

When the stimulus was passed a year ago, we were promised—promised—that jobs would be saved. Instead, we've seen 3½ million people lose their jobs. We were promised unemployment wouldn't go above 8 percent, and yet it's hovering at 10 percent.

Defenders of the stimulus bill argue that the situation would be much worse if the stimulus had never taken effect. But many economists are starting to ask a different question: Could it be that the stimulus itself is adding to job losses?

Today's Wall Street Journal features an op-ed by Robert Barro, who is a professor of economics at Harvard University. He argues that the forgotten element in the stimulus debate is whether the government's spending reduced or enhanced private spending and whether public sector hiring lowered or raised private hiring. He argues that opening the spigots of government spending has actually had a negative impact on our economy.

To quote Mr. Barro: "Viewed over 5 years, the stimulus package is a way to get an extra \$600 billion of public spending at the cost of \$900 billion in private expenditure."

This is a bad deal.

UP TO THE CHALLENGE

(Mrs. DAVIS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, over the past week, the Olympics have been a reminder of how supportive and impressive our country truly is and what it can do when we come together for a common goal. But I know that feeling doesn't always translate to the issues that are weighing heavy on people across our country.

Every day, my constituents tell me that they need jobs and job security, as well as loans for small businesses and home mortgages, and they worry about excessive government spending, our debt to foreign nations, and unconscionable Wall Street payments.

We have saved our economy from the brink, but we cannot ignore the challenges still before us. We need to continue to pair fiscal responsibility with thoughtful job creation by encouraging small business growth and supporting needed infrastructure projects. And we have to keep holding Wall Street accountable by cracking down on big bonuses and making sure that taxpayers never have to bail it out again.

After spending time with my constituents in San Diego, I know what the American people want us to focus on. We need jobs, Mr. Speaker. We need to think about the future, we need to focus on our kids and their education.

This body, Mr. Speaker, is up to the challenge, and we need to move forward.

IT ISN'T WORKING

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana asked and was given permission to address the

House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I've had six town meetings in the last couple of weeks, and if I were talking to the President, I would like to tell him what those people have been saying.

Number one, they don't want a government-controlled health care plan. They just don't want it. And second, they want jobs.

What we ought to be doing is cutting spending and doing what Ronald Reagan did, and that is cutting taxes across the board. People said that was the wrong thing to do then, but it created 20 years of prosperity because we knew that if people had more disposable income, they would spend it and it would create jobs and a sound economy.

Instead, what have we got? Since the Democrats have taken control of Congress 3 years ago, we've got 7½ million jobs that have been lost. And since the President signed the stimulus bill—the jobs bill—we've lost 3.3 million jobs.

"It isn't working," if I were talking to the President I would tell him. It isn't working. We should focus on what's important now—not the health care bill. We need to solve that problem. But the first thing we need to do is cut spending, cut taxes, and that will create a sound economy.

THE STIMULUS BILL HAS WORKED

(Mr. GARAMENDI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I thought I would never hear such foolishness in all my life. In fact, in California, the stimulus bill has worked. We have thousands of teachers that are in the classroom teaching. In my own district, we have a \$970 million stimulus program that is going to provide 6,000 jobs directly to drill a tunnel through the Caldecott Hills so that we can deal with the transportation program.

Thousands of people are working. It was David Stockman on national TV last week who said he no longer believes that you can move this economy forward by cutting taxes. And he was, as I recall, Mr. Reagan's budget director.

The fact of the matter is times have changed, and this call of cutting taxes and ending the stimulus is a lot of foolishness. We need jobs. We need to put people to work. That's the role of the Federal Government. And I would remind my colleagues on the other side that every industrialized nation of the world has done more to stimulate their economy than has ours, and they've been more successful.

We need a new jobs bill. We need those jobs now. And we also need to pay attention to what Mr. Stockman said.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

RECOGNIZING THE BRAVERY AND EFFORTS OF THE MEMBERS OF OPERATION UNIFIED RESPONSE

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1066) recognizing the bravery and efforts of the United States Armed Forces, local first responders, and other members of Operation Unified Response for their swift and coordinated action in light of the devastation wrought upon the nation of Haiti after a horrific 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck Port-au-Prince and surrounding cities on January 12, 2010.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1066

Whereas the recent crisis in Haiti was caused by a magnitude 7.0 earthquake, the worst the nation has experienced in over two centuries;

Whereas the disaster wrought by this earthquake has been catastrophic, destroying ports, infrastructure, hospitals, schools, homes, and businesses, making many roads impassable and incapacitating air travel, and severely hampering the efforts of disaster relief organizations;

Whereas one week after the earthquake hit, electricity was still down, running water was not available, and food supplies were quickly dwindling;

Whereas the cities of Port-Au-Prince, Jacmel, Gonaives, Petionville, and surrounding areas have been devastated, affecting an estimated 3,000,000 Haitians;

Whereas the United States Coast Guard was the first to represent the United States in Haiti after the catastrophic earthquake and was an integral part of the initial relief efforts;

