

what was striking to me is, during the voir dire process, they asked each and every juror whether they thought they could sit fairly on the case before them.

This particular case involved two victims, two people who were murdered, one who was a 16-year-old girl. And it was striking to me, both how many prospective jurors had a family member or close friend who'd been the victim of violence, who had been murdered or raped, how many also who could so relate to the circumstances that they felt they couldn't be fair and impartial. But it was extraordinary. There wasn't a single person really in the jury box that hadn't been touched in some way by violent crime.

And I want to thank the gentlewoman from Maryland for her leadership on this issue and getting us all to take some time to reflect on how violence has touched all of our communities, all of our lives and how we can rededicate ourselves to trying to attack this incredible waste of life. So I thank you.

I urge passage of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HOLDEN). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 757.

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.

#### EXEMPTING FROM CERTAIN PROHIBITIONS SHIPMENTS OF EXPLOSIVES TO INDIAN TRIBES

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1333) to amend chapter 40 of title 18, United States Code, to exempt the transportation, shipment, receipt, or importation of explosive materials for delivery to a federally recognized Indian tribe or an agency of such a tribe from various Federal criminal prohibitions relating to explosives, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1333

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

#### SECTION 1. EXEMPTION OF THE TRANSPORTATION, SHIPMENT, RECEIPT, OR IMPORTATION OF EXPLOSIVE MATERIALS FOR DELIVERY TO A FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED INDIAN TRIBE OR AN AGENCY OF SUCH A TRIBE FROM VARIOUS FEDERAL CRIMINAL PROHIBITIONS RELATING TO EXPLOSIVES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 845(a)(3) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking “to any agency of the United States or to any State or any political subdivision thereof” and inserting “to any agency of the United States, to any State or any political subdivision thereof, or to any federally recognized Indian tribe or agency thereof”.

(b) INDIAN TRIBE DEFINED.—Section 841 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(t) ‘Indian tribe’ has the meaning given the term in section 102 of the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 479a).”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SCHIFF. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 1333 addresses the gap in the law governing the transportation of explosive materials by giving federally recognized Indian tribes the same status already given Federal, State and local governments. In 2002, Congress passed the Safe Explosives Act, which prohibits the transportation, shipment, receipt and importation of explosive materials without specific Federal permits or licenses.

The act exempts Federal, State and local governments from this requirement, but due to an oversight, the exemption does not cover federally recognized Indian tribes and their agencies. This bill corrects that oversight. Fireworks can play an integral role in the religious and cultural ceremonies of many Indian tribes. This bill will facilitate those religious and cultural practices without compromising safety. This act does not exempt Indian tribes from complying with safe storage requirements. Like State agencies, tribes still will be required to comply with Federal explosives storage regulations.

H.R. 1333 enjoys bipartisan support. I thank the gentleman from Arizona, Mr. RAÚL GRIJALVA, for bringing this oversight to the attention of the House and for his hard work on this bill.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1333 makes a simple technical correction to Federal law regulating the transportation and shipment of explosives to provide federally recognized Indian tribes the same exemption as Federal, State and local governments. Under current law the Federal, State, and local governments are exempt from permitting requirements for the purchase or shipment of explosive materials, including commercial fireworks.

Indian tribes, however, are not afforded the same exemption under our law. Fireworks have been a part of the practices of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe and the Colorado River Indian Tribes of Arizona for many years. Some of these practices involve cultural and religious beliefs that are very important to the Pascua Yaqui Tribe, for example.

However, these practices in recent years have been inhibited by the requirements of the Safe Explosive Act of 2002, called the SEA Act. The Safe Explosives Act significantly expanded the Federal explosive laws to include requirements that a license or permit be obtained in order to receive explosives. The SEA Act established background checks and expanded the categories of persons prohibited from possessing explosives. H.R. 1333 ensures that Indian tribes across the country will be able to carry on their same cultural and religious practices that they enjoyed with fireworks celebrations prior to the enactment of the permitting requirements.

It's important to protect the rituals of Native Americans and afford Indians tribes the same treatment under the law as Federal, State, and local governments currently enjoy.

