

At this time, Madam Speaker, I would like to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MACK), the ranking member of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere and the author of this measure.

Mr. MACK. Thank you to Chairman BERMAN, and a special thanks to Ranking Member ROS-LEHTINEN for all of her efforts and her leadership, for bringing this resolution to the floor. I'd also like to thank my colleague from New York, Congressman TOWNS, for joining me in introducing this resolution. Finally, I also want to thank my chairman, Chairman ENGEL, for his leadership in the hemisphere. It has been a pleasure working with Chairman ENGEL on the important issues facing the Western Hemisphere.

Madam Speaker, the people of El Salvador were hit hard by Hurricane Ida. As a Floridian, I understand how destructive and devastating a hurricane can be. We in Florida know what it's like to see the eye of a hurricane coming our way and how it impacts our lives. My heart goes out to the thousands of men, women, and children who have had their lives completely changed by Hurricane Ida and who are, as we speak, picking up the pieces and slowly rebuilding their destroyed villages.

As the ranking member of the Western Hemisphere Subcommittee, I believe it's important that the people of El Salvador understand that the people of the United States support them during these difficult times. I also think it's important to note how several nations worked together and continue to do so to ensure the people of El Salvador are getting the help they need to rebuild. From Honduras, our forces were able to lift those in need out of harm's way. From south Florida, we were able to airlift much-needed supplies. Those who have participated in these relief efforts should be commended for their help. We are honored by their service.

Madam Speaker, we in Congress remain committed to ensure that the people of El Salvador recover from this disaster, and I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution.

I'd also like to make a quick note, if I could, on an earlier resolution that was brought up, H.R. 2134. And I want to thank, again, Chairman ENGEL for his leadership for introducing the Western Hemisphere Drug Policy Act. The problem of illegal drugs impact people across borders, cultures, and socioeconomic status. When we evaluate the U.S. drug policy in the Americas, we must take an all-encompassing approach to the problem.

This legislation is a positive step towards evaluating U.S. policy. Some have focused on treatment or better education; others have focused on supply and the law enforcement aspect of the problem. But let me be clear, we must make sure that we attack the problem from both angles and all perspectives.

As we continue to address U.S. drug policy in the hemisphere, I know that there will be, as there have been, many obstacles. Some of these include countries that simply refuse to cooperate with the United States. And even worse, Madam Speaker, there are governments that have chosen to be part of or facilitate the flow of drugs into the United States.

According to President Obama, Venezuela has failed during the past year when it comes to counternarcotic efforts. The Obama administration has strong evidence that Venezuela has refused to cooperate on almost all counternarcotic issues. Hugo Chavez' refusal to act responsibly not only hurts Americans, but now Venezuela has the second highest murder rate in the world. The Venezuelan Government's alignment with drug lords is so pervasive that ministers of the Chavez government are now categorized as "Tier II Kingpins." It's pretty clear cut, Madam Speaker, that Chavez and the flow of drugs into the United States is something we cannot ignore.

I want to thank Chairman ENGEL again for his leadership, and urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on the Western Hemisphere Drug Policy Commission Act, H.R. 2134.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of our time.

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, let me just say very quickly, it's been a pleasure to work with the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MACK), as well as the ranking member of our subcommittee.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 213, 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.

#### EXPRESSING SYMPATHY TO THE PHILIPPINES

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 218) expressing sympathy for the 57 civilians who were killed in the southern Philippines on November 23, 2009.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

#### H. CON. RES. 218

Whereas, on November 23, 2009, 57 unarmed civilians were slain in Maguindanao in the worst politically motivated violence in recent Philippine history;

Whereas those killed were on their way to file nomination papers on behalf of Ismael Mangudadatu, vice mayor of Buluan, who intended to run against Andal Ampatuan, Jr. who is currently mayor of Datay Unsu, in

next year's gubernatorial elections to succeed Andal Ampatuan, Sr., the father of Andal Ampatuan, Jr.;

Whereas many of those killed were women and children, including the wife of Vice Mayor Ismael Mangudadatu and his two sisters;

