

Oliver	Salazar	Taylor
Pallone	Sánchez, Linda	Terry
Pascarell	T.	Thompson (CA)
Pastor	Sanchez, Loretta	Thompson (MS)
Pearce	Sarbanes	Tiahrt
Pence	Saxton	Tiberi
Perlmutter	Scalise	Tierney
Peterson (MN)	Schiff	Towns
Peterson (PA)	Schmidt	Tsongas
Pickering	Schwartz	Turner
Pitts	Scott (GA)	Udall (CO)
Pomeroy	Scott (VA)	Udall (NM)
Porter	Sessions	Upton
Price (NC)	Sestak	Van Hollen
Pryce (OH)	Shadegg	Velázquez
Radanovich	Shays	Visclosky
Rahall	Shea-Porter	Walden (OR)
Ramstad	Sherman	Walsh (NY)
Rangel	Shimkus	Walz (MN)
Regula	Shuler	Wasserman
Rehberg	Simpson	Schultz
Reichert	Sires	Waters
Renzi	Skelton	Watson
Reyes	Slaughter	Watt
Reynolds	Smith (NE)	Waxman
Richardson	Smith (NJ)	Weiner
Rodriguez	Smith (WA)	Weller
Rogers (KY)	Snyder	Wexler
Rogers (MI)	Solis	Wilson (NM)
Ros-Lehtinen	Souder	Wilson (OH)
Roskam	Space	Wolf
Ross	Spratt	Wu
Rothman	Stupak	Yarmuth
Roybal-Allard	Sutton	Young (FL)
Ruppersberger	Tanner	
Ryan (OH)	Tauscher	

NAYS—106

Aderholt	Forbes	Miller (FL)
Akin	Fox	Miller, Gary
Bachmann	Franks (AZ)	Moore (WI)
Baldwin	Gingrey	Musgrave
Barrett (SC)	Gohmert	Neugebauer
Bilirakis	Goode	Paul
Bishop (UT)	Goodlatte	Payne
Blackburn	Granger	Petri
Bonner	Graves	Platts
Brady (TX)	Hall (TX)	Poe
Broun (GA)	Heller	Price (GA)
Brown-Waite,	Hensarling	Putnam
Ginny	Hoekstra	Rogers (AL)
Burgess	Hunter	Rohrabacher
Burton (IN)	Johnson, Sam	Royce
Buyer	Jones (NC)	Ryan (WI)
Campbell (CA)	Jones (OH)	Sali
Cantor	Jordan	Schakowsky
Carney	King (IA)	Sensenbrenner
Carson	Kingston	Serrano
Carter	Kline (MN)	Shuster
Chabot	Kucinich	Smith (TX)
Clarke	Lamborn	Stark
Coble	Latta	Stearns
Cole (OK)	Lee	Sullivan
Conyers	Lewis (GA)	Thornberry
Culberson	Linder	Walberg
Davis, David	Manzullo	Wamp
Deal (GA)	Marchant	Welch (VT)
Duncan	McCaul (TX)	Weldon (FL)
Ellison	McCotter	Westmoreland
Ellsworth	McDermott	Whitfield (KY)
Everett	McGovern	Wittman (VA)
Feeney	McHenry	Woolsey
Filner	McIntyre	Young (AK)
Flake	Mica	

NOT VOTING—16

Costello	Gillibrand	Rush
Cubin	Holt	Speier
Cummings	Hulshof	Tancred
Dingell	McCrery	Wilson (SC)
Ferguson	Meek (FL)	
Fossella	Ortiz	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1331

Messrs. WITTMAN of Virginia, ADERHOLT, and FORBES changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ELECTING CERTAIN MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Democratic Caucus, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1256

Resolved, That the following named Members be, and are hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

(1) COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE.—Mr. Childers.

(2) COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE.—Ms. Matsui.

(3) COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES.—Ms. Speier, Mr. Cazayoux, Mr. Childers.

(4) COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.—Mr. Carson.