So I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers and will reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POE of Texas. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague from Arizona, Mr. GRIJALVA, for his leadership on this issue and urge passage of the bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1333, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### HONORING DR. NORMAN E. BORLAUG

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 739) honoring the life and achievements of Dr. Norman E. Borlaug for his many contributions to alleviating world hunger.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 739

Whereas the United States honors Norman E. Borlaug as an Iowan, humanitarian, and father of the “Green Revolution”;

Whereas Dr. Borlaug was born on March 25, 1914, and grew up on a family farm outside Cresco, Iowa;

Whereas Dr. Borlaug attended the University of Minnesota, where he received B.A. and Ph.D. degrees and was also a star NCAA wrestler;

Whereas, for over 20 years, Dr. Borlaug was a member of the faculty of Texas A&M University;

Whereas Dr. Borlaug spent 20 years working in the poorest areas of rural Mexico where he made his breakthrough achievement in developing a strain of wheat that could exponentially increase yields while actively resisting disease;

Whereas Dr. Borlaug's "green revolution" uplifted hundreds of thousands of the rural poor in Mexico and saved hundreds of millions from famine and outright starvation in India and Pakistan;

Whereas Dr. Borlaug's approach to wheat production next spread throughout the Middle East, and soon his approach was adapted to rice growing, increasing the number of lives Dr. Borlaug has been credited to saving to more than a billion people;

Whereas in 1970, Dr. Borlaug received the Nobel Peace Prize, the only person working in agriculture to ever be so honored, and since then he has received numerous honors and awards, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Public Service Medal, the National Academy of Sciences' highest honor, the Rotary International Award for World Understanding and Peace, and the Congressional Gold Medal;

Whereas, up until his death on September 12, 2009, Dr. Borlaug continued to work to alleviate poverty and malnutrition throughout the world;

Whereas Dr. Borlaug created the World Food Prize in 1986, which is the "Nobel Prize for Food and Agriculture" and which has honored Laureates from Bangladesh, India, China, Mexico, Denmark, Sierra Leone, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States;

Whereas the headquarters of the World Food Prize is located in Des Moines, Iowa; and

Whereas Dr. Borlaug's humanitarian works have made him an American hero who will never be forgotten: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives honors the life and achievements of Dr. Norman E. Borlaug for his many contributions to alleviating world hunger.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. BERMAN) and the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) each will control 20 minutes. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BERMAN. 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 bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 3 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, on September 12, 2009, the world mourned the passing of a great humanitarian. Dr. Norman Borlaug, a world renowned plant scientist, dedicated his life to ending global hunger and improving the world's food supply. Known as the Father of the Green Revolution, Doctor Borlaug saved more than a billion lives

through his pioneering research and scientific innovation. In fact, he has been credited with saving more lives than any other person in history.

During his 20 years working in the poorest areas of rural Mexico, he developed a strain of "miracle wheat" that drastically increased crop yields and moved the country to food self-sufficiency.

In recognition of his tireless efforts, Dr. Borlaug has received more than 150 international honors. In 1970 he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize and in 1977 the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Two years ago he was presented with the Congressional Gold Medal, America's highest civilian honor. In his Nobel acceptance lecture, Dr. Borlaug stated, "The first essential component of social justice is adequate food for all mankind."

Regrettably, we remain far from achieving this ideal. While, in theory, farmers produce enough food to feed every person on the planet, more people are hungry today than ever before. According to new estimates by the United Nations, over a billion people will go hungry every day in 2009, almost one-sixth of humanity.

We should take this opportunity not only to honor the extraordinary contributions of a true American hero, but to recommit ourselves to the goal of eradicating hunger.

I want to recognize and congratulate the sponsor of this resolution, my good friend from Iowa, Mr. BOSWELL, for introducing the resolution honoring Dr. Borlaug.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, we gather today to honor the life and the accomplishments of Dr. Norman E. Borlaug, a pioneer in the field of the fight against world hunger. The world suffered a great loss with the recent passing of Dr. Borlaug, whose achievements in the field of agriculture have helped to feed millions of hungry people around the world. He passed from this world bearing the title of Father of the Green Revolution, his breakthrough advancement in wheat production and wheat adaptation having proven vital to those in need.