Whereas most of the women were reportedly raped and their bodies were mutilated after being shot;

Whereas as of December 2, 2009, initial charges have been filed in connection with the massacre, according to press reports;

Whereas the Freedom Fund for Filipino Journalists reports that at least 30 journalists and media workers were killed in the Maguindanao massacre;

Whereas, the Committee to Protect Journalists reports that prior to the Maguindanao massacre, 30 journalists had been killed in the Philippines since 2000, and suspects were prosecuted in no more than 4 cases, putting into question the safety of journalists and the integrity of independent journalism in the Philippines;

Whereas government prosecutors and judges with jurisdiction over the massacre have allegedly received threats and have been told to "go slow" on the investigation;

Whereas President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo declared a state of emergency in Maguindanao the day after the massacre, vowing that "no effort will be spared to bring justice to the victims";

Whereas extrajudicial killings and election-related violence are common in the Philippines, though never on this scale and rarely with this level of brutality; and

Whereas the United States and the Philippines share a strong friendship based on shared history and the commitment to democracy and freedom: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) regrets the senseless killing of unarmed civilians and expresses its deepest condolences to the families of the 57 victims;

(2) condemns the culture of impunity that continues to exist among clans, politicians, armed elements, and other persons of influence in the Philippines;

(3) calls for a thorough, transparent, and independent investigation and prosecution of those who are responsible for the massacre, including those who committed the killings and anyone who may have ordered them, and that the proceedings be conducted with the highest possible level of professionalism, impartiality, and regard for witness protection to assure the Filipino people that all the responsible persons are brought to justice;

(4) calls for an end to extrajudicial killings and election-related violence;

(5) calls for freedom of press and the safety of the reporters investigating the massacre;

(6) urges the Departments of State and Justice and other United States Government agencies to review their assistance programs to the Government of the Philippines, and to offer any technical assistance, such as forensics support, that Philippine authorities may request; and

(7) reaffirms the United States commitment to working alongside Philippine authorities to combat corruption, terrorism, and security threats.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ENGEL. Madam 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 York?

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, this concurrent resolution extends our profound condolences to the people of the Philippines who witnessed the worst election-related violence in the country's recent history. I'd like to thank the chairman of our committee, HOWARD BERMAN, for his leadership in bringing this resolution before the House.

On November 23, 57 civilians were killed in Maguindanao in the southern Philippines. They were on their way to file nomination papers on behalf of Ismael Mangudadatu, who intended to run against Andal Ampatuan, Jr., the son of the incumbent governor in next year's elections. Many of those killed were women and children, and at least 30 journalists were also killed, putting into question the safety of journalists and the integrity of independent journalism in the Philippines.

I want to extend my deepest sympathy and support for President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, who has taken strong measures to hold accountable those who are responsible for this atrocity, vowing that "no effort will be spared to bring justice to the victims." The United States and the Philippines maintain strong bilateral ties based upon historical relations, common interests, and shared Values.

□ 1200

This resolution underscores our commitment to its important relationship during these difficult times.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I'd like to yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution which commemorates the victims of the worst political violence in recent Philippine history. The wholesale massacre of 57 innocent persons, including women, children, and journalists, can only be termed as shocking even in this era of mass violence. The fact that this attack, which included mutilation and rape, took place on a convoy headed to register a candidate for election is a cause for concern for all who uphold democratic values and the rule of law.

I held discussions earlier this fall with my Filipino friends, keen political observers who warned of the potential for corruption, intimidation, and even violence in the run-up to elections in May of next year.

Extrajudicial killings have sadly become rather commonplace in the Republic of the Philippines. Over 30 jour-

nalists have reportedly been killed since the year 2000, with prosecutions in only four cases. The pen may be mightier than the sword, but no pen can maintain its strength if so easily cut down.

The Philippines is, after all, no ordinary republic. It is the only Asian nation that first incorporated democratic values as a territory of the United States of America. It was to the Philippines that General Douglas MacArthur vowed to return after the courage of the defense of Corregidor and the agony of the Bataan death march.

