleman is.

I want to commend Israel, Mr. Speaker, on the completion of its historic withdrawal from southern Lebanon, the latest in one of many risks the government and the people of Israel have taken for peace. This unilateral action is a significant step in the effort to achieve a comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

The people of Israel have had enough. They have seen enough of their sons, their fathers, their husbands die during the last 2 decades. With the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 425, redeployment from southern Lebanon, Israel has taken a very brave step towards achieving peace with their neighbors, a peace that will benefit Israel's children, Lebanon's children, and the whole region for years to come.

This decision has not come without risks. Hezbollah terrorists have consistently staged attacks against cities and towns on Israel's northern border. The withdrawal of Israeli forces have left a vacuum in southern Lebanon, and Syria still harbors 30,000 troops on Lebanese soil. As we stand here, thousands of Israeli citizens have fled their homes in northern Israel to escape violent attacks.

As a champion of Middle East peace, the United States must stand firmly, strongly, and unequivocally with the people of Israel during this difficult time. We must insist on the immediate withdrawal of Syrian forces from Lebanon. We must encourage the United Nations to recognize Israel's brave choice and to help stabilize southern Lebanon and reintegrate it with the rest of the country. Most of all, we must never, ever forget Israel's paramount right to make its own decisions about the security of its people and its border.

I urge all of my colleagues to recognize the courage of the people of Israel, the courage they have shown this week and throughout the Middle East peace

process, and to reaffirm our commitment to the present and future security of one of our very best allies. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT).

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time, and I rise to join in the commendation of the people of Israel and the government of Israel for taking this important step.

It is a courageous step to try to bring some order to the chaos that has been Lebanon. The prime minister of Israel and the government of Israel have taken a very methodical look at what it is going to take to bring peace to that part of the world, and it is clear that the chaos that has been Lebanon has to be brought to order. So the government of Israel, the prime minister of Israel, have unilaterally and courageously taken this step.

We, as friends, deep friends of Israel, must lend our help; and we must call on Syria to follow with full withdrawal from Lebanon so that order can be restored to Lebanon. So I join my friend, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS), and my good friend, the gentleman from New York (Mr. McNULTY), and the others here today in commending Israel and urging our support, the support of the American people, as they try to bring peace to this part of the world, to the Middle East, which has been wracked with war for far too long.

Through this courageous action, Mr. Speaker, I am hopeful that they will have peace now on the northern border and that this will remove some of the difficulties that Syria has been putting in the way. So we here should lend our support and our commendation to Israel.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume merely to commend the majority leader, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY), and the chairman of the Committee on International Relations, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN), as well as the ranking member of the committee, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. GEJDENSON), for their cooperative effort in expediting this resolution in the hope that it will be on the floor for Members to act on tomorrow.

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the measure now under consideration, H. Con. Res. 331.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the concurrent resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KING). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. BROWN of Florida addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

SUDDEN SNIFFING DEATH SYNDROME

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Ms. HOOLEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with my colleagues a story that was told to me by a mother in my community. Kathy Abel of Keizer, Oregon, was met at her doorstep by a police officer to inform her that her 18-year-old son was dead.

Kathy's son James did not die in a car accident or a shooting. Kathy's son died at the hands of an everyday household product. Kathy's son died as a result of inhalant abuse.

Kathy's son James was no different than most high school students. He was active in school, popular amongst his classmates, and on his way to starting his life as an adult.

The death of this bright young man should never have happened. The young man that James was with should not know what it feels like to have his friend die in his arms, and James's family should not have known the hopeless, tragic feeling of hearing that their beloved son was dead.

Most of us do not even know what inhalant abuse is, and too often we find out after it is too late. Inhalant abuse is the intentional breathing in of gas and vapors with the goal of getting

high. Typical substances that are inhaled include gasoline, paint thinner, nail polish remover, typewriter correction fluid, butane and propane.

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These products are typically household items that we all keep in our homes.

In Oregon, a 1998 study showed that 20 percent of 8th graders have tried inhalants. That is one out of every five students. Scarier yet is the fact that children can often die after inhaling these substances only one time. Inhalants also serve as a gateway drug that can lead young people toward other forms of drug abuse.

Let me explain the way inhalants affect the body. Inhalants produce an effect within seconds that may last from 15 to 45 minutes. They will generally act as central nervous system depressants. After an initial euphoria, a depressed state follows that can be accompanied by drowsiness or sleep. Inhalants lower breathing and heart rates and impair coordination and judgment. Dosages must be repeated to maintain intoxication.

Inhalants can cause severe and permanent damage to the brain, liver, kidneys, and other organs. More than any substance, inhalants can cause sudden death resulting from heart arrhythmia and suffocation. Let me repeat that. More than any other substance, inhalants can cause Sudden Sniffing Death Syndrome. This means users can die the first time, the 10th time, or the 100th time. No one really knows.

Today my colleague the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON) and I are introducing a bill that will allow grants to go for education programs to combat inhalant abuse. If passed, this legislation will bring much-needed attention to this very serious problem.

It is never too early to teach our children about the dangers of inhalants. Inhalant use starts as early as elementary school. Parents often remain ignorant of inhalant use or do not educate their children until it is too late.

Let me remind my colleagues, inhalants are not drugs. They are poisons and toxins and should be discussed as such.

The Partnership for a Drug-Free America produced this ad in Monday's New York Times. It says, "Every parent should take a drug test. Learn about inhalants. What you don't know may surprise you."

Mr. Speaker, I include the article for the RECORD:

[From the New York Times, May 22, 2000]
EVERY PARENT SHOULD TAKE A DRUG TEST
LEARN ABOUT INHALANTS. WHAT YOU DON'T
KNOW MAY SURPRISE YOU

An alarming number of children across the country are using household products to get high.

If you're going to protect your kids, you'd better know something about this problem.

Here's a chance to test yourself. The answers are printed below.