In rural areas around world, Dr. Borlaug's tireless efforts increased wheat output, helping to feed millions of starving people. Dr. Borlaug spent almost 30 years collaborating with scientists to alleviate world hunger through wheat development. In 1944 he accepted an appointment to the Cooperative Wheat Research and Production Program in Mexico, and it was there that he developed high-yielding, disease-resistant wheat, otherwise known as miracle wheat, opening the Green Revolution in global agriculture.

In 1970, Dr. Borlaug was awarded the distinguished Nobel Peace Prize for his work, the only person in the field of agriculture to be bestowed with such an honor.

□ 1315

He was later awarded such distinctions as the Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Congressional Gold Medal.

Dr. Borlaug's work was essential to those in need. He never wavered in this fight to fight world hunger, and he continued his efforts until his recent death. It is estimated that Dr. Borlaug's work helped to save over 1 billion people from starvation, but nevertheless, he warned that what he had helped to achieve was only a "temporary success in man's war against hunger and deprivation," and he leaves behind a world in which many people still struggle to find enough to eat.

Mr. Speaker, challenges remain before us, but we can indeed be proud of the humanitarian work that Dr. Borlaug, an American patriot, demonstrated to the world. Today his Green Revolution stands as a singular success story for our efforts to assist those in dire need of our help around the world.

I am pleased to support this important resolution which honors the life of a true American hero, Dr. Norman Borlaug, whose incredible achievements in the fight against hunger should never be forgotten.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 4 minutes to the sponsor of the resolution, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. BOSWELL).

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

Mr. BOSWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution. On a personal basis, Dr. Borlaug was one of the most unusual people I met in my life. He was so impressive in so many ways.

On September 12, we lost one of the greatest humanitarians and scientists of our century. Dr. Borlaug has been credited to have saved more than 1 billion lives through his breakthrough work in agriculture. He was a truly remarkable man.

He was born on a small farm outside of Cresco, Iowa. After earning his Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota, he joined a research project in Mexico in 1944. Through this work he developed what was called "miracle wheat" that tripled grain output and helped move Mexico to agriculture self-sufficiency. He then shared this new breed of wheat with Pakistan and India and helped those nations to avert the mass famine and starvations that had appeared imminent.

In a recent article in the Washington Post on Dr. Borlaug, it was stated that "in India, Mexico and other nations susceptible to hunger and famine, he was known as one of the great Americans of modern times."

Not only was he a great scientist, he was a world renowned humanitarian. Dr. Borlaug was one of only five people in history to win the Nobel Peace Prize, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and the Congressional Gold Medal. He is in the company of Nelson

Mandela, Elie Wiesel, Mother Theresa, and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He was also named by Time magazine in 1999 as one of the 100 most influential minds of the 20th century.

After Dr. Borlaug won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970, the only time in its history the award was given for achievements in agricultural science, he set out to create an award dedicated for significant breakthroughs in food and agriculture. In 1986, Dr. Borlaug founded the World Food Prize to recognize lifesaving achievements that increased the quality, quantity or availability of food in the world. Then in 1990, the prize was moved to my district in Des Moines, Iowa. Now in its 23rd year, the award has recognized individuals from around the world and has continued to promote global world security.

I mourn the loss of a great Iowan and American, yet I am also reminded of many wonderful memories. He was truly a great person who has had, and will continue to have, a profound impact on all of us. His contributions in the field of agriculture and his commitment to the human condition have fed so many around the world.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this true American hero and father of the Green Revolution with a "yes" vote on H. Res. 739.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I am so pleased to yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LATHAM), a member of the Committee on Appropriations and the ranking member on the Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development.

Mr. LATHAM. I thank the gentlewoman from Florida for yielding me this time for an opportunity to remember a great American, a great Iowan, Dr. Norman Borlaug, and I am very pleased that the whole Iowa delegation has come together and written a letter to the Iowa State legislature and the Governor to ask that a statue of Dr. Borlaug be placed, representing Iowa, right here in our Capitol. I appreciate the cooperation of everyone.

Dr. Borlaug devoted his life to a historic campaign to save the lives of the world's neediest people using agricultural science for the feeding of those individuals. His innovative leadership in plant breeding and agricultural production gave birth to the Green Revolution, and he was credited with saving over a billion—that's with a "B"—a billion lives from starvation and the generations onward. It will be several billion as time goes on.