American blood was shed, American treasure expended, American youth lost to give birth to the Philippine democracy in the post-World War II world. That is why the massacre of November 23 must be of concern to all of us as the political heirs to those brave veterans of the Philippines. Anything less than a thorough, transparent, and independent investigation of this massacre is unacceptable.

The success of the global war on terror in this volatile southern region of the Philippines depends on a full implementation of transparency and the rule of law.

The People Power Revolution of 1986—which the United States both celebrated and assisted—requires open, fair, and violence-free Presidential elections in May of 2010. Anything less would besmirch the memory of those who have fought and died so that the Philippines might have government of the people, for the people, and by the people. This dream, Madam Speaker, may only be achieved if the truth of the November 23 massacre is fully disclosed.

With that, Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas, Congressman AL GREEN.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. I thank the Chair and the ranking member.

I would like to quickly give 200,000 reasons why we should be concerned about this incident—200,000. That's the number of persons from the Philippines who served with the United States military in World War II.

The Philippines have earned our respect, and they've earned our necessity to step forward in times of difficulty for them. We owe it to ourselves to make sure that injustice in the Philippines is addressed, because injustice there is a threat to justice here, just as a threat to justice for us was a threat to justice for them.

I support this resolution, and I strongly urge my colleagues to vote in favor of it.

I thank you.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. I have no further requests for time. I yield back the balance of our time.

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I just would very quickly like to point out that, besides expressing our deep concern, we also express the concern about the culture of impunity that continues

to exist among politicians, clans, armed forces, and other persons in the Philippines. And this calls on the United States to offer any kind of assistance, technical assistance, that we can, and we stand by the Philippine government's efforts to bring peace, rule of law, and security to the southern province.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res 218, expressing Congress's deepest condolences to the families of the 57 victims of the Maguindanao massacre. I thank my good friend from California, Mr. BERMAN, for authoring the resolution, which I am proud to co-sponsor.

Madam Speaker, when a friend is struck by a tragedy, perhaps the death of a family member, we all know what to do. We call them up, we visit them, we reach out to them. That is what they need at that moment—to know they are not alone, that they are accompanied by friends. I am confident this is happening in the Philippines right now. The Filipino people have strong families, and a gift for friendship.

I think it is like that with nations too. What happened in Maguindanao was such a terrible tragedy that other nations have to reach out and remind the Filipino people that they are part of a great human family, and that other nations grieve with them.

Madam Speaker, lest anyone doubt the importance of this gesture, let me remind them of the outpouring of support, which came from every corner of the globe, after the September 11 attacks in 2001. That meant so much to us.

But, Madam Speaker, the Filipino people also need justice. When a crime is committed on such a scale and in such a manner as the Maguindanao massacre, fundamental issues of justice and human rights are raised. The ambush of 57 people travelling in broad daylight to file a candidate's nomination papers, their forced march to a prepared killing field, their grisly shooting, mutilation, including the sexual mutilation and reportedly rape of women, and attempted burial by government-owned equipment—something is deeply wrong. And let's remember that the murder of 30 journalists is a full-scale attack on freedom of expression—the Committee to Protect Journalists says this massacre was the deadliest attack on journalists since it began monitoring in 1992.

My good friend's resolution addresses these issues. It condemns the "culture of impunity" that precedes and enables such a crime, and calls for a "transparent and independent investigation and prosecution" of those responsible, and the proceedings to be conducted with the highest possible level of "impartiality and regard for witness protection." And this is the issue: whether in our own country or elsewhere, whenever a government is unwilling to administer justice, it prepares the ground for human rights violations.

This resolution also calls for an end to extrajudicial killings and political violence, and for press freedom and safety. Finally, it urges our government to offer technical assistance to the investigation.

Madam Speaker, let us ask God to comfort all those who have lost family members and friends in this terrible crime. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. ENGEL. With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 218.

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.

**ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

The motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 3288, by the yeas and nays;

Suspending the rules and agreeing to: H. Con. Res. 199, by the yeas and nays;

H. Con. Res. 206, by the yeas and nays;

H. Res. 940, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

**MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 3288, TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to instruct on H.R. 3288 offered by the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LATHAM) on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk will redesignate the motion.

