

Since then, Mr. Speaker, Aung San Suu Kyi has been tossed back and forth in and out of prison and house arrest as though she were simply a pawn in the tumultuous and chaotic game being played by the corrupt fat cats running Burma. But like the people of her nation, she is in fact much more than a pawn; she is an ardent champion of freedom, an exemplary defender of democracy, and one of the strongest willed moral beacons on this planet.

She stands firmly in the tradition of Gandhi, Mandela, Martin Luther King, and all other voices of the oppressed. Those legendary figures eventually delivered their people to freedom, and we in this Congress aim to help Aung San Suu Kyi to do just that.

Inspired by her resolve and the resolve of the Burmese people, this Congress has been committed to their cause for many years. Today, we renew import sanctions aimed at forcing democratic change in Burma, which I can say categorically is one of the most repressive regimes on the planet.

America's tough sanctions against Burma, including an import ban, export sanctions, and arms embargo and financial sanctions, have spurred the civilized nations of the world to take similar actions against Burma. The European Union recently updated its own set of sanctions, though they need to be even tougher. The leading members of ASEAN, who for years went out of their way to defend Burma's horrendous behavior, are now exercising their significant diplomatic muscle to promote democratic change in Burma and to free Aung San Suu Kyi.

□ 1345

The United Nations has held its first ever Security Council debate on the security threat to the Asia Pacific region posed by the Burmese regime.

But too many other nations, India and China in particular, continue to prop up the government through shockingly direct, blatant deals, including arms trading with this cruel junta in Burma.

Just this past week, Mr. Speaker, the BBC reported that in any major hotel in Rangoon, and I quote, "Russian arms dealers, South Korean and French oilmen, Singaporean consultants and Chinese bankers are all mingling over cocktails with their Burmese counterparts."

Mr. Speaker, these despicable deals undermine the entire international effort to help the Burmese people. And so today, as we renew our import sanctions, we aim both to pressure directly the military junta in Burma, and to influence those in the international community who are currently asleep at the wheel of justice and human rights. Oppressive power can only be delegitimized when it is fully isolated.

Mr. Speaker, Aung San Suu Kyi remains imprisoned. So do the people of Burma. Even out of power and out of sight, she remains a powerful symbol and, therefore, a leader of the plight of

some 50 million people in her native land of Burma. We must do our part to carry her torch. And I urge all of my colleagues to vote today for these sanctions once again.

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the comments of my friends and colleagues across the aisle.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I want to add my admiration for the comments on both sides of the aisle, for the statement of the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. PORTER) and the very eloquent words of my colleague from California. I hope, as we proceed to pass this, that the words will be remembered, and that they will echo beyond Washington, D.C., through capitals everywhere, so others will join us in trying to help bring about the freedom that the vast majority of people of Burma truly desire.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the joint resolution, H.J. Res. 44, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the joint resolution, as amended, was passed.

The title was amended so as to read: "Joint resolution approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003, and for other purposes."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING COWGIRLS FOR WINNING THE WOMEN'S NATIONAL INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 384) congratulating the University of Wyoming Cowgirls for winning the Women's National Invitational Tournament for the first time and for their most successful season in school history.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 384

Whereas on March 31, 2007, the University of Wyoming Cowgirls defeated the University of Wisconsin Badgers by a score of 72-56 in the championship basketball game of the Women's National Invitation Tournament;

Whereas the victory of these 14 very accomplished young women and their coach, Joe Legerski, was witnessed by over 15,000 fans at the University of Wyoming's sold out Arena-Auditorium;

Whereas the Cowgirls won 21 games in their regular season and tied for second in the Mountain West Conference (MWC);

Whereas Jodi Bolerjack scored 16 points in the championship game and earned Third Team All-MWC honors;

Whereas Elisabeth Dissen scored the last shot for the Cowgirls of the first half, giving the team a 39-26 lead;

Whereas Megan McGuffey scored back-to-back layups in the second half, totaling 10 points for the game, and received the MWC Newcomer of the Year honor;

Whereas Justyna Podziemska scored 16 points in the championship game, had 10 rebounds, and 8 assists;

Whereas Dominique Sisk scored 5 points, had 2 assists, and 7 rebounds for the Cowgirls;

Whereas Rebecca Vanderjagt scored 4 points and had 1 block during the championship game;

Whereas Aubrey Vandiver brought a strong end to the first half, shooting or assisting the last seven points;

Whereas Hanna Zavecz scored 12 points and earned the award of the Women's National Invitation Tournament Most Valuable Player;

Whereas Amy Bolerjack, Mallory Cline, Annie Gorenstein, Angiah Harris, Gemma Koehler, and Megan Mordecai also contributed to the team's top season; and

Whereas these top athletes are also dedicated to academic achievement, and serve as the standard of excellence, scholarship, and sportsmanship for the entire Nation: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives congratulates the University of Wyoming women's basketball team for their championship victory in the 2007 National Invitational Tournament.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) and the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may insert material relevant to House Resolution 384 into the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

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

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

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the University of Wyoming Cowgirls for winning the 2007 Women's National Invitational Tournament basketball tournament.

On March 31, 2007, the University of Wyoming won the Women's NIT by defeating the University of Wisconsin Badgers 72-56. The Cowgirls won the title in front of the largest women's basketball audience in school history, with over 15,000 in attendance.

Wyoming had their most successful season in team history, winning 21 regular-season games and tying for second in the Mountain West Conference. Overall, the Cowgirls finished 27-9, besting the previous team record of 25 wins, a record which had stood for nearly 30 years. They also advanced deeper into postseason play than any Cowgirls basketball team before them.