I think it's interesting that even in his final days at the age of 95, Dr. Borlaug pressed on with his mission to work for the good of all mankind. His accomplishments and his memory will live on continuing to improve the lives of countless people around the world for generations to come.

It was a great honor for me personally to call Dr. Borlaug a friend. I admired him for his vision and all of his

accomplishments, but his modesty was every bit as extraordinary. He once described his work as "a temporary success in man's war against hunger and deprivation." Dr. Norman Borlaug proved that one person can save a billion lives with a powerful vision and a pair of hardworking hands. He will very, very much be missed.

I think a very fitting thing that happened here with Congress was to give Dr. Borlaug the Congressional Gold Medal. I was very proud to have worked together with my colleagues from Iowa to make that achievement. And I think the remembering of his last words is so fitting for the life of achievement that he had and how he believed in basic science and having it actually relate to production agriculture. He was visiting with another scientist that he had taught on his deathbed. The scientist was telling about a new technology he had. Norman Borlaug, if I may try to quote what he said, he said, "Get it to the farmers. Get it to the people who can actually make use of this technology to feed more people to make it actually utilized in agriculture today for the feeding to stamp out this horrible thing we call starvation around the world."

Once again, I thank the gentlewoman from Florida for this chance and this opportunity to recognize once again a great American, Dr. Norman Borlaug.

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. BRALEY).

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding.

I think most Iowans are modest by nature, and that certainly was Norman Borlaug. But there is no reason for modesty today.

The chairman mentioned in his opening remarks that Norman Borlaug was responsible for saving more lives than any other human being in history. Think about that. Why is it that not every school child in America knows who Norman Borlaug was? Why is it that we live in a culture that celebrates celebrity more than achievement?

The reason we are introducing this bill today is to give proper recognition to one of the greatest Americans who ever lived. That's the truth. That's why we were so honored to have the opportunity to honor Norman Borlaug with a Congressional Gold Medal after his other many important achievements. Those of us from the Iowa delegation had a wonderful dinner with him the night before and heard that amazing story about the time when another famous Iowa plant scientist, who happened to be Vice President of the United States, Henry Wallace, flew back to Des Moines and drove in his Plymouth automobile to Mexico City to attend the inauguration of the Mexican President. He stopped in Mexico to talk to his friend, Norman Borlaug; and together these two brilliant Americans who happened to be born in Iowa

talked about charting a future for a plant revolution that changed the face of hunger in the world.

Our challenge is to build on his legacy and to continue his fight against global hunger, global poverty, and to give people around the world the same sense of hope that he brought to his work every day of his life. I am proud to call him someone that we are very honored to honor with this bill and ask for its support and passage.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. KING), a member of the Agriculture, Small Business, and Judiciary Committees.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlelady from Florida for yielding.

This is one of these privileges in serving in the United States Congress to come to the floor and join together as a State delegation, our entire Iowa delegation, to celebrate a life so well lived as that of Dr. Norman Borlaug. I believe all of us knew him in some capacity or another, and we certainly watched his career.

I want to say this about Dr. Borlaug. First, he did go to school at the University of Minnesota, and for my Minnesota friends, I can't even imagine what it would have been like if he would have had a full Iowa education. That's part of the banter that goes back and forth across the State lines.

He was also an NCAA wrestler, which is something that goes along with I can't imagine if he had actually wrestled for the Hawkeyes and what that might have been. However, where are the Aggies today? They've got some bragging rights, too. Minnesotans have bragging rights, Aggies have bragging rights. Dr. Borlaug was on the faculty of Texas A&M for 20 years. They all deserve credit for helping shape the life of Norman Borlaug: his birth and his upbringing in Iowa, his education in Minnesota, his faculty involvement at Texas A&M, and his global reach upon starting the Green Revolution; and, as a couple of Members have said, saved the lives of a billion people, a billion people with a "B."

Dr. Norman Borlaug swept aside the fears of the Malthusians and proved that this planet will produce a lot more food than was previously imagined, and that was before we got to this point of some of the genetic tools that we have within the laboratory today.

So, Mr. Speaker, I want to say that you cannot overemphasize the impact of Dr. Norman Borlaug's life. He is a treasure, and his life and his commitment is a treasure for the entire United States, for all of us. I join Mr. LATHAM, and I believe the Iowa delegation, in calling upon the State legislature and the Governor of Iowa to request that his statue be placed in the United States Capitol where it most rightfully belongs, and it would stand there in good stead with any other statue from any other State and the entire United States of America, a life well lived; and

we are here celebrating that life of Dr. Norman Borlaug.