The Clerk redesignated the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to instruct.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 212, nays 193, not voting 29, as follows:

[Roll No. 931]

YEAS—212

Aderholt	Boustany	Conaway
Adler (NJ)	Brady (TX)	Cooper
Akin	Braley (IA)	Costa
Alexander	Bright	Crenshaw
Altmire	Brown (SC)	Cuellar
Austria	Brown-Waite,	Culberson
Bachmann	Ginny	Dahlkemper
Bachus	Buchanan	Davis (KY)
Baird	Burgess	Deal (GA)
Barrow	Burton (IN)	Dent
Bartlett	Buyer	Diaz-Balart, L.
Barton (TX)	Calvert	Diaz-Balart, M.
Bean	Camp	Doggett
Biggert	Cantor	Donnelly (IN)
Bilbray	Cao	Dreier
Bilirakis	Capito	Duncan
Bishop (UT)	Carney	Ehlers
Blackburn	Carter	Ellsworth
Blunt	Cassidy	Emerson
Boccheri	Castle	Flake
Boehner	Chaffetz	Fleming
Bonner	Childers	Forbes
Bono Mack	Coble	Fortenberry
Boozman	Coffman (CO)	Foster
Boren	Cole	Fox

Franks (AZ)	Lungren, Daniel	Rogers (KY)
Frelinghuysen	E.	Rogers (MI)
Gallegly	Mack	Rohrabacher
Garrett (NJ)	Manzullo	Rooney
Gerlach	Marchant	Ros-Lehtinen
Giffords	Marshall	Roskam
Gingrey (GA)	McCarthy (CA)	Royce
Gohmert	McCaul	Rush
Goodlatte	McClintock	Ryan (WI)
Granger	McCotter	Scalise
Graves	McHenry	Schmidt
Griffith	McIntyre	Schock
Guthrie	McKeon	Schrader
Hall (NY)	McMahon	Sensenbrenner
Harper	McMorris	Sessions
Hastings (WA)	Rodgers	Sestak
Heller	McNerney	Shadegg
Hensarling	Mica	Shimkus
Hergert	Michaud	Shuster
Himes	Miller (FL)	Simpson
Hodes	Miller (MI)	Skelton
Hunter	Minnick	Smith (NE)
Inglis	Mitchell	Smith (NJ)
Issa	Moran (KS)	Smith (TX)
Jenkins	Murphy (CT)	Souder
Jones	Murphy (NY)	Space
Jordan (OH)	Murphy, Tim	Stearns
King (IA)	Myrick	Sullivan
King (NY)	Neugebauer	Taylor
Kingston	Nunes	Teague
Kirk	Nye	Terry
Klein (FL)	Olson	Thompson (PA)
Kline (MN)	Owens	Thornberry
Kosmas	Paulsen	Tiahrt
Kratovil	Pence	Tiberi
Lamborn	Perriello	Turner
Lance	Pitts	Upton
Latham	Platts	Walden
LaTourette	Poe (TX)	Wamp
Latta	Pomeroy	Westmoreland
Lee (NY)	Posey	Whitfield
Lewis (CA)	Price (GA)	Wilson (SC)
Linder	Putnam	Wittman
LoBiondo	Radanovich	Wolf
Lucas	Rehberg	Young (AK)
Luetkemeyer	Roe (TN)	Young (FL)
Lummis	Rogers (AL)	