(5) COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS.—Mr. Cazayoux.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 332) recognizing the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 332

Whereas the United Nations Charter sought to establish an international forum to “save succeeding generations from the scourge of war . . . , reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small . . .”;

Whereas, through manifold works of generosity, the people of the United States exemplify a noble conviction that the deepest yearnings of the human heart for respect and dignity transcend political, ethnic, and religious differences;

Whereas the people of the United States continue to inspire their leaders to prioritize endeavors which bring hope and healing to those in need throughout the world;

Whereas the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on December 10, 1948, as a “common standard of achievement for all peoples and nations . . .”;

Whereas the preamble of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states, “. . . recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice, and peace in the world . . .”;

Whereas the Universal Declaration of Human Rights sets forth a common understanding of universal rights and freedoms and the notion that these cannot be created

and are neither conferred by countries nor by governments, but rather are inalienable rights and freedoms with which all human persons are endowed by their very nature;

Whereas, Eleanor Roosevelt, who led the United States delegation to the first Commission on Human Rights, was responsible for drafting the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in recognition of her unparalleled humanitarian conviction, was elected as Chairwoman of the Commission; Eleanor Roosevelt expressed her vision of a declaration of true universality with enduring principles that would be perpetually recognized by all nations when she stated, as she submitted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights for consideration by the United Nations General Assembly, “We stand today at the threshold of a great event both in the life of the United Nations and in the life of mankind. This declaration may well become the international Magna Carta for all men everywhere.”; and

Whereas United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon noted on Human Rights Day 2007, that “[i]t is our duty to ensure that these rights are a living reality—that they are known, understood and enjoyed by everyone, everywhere”; Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) recognizes on its 60th anniversary year the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a singular achievement of the community of nations;

(2) recognizes the contribution in the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution to the development of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the role of the United States in preserving the legacy of these foundational human rights precepts through its participation in the United Nations;

(3) urges all United Nations Member States to renew their commitment to uphold and promote the transcendent principles of human dignity enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, especially on behalf of the world's most vulnerable persons and those who have no power to advocate on their own behalf; and

(4) joins with colleagues inspired by the spirit of goodwill in parliaments throughout the world in seeking to guide the United Nations and its agencies to serve as effective instruments of genuine and lasting justice and peace among nations.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) and the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROSELEHTINEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution and yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I want to congratulate our colleague Mr. FORTENBERRY for putting forth this very important resolution. He's a very valued member of our subcommittee, and he has been a strong supporter of issues of goodwill.

This resolution celebrates the 60th anniversary of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the first international agreement on the rights of humankind. The universal declaration proclaims the inherent dignity and equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family. It is this universal quality of the declaration that is its strength.

The core freedoms and guarantees are entitlement of all people, not just those from certain groups or cultures. As such, no government or Nation has the power to confer these rights. They are inalienable freedoms with which all people are endowed by their very nature.

The notion of inalienable rights was not invented in 1948. Socrates wrote about ethic laws that were higher than laws of kings over 2,500 years ago.

Even a proclamation of such rights is not new. The Magna Carta, the U.S. Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, the Bill of Rights and the French Declaration of the Rights of Men all articulated specific inalienable rights.

The power of the declaration is that it represents the first comprehensive agreement among Nations as to the specific rights and freedoms belonging to all human beings. It has become a cornerstone of customary international law, binding all governments to its principles.

In the 60 years that I have followed the adoption of the universal Declaration, expansion of the circle of human dignity has come in fits and starts. Authoritarian governments still attempt to limit freedoms proclaimed by the declaration, including political and economic pluralism, a free press, freedom of association, freedom of religion, free and fair elections, and the rule of law. Nevertheless, the declaration allows humble citizens, be they monks in Burma, political dissenters in Cuba, journalists in Russia, lawyers in Pakistan or dispossessed in Zimbabwe, a standard by which to measure and challenge any government. As such, we see roots of freedom and democracy growing in even the most repressed societies.

Our duty is to support the efforts of human rights defenders to expand the circle of human freedoms so that the declaration will, in Eleanor Roosevelt's vision, become the Magna Carta for all men everywhere. As she says, it's better to light a candle than to curse the darkness.

I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution.

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 332, recognizing the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

As we reflect on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the gross

violators such as Iran and Saudi Arabia, we cannot help but think about how these repressive governments manipulate international oil flows to keep us at their mercy.

We must reduce our reliance on these unstable foreign energy sources, and the way to do that, Mr. Speaker, is by finding alternatives to oil dependence. The U.S. should lead the way; yet we're stuck in the past as our global competitors are indeed pursuing 21st century technologies. We must commit ourselves to a comprehensive energy reform policy that will improve energy efficiency and encourage investment in ground-breaking research and advance alternative and renewable energy technologies.