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. EDWARDS).

Mr. EDWARDS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, one of the greatest privileges of my life was to have met Dr. Norman Borlaug several years ago because of his position as a distinguished professor at Texas A&M University, my alma mater in my congressional district. It is also an honor for me today to rise in honor of Dr. Borlaug whose actions helped save the lives of a billion people and helped prevent untold conflicts across the globe.

To me, he is an inspiration. To others, he was a husband, father, grandfather, Nobel Peace Prize laureate and Congressional Gold Medal recipient. I believe it could be argued that he was America's greatest ambassador to the world. Most of us hope to make some difference for our communities. Dr. Borlaug made our world a better place.

Growing up on an Iowa farm, Dr. Borlaug went from cultivating fields to consulting global leaders all with the laudable, noble goal of feeding the hungry. Dr. Borlaug once said, "Peace cannot be built on empty stomachs."

For his accomplishments, he was rightfully awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970 for the way in which he used agricultural productivity to help create stability and prevent conflict. In 1984, as has been mentioned, Dr. Borlaug joined my alma mater, Texas A&M, as a distinguished professor of international agriculture. His work at the university and around the world is recognized and continued on by those at the Norman Borlaug Institute for International Agriculture whose employees are currently working in conflict areas such as Iraq and Afghanistan to provide assistance and food to those in need.

Despite his unrivaled achievements, Dr. Borlaug maintained a genuine sense of humility. He is truly an American hero whose dedication to agriculture positively changed the landscape of our world.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I reserve my time.

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, the gentlelady from Texas (Ms. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE).

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. I thank the distinguished chairman and the ranking member and the proponent of this legislation, my good friend.

I rise in support of this recognition of Dr. Norman E. Borlaug for his many contributions, raising the bar, if you will, on the horrific impact of hunger in this world.

□ 1330

He engaged in groundbreaking scientific research and personal compassion to help save over a billion people from starvation across the world.

As a member of the Board of Directors of the Congressional Hunger Cen-

ter, I am deeply saddened by his loss. But he deserves countless accolades—and none of these accolades do full justice to the greatness of his achievements in alleviating hunger.

Dr. Borlaug's work was extremely important to efforts of my former colleague Congressman Mickey Leland, who represented my district until his untimely death, trying to alleviate the hunger in Ethiopia on the basis of the continuing drought. Both Dr. Borlaug and Congressman Leland dedicated their lives to fighting hunger around the world.

For 20 years, Dr. Borlaug was a distinguished professor of International Agriculture at Texas A&M University. I believe he had the thesis, Teach a Person To Fish Versus Giving a Person a Fish and It Will Allow Them To Eat Forever.

This particular university is located in my good friend Congressman EDWARDS' district, but it is well respected throughout the State and the Nation. It was the home of Dr. Borlaug's Institute for International Agriculture, which develops and promotes science-based solutions to international challenges to agricultural and food production.

Although Dr. Borlaug was honored throughout his career, I'm proud that he continued to research agricultural techniques to alleviate global hunger until his passing.

He will forever be known as the "Father of the Green Revolution." I believe that his work had to do with ending drought and finding out ways of intervention so that countries that suffered from this weather condition could still have the ability to grow crops.

The Green Revolution developed new strains of crops that could withstand environmental threats like the drought. He is, of course, a significant and respected individual who fought with all of his heart starvation around the world.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 739, which honors the life and achievements of Dr. Norman E. Borlaug for his many contributions to alleviating world hunger. I support this resolution because Dr. Borlaug's ground-breaking scientific research and personal compassion helped to save over a billion people from starvation across the world.

As a Member of the Board of Directors for the Congressional Hunger Center, I am deeply saddened by the loss of Dr. Borlaug. His countless accolades do not do full justice to the greatness of his achievements in alleviating hunger. Dr. Borlaug's work was extremely important to the efforts of former Congressman Mickey Leland, who represented my district until his untimely death in 1989. Both Dr. Borlaug and Congressman Leland dedicated their lives to fighting hunger around the world. Without these great Americans more than a billion people around the world would have died from starvation or suffered from malnutrition.