NAYS—193

Ackerman	Fattah	Lowey
Andrews	Filner	Lujan
Baca	Frank (MA)	Lynch
Baldwin	Fudge	Maffei
Becerra	Garamendi	Maloney
Berkley	Gonzalez	Markey (CO)
Berry	Gordon (TN)	Markey (MA)
Bishop (GA)	Grayson	Massa
Bishop (NY)	Green, Al	Matheson
Blumenauer	Green, Gene	Matsui
Boswell	Grijalva	McCarthy (NY)
Boyd	Gutierrez	McCollum
Brady (PA)	Halvorson	McDermott
Brown, Corrine	Hare	McGovern
Butterfield	Harman	Meek (FL)
Capps	Hastings (FL)	Meeke (NY)
Cardoza	Heinrich	Melancon
Carnahan	Herseth Sandlin	Miller (NC)
Carson (IN)	Higgins	Miller, George
Castor (FL)	Hill	Mollohan
Chandler	Hinchee	Moore (KS)
Chu	Hinojosa	Moore (WI)
Clarke	Hirono	Murphy, Patrick
Clay	Holden	Nadler (NY)
Cleaver	Holt	Napolitano
Clyburn	Honda	Oberstar
Cohen	Hoyer	Obey
Connolly (VA)	Inslee	Olver
Conyers	Israel	Ortiz
Costello	Jackson (IL)	Pallone
Courtney	Jackson-Lee	Pascarell
Crowley	(TX)	Pastor (AZ)
Cummings	Johnson (GA)	Payne
Davis (CA)	Johnson, E. B.	Perlmutter
Davis (IL)	Kanjorski	Peters
Davis (TN)	Kaptur	Peterson
DeFazio	Kennedy	Pingree (ME)
DeGette	Kildee	Polis (CO)
DeLauro	Kilpatrick (MI)	Price (NC)
Dicks	Kilroy	Quigley
Dingell	Kissell	Rahall
Doyle	Kucinich	Rangel
Driehaus	Langevin	Reyes
Edwards (MD)	Larsen (WA)	Richardson
Edwards (TX)	Larson (CT)	Rodriguez
Ellison	Lee (CA)	Ross
Engel	Levin	Rothman (NJ)
Eshoo	Lewis (GA)	Roybal-Allard
Etheridge	Loebbeck	Ruppersberger
Farr	Lofgren, Zoe	Ryan (OH)

Salazar	Slaughter	Visclosky
Sánchez, Linda	Snyder	Walz
T.	Speier	Wasserman
Sanchez, Loretta	Spratt	Schultz
Sarbanes	Stark	Waters
Schakowsky	Stupak	Watson
Schauer	Sutton	Watt
Schiff	Tanner	Waxman
Schwartz	Thompson (CA)	Weiner
Scott (GA)	Thompson (MS)	Welch
Scott (VA)	Tierney	Wilson (OH)
Serrano	Titus	Woolsey
Shea-Porter	Tonko	Wu
Sherman	Tsongas	Yarmuth
Shuler	Van Hollen	
Sires	Velázquez	

NOT VOTING—29

Abercrombie	Fallin	Moran (VA)
Arcuri	Hall (TX)	Murtha
Barrett (SC)	Hoekstra	Neal (MA)
Berman	Johnson (IL)	Paul
Boucher	Johnson, Sam	Petri
Brown (GA)	Kagen	Reichert
Campbell	Kind	Smith (WA)
Capuano	Kirkpatrick (AZ)	Towns
Davis (AL)	Lipinski	Wexler
Delahunt	Miller, Gary	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1239

Messrs. GRIJALVA, HOLT, Ms. HARMAN, Messrs. RODRIGUEZ, HOYER, GARAMENDI, BLUMENAUER, BECERRA, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. SCHAUER, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Messrs. HASTINGS of Florida, LYNCH, PALLONE, ELLISON, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Messrs. GEORGE MILLER of California, CLEAVER, GRAYSON, MCGOVERN, MOLLOHAN, BISHOP of Georgia, KANJORSKI, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. RICHARDSON, Messrs. TIERNEY, DAVIS of Tennessee, GUTIERREZ, RYAN of Ohio, Mrs. HALVORSON, Mr. MELANCON, Ms. DEGETTE, and Mr. COHEN changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Messrs. HENSARLING, POE of Texas, BARTON of Texas, YOUNG of Alaska, Mrs. DAHLKEMPER, Messrs. ADLER of New Jersey, DOGGETT, and HODES changed their vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the motion to instruct was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. PETRI. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 931, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

**RECOGNIZING ECHO COMPANY OF 100TH BATTALION OF THE 442D INFANTRY**

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BLUMENAUER). The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 199, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by