I want to congratulate head coach Joe Legerski, athletic director Tom Berman, University of Wyoming president Tom Buchanan, and the student athletes who won the NIT title.

I also want to extend my congratulations to the University of Wisconsin Badgers on their impressive season. Wisconsin finished their season with a school record 23 wins. Their 17 home wins were also the most in program history.

Winning the NIT title for the first time proved the Cowgirls have arrived as a force on the national scene, and I know all the fans of the university will continue to be proud of this team for years to come.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 384, congratulating the University of Wyoming's women's basketball team for winning the 2007 NCAA Division I Woman's National Invitational Tournament Championship.

On March 31, 2007, the University of Wyoming Cowgirls basketball team defeated the University of Wisconsin by a score of 72–56 to capture the NIT title and conclude their most successful season in school history.

Led by junior Hanna Zaveckz, the tournament MVP, and junior Jodi Bolerjack, who scored 16 points in the championship game, the Cowgirls of Wyoming truly had a remarkable season in which they compiled a record of 27–9, finishing second in the Mountain West Conference.

The tournament title capped what ended up being the most successful season ever for the Cowgirls basketball team in school history. No Wyoming Cowgirls team had won as many games. The previous record was set by the 1978–79 team, which finished at 25–7, and no team ever advanced so far in postseason play.

As the State's sole 4-year educational institution, the University of Wyoming receives strong support from the State and its residents, making it the perfect place for a great learning environment. The university was recently ranked by the Princeton Review as one of the Nation's best colleges for 2006, and the College of Business Department of Economics and Finance was also ranked 10th in the Nation and 12th in the world for its program in resource and environmental economics.

I extend my congratulations to head coach Joe Legerski, athletic director Tom Berman, president Tom Buchanan, all of the hard-working players, the fans and to the University of Wyoming.

I'm happy to join my good friend and colleague Representative CUBIN in honoring this exceptional team and all the accomplishments, and wish all involved continued success.

I join with my colleague from the Education and Labor Committee, Mr. SARBANES, in support of this resolution.<sup>064</sup>

I have no further speakers and would yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this measure, and I yield back my time.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I might also ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on House Joint Resolution 44, as amended, that was previously discussed.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 384.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 561) recognizing the 20th anniversary of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and the impact it has made on homelessness and endeavoring to continue working to eliminate homelessness in the United States.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

#### H. RES. 561

Whereas July 22, 2007, is the 20th anniversary of the enactment of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, which was renamed the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act in October 2000;

Whereas Representatives Stewart B. McKinney and Bruce Vento worked tirelessly in the Congress to develop a Federal response to homelessness;

Whereas Representative Stewart B. McKinney was committed to exposing the depth of the growing problem of homelessness in the 1980s;

Whereas Representative Stewart B. McKinney was a recognized expert on Federal housing law and urban affairs who successfully amended the National Housing Act and the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 to better target Federal aid to smaller cities, but became terminally ill with pneumonia after sleeping on a grate outside a Federal building with the homeless of Washington, DC;

Whereas in 1985, after personally viewing the circumstances of the homeless and the need for crisis intervention in his congressional district in St. Paul, Minnesota, Representative Bruce Vento introduced a resolution to express the sense of the Congress that homelessness is a national problem requiring a national solution;

Whereas throughout his career, Representative Vento remained dedicated to securing a commitment of Federal resources to address homelessness;

Whereas the programs established by the McKinney-Vento Act have provided housing, education, health care, and job training as-

sistance, and critical outreach, to thousands of homeless men, women, and children in the United States;

Whereas the Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program of the McKinney-Vento Act has resulted in a significant increase in the number of homeless children and youth attending school on a regular basis;

Whereas the McKinney-Vento Act was intended to be only an emergency response and not the sole Federal response to homelessness;

Whereas over the course of a year, as many as 3,500,000 persons are estimated to experience homelessness in the United States;

Whereas approximately 400,000 veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States experience homelessness at some point over the course of a year;

Whereas the homeless population includes vulnerable groups such as children, unaccompanied youth, and persons with disabilities; and

Whereas there were at least 142 unprovoked assaults against homeless persons in 2006, including 20 that resulted in death: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the 20th anniversary of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and the impact it has made on homelessness in the United States;

(2) recognizes the positive impact the McKinney-Vento Act has had on hundreds of thousands of homeless men, women, children, and youth in the United States;

(3) recognizes the substantial contributions of Representatives Stewart B. McKinney and Bruce Vento in addressing homelessness;

(4) recognizes that homelessness continues to be an urgent problem in the United States;

(5) commends the dedication and commitment of service providers, including faith-based and nonprofit organizations, who are working to end homelessness in their communities and provide emergency food, shelter, and services to homeless Americans;

(6) recognizes that the lack of affordable housing exacerbates homelessness in the United States;

(7) supports the continued efforts of Federal, State, and local governments and private non-profit organizations in their efforts to prevent and end homelessness through the development of affordable housing;

(8) recognizes that the life expectancy of a homeless person in the United States is 30 years shorter than that of the average American and supports efforts to improve the health of homeless Americans;

(9) supports efforts to prevent and end homelessness among veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States;

(10) supports efforts to ensure accurate and timely processing of applications for disability benefits as a means of decreasing homelessness among disabled persons;

(11) recognizes that the safety and well-being of homeless persons is an urgent problem;

(12) recognizes the critical role of education and public schools in preventing and ending homelessness, and supports efforts to improve stability, services, and access to school for homeless children and youth; and

(13) endeavors to work with the same courage, dignity, and determination exemplified by Representatives McKinney and Vento to eliminate homelessness in the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK) and the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS) each will control 20 minutes.