For 20 years, Dr. Borlaug was a Distinguished Professor of International Agriculture at Texas A&M University, located close to my district. Texas A&M is home to the Norman

Borlaug Institute for International Agriculture, which develops and promotes science-based solutions to international challenges to agricultural and food production. Although Dr. Borlaug was honored throughout his career, I am proud that he continued to research agricultural techniques to alleviate global hunger until his passing. After he had gained international fame for his work he built upon his work to create the World Food Prize, known as the "Nobel Prize for Food and Agriculture."

Dr. Norman E. Borlaug will forever be known as the "Father of the Green Revolution" for his work developing new strains of crops that could withstand environmental threats. He developed a new strain of wheat that resisted disease while increasing productivity in the poorest areas of rural Mexico. The significant impact of his work in Mexico was noted around the world and his agricultural developments spread to South Asia where his wheat strain helped to feed millions in India and Pakistan. Dr. Borlaug's techniques were adopted in the Middle East and adapted to rice production. As Speaker of the House NANCY PELOSI said in 2007, "No person, before or since, has done more to answer the call to help liberate the world from hunger."

In 1970, Dr. Borlaug's significant achievement in agriculture was honored by the Nobel Peace Prize. In 1977 he was bestowed the Presidential Medal of Freedom and in 2006, he was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal. Dr. Borlaug has been honored in the places where his work had the greatest impact. The Government of India awarded Dr. Borlaug its second highest civilian honor. He has an agricultural research building named after him in Bolivia and a street named after him in Ciudad Obregon in the Mexican State of Sonora. Academic institutions and agricultural research centers in Iowa, Minnesota, and Texas bear his name as a tribute to his work combating hunger.

Mr. LOEBSACK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to honor Dr. Norman Borlaug, a great Iowan, who passed away on September 12. I want to thank Congressman BOSWELL for introducing this resolution.

Dr. Borlaug was born and raised in Iowa but his work is well-known throughout the world. Most notably, Dr. Borlaug developed wheat varieties that were disease resistant and also adapted to various growing environments with increasing yields.

These developments helped feed over a billion impoverished people in Mexico, India, and Pakistan, in addition to Asia, South America, Africa and the Middle East.

For this, Dr. Borlaug was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, and has also received the Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Congressional Gold Medal. Dr. Borlaug also created the World Food Prize, sometimes called the Nobel Prize for food and agriculture.

Dr. Borlaug's life and work allowed millions of the world's hungry to know a better and more secure life.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BERMAN. 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 California (Mr. BERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 739.

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.

#### CALLING FOR RELEASE OF LIU XIAOBO

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 151) expressing the sense of Congress that China release democratic activist Liu Xiaobo from imprisonment, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

#### H. CON. RES. 151

Whereas Liu Xiaobo has inspired untold numbers of Chinese people to stare down their government and demand change;

Whereas on December 9, 2008, a diverse group of more than 300 Chinese scholars, writers, lawyers, and activists issued Charter 08, a manifesto calling on the Chinese Communist Party to abandon authoritarian rule in favor of democracy, the guarantee of human rights, and the rule of law;

Whereas Liu Xiaobo was one of the original signers of Charter 08 and was taken into custody shortly before the manifesto was released, has been detained ever since, and now faces charges of "inciting subversion of state power";

Whereas Charter 08 documents the widespread failings of the Chinese Communist Party, calls for urgent and extensive political reforms in China, enumerates and endorses the ideas and principles of freedom, human rights, equality, Republicanism, democracy, and constitutional rule, and enumerates 19 recommendations for political reform within Communist China;

Whereas Charter 08 says that "the most fundamental principles of democracy are that the people are sovereign, and that the people select their own government";

Whereas Chinese authorities violated Chinese law in handling Liu Xiaobo's case, including keeping him under "residential surveillance" beyond the legal time limit and at an undisclosed location, denying him access to his family or lawyers, and refusing to allow a fellow Charter 08 signatory to represent him;

Whereas the signatories of Charter 08 represent numerous strata of Chinese society, including former members of the Chinese Communist Party;

Whereas the document which caused him to be confined to a windowless room, without access to books or writing materials, is as simple as those in the founding documents of this country which have inspired us all for over 200 years;

Whereas Liu Xiaobo signed his name to those simple but powerful words despite having already spent 20 months in prison for his part in the 1989 protests in Tiananmen Square, and three years in a re-education through labor camp for challenging China's one-party rule; and

Whereas Liu Xiaobo's leadership has inspired the Chinese people and the world: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that China's Government immediately release Liu Xiaobo and begin making strides toward true representative democracy.*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. BERMAN) and the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BERMAN. 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 California?