Much like the situation we're facing on human rights at the United Nations, we shouldn't wait 60 years to address the increasing problem of our foreign dependence on oil.

Mr. Speaker, 60 years ago and without a dissenting voice in the United Nations General Assembly, we recognized the fundamental human rights to life, to liberty, to freedom of religion, to freedom of expression, to self-government through free elections, to freedom from slavery and torture and so many other basic rights. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was the product of remarkable international consensus, and it captured the distilled conscience of the world in one of the United Nations' finest moments.

It was not an international law or covenant, and it did not claim to be creating the rights that it included. Rather, its purpose was to serve as a common standard of achievement for all peoples that is premised on faith in fundamental human rights and the dignity and worth of the human person.

We are fortunate and, indeed, truly blessed to live in a country whose constitutional heritage has served to secure those aspirations for all of America's people. But for so many people in the world, the ideals of the universal Declaration are nothing more than an unkept promise.

In Burma, in Cuba, North Korea and Zimbabwe, and many other Nations, people suffer at the hands of self-seeking tyrants and brutal dictatorships. Millions of others endure the scourges of human trafficking, of religious persecution, and other offenses against human dignity.

For those reasons, the universal declaration remains a valuable touchstone, and the United States remains committed to promoting the values that it espouses.

For this anniversary, however, it is also a sad opportunity to reflect on how far the United Nations and its human rights bodies have fallen from the lofty aspirations of the original declaration.

The United Nations Human Rights Council, formed to replace the discredited United Nations Human Rights Commission, has devolved into an offensive farce even worse than its predecessor.

The Council embraces some of the world's most notorious human rights abusers as its members and has ignored genuine human rights advocacy in favor of a relentless, single-minded attack on the democratic, freedom-loving, multi-party State of Israel. In its session in March, the Council passed more resolutions against Israel than against Burma, North Korea, and Sudan combined, and it failed to comment at all on abuses by Iran, Cuba or Uzbekistan.

The Council recently elected Jean Ziegler, a man who has compared Israel to Nazis, and approved a notorious Israel basher as the new Special Rapporteur on Israel and the Palestinian territories, Mr. Speaker. The Council approved this mandate in the very same session that it discontinued its observation of the Congo where rape is used as a weapon against women and children.

In December 1948, Mr. Speaker, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights 1 year and 2 weeks after it adopted a resolution creating the Jewish State that became Israel. It is both tragic and offensive that extremists have been allowed to hijack the U.N. human rights apparatus and turn the United Nations' noblest intentions into a weapon against a democratic country.

It is my hope that the United Nations can somehow recover its moral foundation and credibly place the ideals of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights back at the center of its operations.

□ 1345

Human dignity and American values demand no less.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlelady from Texas, chairwoman of the Homeland Security Subcommittee on Transportation, Ms. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Let me thank the distinguished chairperson of the Africa Subcommittee on Foreign Affairs and the full committee chair, Mr. BERMAN, and the ranking member of the full committee, Ms. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, and the ranking member of the subcommittee that Mr. PAYNE chairs.

This is an important reiteration of this Congress' commitment to the premises of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. And I might read, in part, the language of this declaration that says, "The recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world."

I believe that there is no better time than the time that we are engaged in today, the era of the world status, to reemphasize the importance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed it on December 10, 1948, and the language stated that it was declared as a "common standard of achievement for all peoples and nations." Sadly, in the 21st century, when we would hope to be celebrating the foundation of freedom, justice and peace to the world, the world is conflicted. It is conflicted in Iraq, where the different, distinctive ethnic groups of Shiites, Sunnis and Kurds are engaged in violations, respectively, of each of them by the other. And so even in a place of disruption in Iraq, in a war that I oppose, we have concerns that are ignoring the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. We must call for the protection of human rights in Iraq. We must call for the protection of human rights in Iran.

Today, I had the chance to speak to a young woman in Iran long distance, international conversation to Miriam, a young woman of 22, who had a wonderful vision in front of us for freedom, and the ability to be the best interior designer the world would know. To do that, she must have freedom, justice and peace in the world. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights must apply to Iran.