There was no objection.

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

This resolution expresses the sense of Congress that China should immediately release democratic activist Liu Xiaobo from prison. I would like to thank my friend Mr. MINNICK of Idaho for sponsoring this important resolution that allows Congress to stand in solidarity with Mr. Liu and to express support for the democratic ideals he is fighting for.

Last December, Chinese police hauled away Mr. Liu, a writer, former university professor, and a veteran of the 1989 Tiananmen protests just hours after the circulation of an online petition he helped organize. Called Charter 08, this petition calls for greater development of human rights and reform of the Chinese political system.

Charter 08 has more than 300 original signers, representing a broad cross-section of Chinese society, including not only dissidents and public intellectuals, but also workers, farmers, entrepreneurs, professionals, local officials, and others. The petition was circulated widely online and accumulated more than 8,000 signatures throughout China before the Chinese Government shut down the Web site.

Charter 08 was conceived and written in conscious admiration of Charter 77, a document issued in 1977 by dissidents in Czechoslovakia. The Chinese document calls for an end to some features of China's current political system, including replacing one-party rule with a system based on human rights and democracy. The courageous Chinese citizens who have signed the charter are bravely declaring that the status quo in China is unacceptable and unsustainable.

Instead of thoughtfully addressing the ideas raised by the petition and responding to the dissidents, the Chinese Government has sought to silence their voices by harassing, intimidating, and arresting them.

Chinese authorities violated Chinese law in the handling of Mr. Liu's case, holding him incommunicado beyond the legal time limit at an undisclosed location and denying him access to his family or lawyers. In June, Mr. Liu was charged with subversion. He could face up to 15 years in jail.

The Chinese Government seems unaware of the irony of its actions, since its efforts to quash Charter 08 only underscore China's failure to uphold the very principles that the charter advances.

I strongly support this resolution and encourage my colleagues to do the same.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong and enthusiastic support of this resolution which calls for the release of one of the true heroes of the democracy movement in China. I want to thank our colleague from Idaho, Mr. MINNICK, for introducing this measure and for agreeing to include portions of the similar resolution that was introduced 4 months ago beforehand by my friend, the chairman of the Republican Policy Committee, Mr. MCCOTTER.

As a young professor, Liu Xiaobo served bravely as an advisor to the students at Tiananmen Square. For his courageous stand, he was detained and imprisoned by the Chinese Communist authorities. Now he has been detained again.

What led to Mr. Liu's detention this time was his promotion of Charter 08, which he signed last December on the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Mr. Liu's court sentencing awaits, however, another anniversary. A military extravaganza to be staged by China's Communist Party will take place tomorrow. Tanks will roll in once again and the sounds of the boots of PLA soldiers will echo once more in Tiananmen Square as they did on that fateful June night two decades ago when democracy in China was killed.

Tomorrow's holiday, October 1, is remembered as the day in 1949 when Chairman Mao stood atop the Gate of Heavenly Peace and declared victory for Communist forces. After that, things were neither heavenly nor peaceful in China. Mr. Liu saw the need for reform.

He and his associates took their inspiration for a charter calling for greater freedom of expression for human rights and for free elections from the Charter 77 movement in Czechoslovakia. One of the architects of that movement, democracy advocate and former Czech President Vaclav Havel, had this to say about Mr. Liu and his efforts. In a December 19, 2008, opinion piece in the Wall Street Journal, Mr. Havel wrote, "The Chinese Government should learn well the lesson of the Charter 77 movement that intimidation, propaganda campaigns, and repression are no substitute for reasoned dialogue. Only the immediate and unconditional release of Liu Xiaobo will demonstrate that, for Beijing, that this lesson has been learned."

Our words should echo those of that greater fighter for democracy, Vaclav Havel. Beijing, open your eyes. That