And as we look to the tragedy in Burma, now some weeks old, to understand that the junta continues to oppress those who suffer from the terrible and horrific tragedy that occurred, that people sit along roadsides trying to find, if you will, the resources that will come to them through the international aid organizations, and their oppressive regime is denying them that right.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. PAYNE. I yield the gentlelady an additional 2 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Can you imagine that the human rights and dignity of those who are already brutalized through a horrific tragedy of catastrophic proportions are now denied their human dignity because this oppressive regime in Burma refuses to allow the international aid organizations to go forward?

I hope by our reemphasizing this declaration, that we will stand in abhorrence, in outrage over such undignified treatment. And then I would ask, as we move forward, that we can no longer tolerate the genocide in Sudan, and the completely reckless response of the Sudanese Government in Khartoum to the dignity and human rights of those in Darfur.

We have a litany of those. Those Tibetans who continue to fight every day in Tibet simply to be acknowledged, simply to allow the Dalai Lama to return over religion reasons. And to think that he has to be denied the right to come back over religion reasons, Mr. Speaker. They allow him to come on political reasons, on government affirmation, on saluting the government, but just to be able to engage in his religious, if you will, expla-

nation, he is denied his human rights, the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world. We could give a roll call along the way of the travesties of justice.

Might I compliment and announce the change-around in Liberia with President Johnson, who recognized a nation that had literally burned the principles of human dignity and human rights; now, with her stellar leadership, she is restoring the dignity to the Liberian people.

It can be done. It can be done in Sudan. It can be done in Bangladesh. It can be done in Burma. It can be done in North Vietnam. It can be done in places where oppression exists. But I rise today to recount the tragedies of denial of human rights, but also to applaud those who have overcome. And I believe it is our responsibility to not only applaud them, but to encourage them.

I ask my colleagues to support this legislation, and let us do it by words and deeds.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FORTENBERRY), the author of this resolution.

MR. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute today to a pre-eminent achievement of 20th century statesmanship, an example of U.S. leadership in the quest for securing fundamental dignity for all human persons.

I would also like to thank Ranking Member ROS-LEHTINEN and her staff, as well as Chairman BERMAN and Mr. PAYNE, my subcommittee chairman, as well for their work in bringing this important resolution before the House.

Mr. Speaker, it was on December 10, 1948 that the memory of a brutal world war, which took over tens of millions of lives, scarred millions of survivors of an unimaginable holocaust, and unleashed the full fury of atomic power on the guilty as well as the innocent, remained vividly etched in the world's collective consciousness that led to this important moment.

In view of this unprecedented devastation, and in the hope of preventing future conflict, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed a Universal Declaration of Human Rights as "a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations." And it also recognized that "the inherent dignity and equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world."

As the memory of World War II fades and recedes into history, it becomes ever clearer to me that our rapidly changing world appears to be losing sight of the guiding principles that have accompanied the promotion of human dignity, peace and prosperity since the earliest progression of civilization. I also believe we are living in a day when the myriad of distractions of modern life in the United States leave precious little time for philosophical

reflection upon the foundations which have guided this Nation through many turbulent times.

To draw attention to these important principles and the pivotal role of the United States in bringing the Universal Declaration to fruition, I was pleased, along with Mr. DELAHUNT, to introduce this resolution to recognize the 60th anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights. It is my hope that this effort will serve as a vivid reminder of the profound contributions of the United States throughout our short history as a champion of human rights around the world, of the work that is left to be done, and inspire thoughtful reflection on the transcended principles of human dignity.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I do believe that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is extremely important. We have to work to have the United Nations. And we certainly celebrate this 60th anniversary.

I urge support for this resolution. I'd like to thank Mr. BERMAN, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN and, of course, Mr. FORTENBERRY for this very timely resolution.

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. I thank the gentleman from New Jersey.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 332, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF SANITATION

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 318) supporting the goals and ideals of the International Year of Sanitation, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 318

Whereas, in 2000, the United States, along with other world leaders, at the 55th United Nations General Assembly, committed to achieving the Millennium Development Goals which provide a framework for countries and international organizations to combat such global social ills as poverty, hunger, and disease;

Whereas one target of the Millennium Development Goals is to halve by 2015 the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation, the only target to be codified into United States law in the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-121);