Whereas the ability of the Coast Guard to act quickly and efficiently set the foundation for the quickly escalating international response;

Whereas within the first 10 days, 24 United States Navy and Coast Guard vessels, thousands of international United States Army Reserve rescue workers, over 14,000 members of the United States Armed Forces, 71 United States helicopters, and 26 Department of Health and Human Services personnel arrived or were en route to provide logistical support, secure aid distribution, and set up temporary housing;

Whereas after just one week, Joint Task Force Haiti (JTF-Haiti) had established multiple forward operating bases throughout Haiti and immediately started passing out thousands of meals and bottled water;

Whereas in just one day, JTF-Haiti was able to deliver 396,808 water bottles, 238,585 meals, and 4,900 lbs. of medical supplies to Haitian survivors;

Whereas the United States Southern Command (SOUTHCOM) and the United States

Coast Guard have managed the safe arrival and departure of military and humanitarian flights at Port-Au-Prince Airport;

Whereas within the first 10 days, more than 11,000 United States citizens were evacuated;

Whereas the USNS Comfort hospital ship arrived in less than a week providing 600 medical personnel and the ability to treat more than a 1,000 patients;

Whereas the USNS Comfort has already treated 1,427 patients from 10 different hospital sites;

Whereas within the first two weeks, Department of Defense personnel distributed 1,820,463 bottles of water, 1,465,569 meals, and 57,083 lbs. of medical equipment;

Whereas these operations delivered life sustaining food, water, and medical supply packages to Haiti's displaced;

Whereas during coordinated relief efforts by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), members of the United States Armed Forces, including members of the Army Reserves, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Department of Defense, the Department of State, and the United Nations, personnel and equipment to manage 8 hospitals were delivered to provide crucial emergency medical services, and 6 field hospitals were set up, resulting in thousands of lives saved;

Whereas the first responders teams that readily responded to the call for assistance for the Haitian people within the first 24 hours after the disaster include the Miami-Dade Search and Rescue Team of Miami-Dade County, Florida, Fairfax County Search and Rescue Team of Fairfax County, Virginia, U.S. Urban Search and Rescue Teams (US&R) of Los Angeles County, New York City Firefighters, the BATAAN Amphibious Readiness Group (ARG)/Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU), and the NASSAU ARG/MEU;

Whereas the coordinated relief efforts of the United States, international agencies, and the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) in the first week resulted in 122 courageous rescues of Haitians trapped beneath rubble, including a 2-year-old girl who had been trapped for 6 days;

Whereas during the ongoing relief efforts, USAID, members of the United States Armed Forces, including members of the Army Reserves, FEMA, the Department of Defense, the Department of State, and the United Nations coordinated teams that delivered 1,910 short tons of humanitarian aid in the first week; and

Whereas additionally, 954 Department of Defense, private, and commercial airlift sorties have been successfully conducted: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the efforts of the United States Armed Forces, local first responders, and other members of Operation Unified Response for their swift, compassionate, and courageous action to meet the needs of Haiti's citizens and government and facilitate the evacuation, safety, and medical attention for United States citizens impacted by the earthquake in Haiti;

(2) recognizes the remarkable response by the men and women in the United States Armed Forces for their ability to deploy such a sizeable force in such a short amount of time while also engaged in two separate conflicts; and

(3) recognizes the dedication and sacrifice put forward by United States public servants to procure and deliver the enormous amounts of food, water, medical and hygienic supplies, and shelter and for their tireless effort to repair and rebuild critical infrastructure for the benefit of all Haitians.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON) and the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. FLEMING) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1066, recognizing the bravery and efforts of the United States Armed Forces, local first responders, and all of those involved in Operation Unified Response. I want to thank my colleagues for bringing this important measure before the House.

On January 12, a massive earthquake struck the nation of Haiti that was followed by a series of very powerful aftershocks that left catastrophic damage in and around the city of Port-au-Prince. The devastation resulted in an estimated 100,000 to 200,000 deaths, including over a hundred Americans reported dead and 3 million Haitians directly affected by the earthquake.

Within 2 weeks, the United States had deployed 25 Navy and Coast Guard ships, 79 helicopters, 290 vehicles, and 21,493 Armed Forces personnel. Medical military assets had treated over 4,000 patients, of which 2,000 were treated aboard the hospital ship USS *Comfort*. The United States had distributed 1.9 million bottles of water, 1.7 million meals, and over 74,000 pounds of medical supplies.

The United States acted immediately, setting up a whole-of-government response with the U.S. Agency for International Development in the lead and the Armed Forces playing a leading role. Within 24 hours, the U.S. had deployed Air Force special operations forces to secure the Port-au-Prince airport and reestablish airport operations, deployed the aircraft carrier USS *Carl Vinson*, and started preparing both Army and Marine units for immediate deployment to that region.

This critical contribution to the Haiti relief effort comes at a time when the men and women of our military are already being stretched by two wars. Our troops have once again demonstrated their capability to respond quickly and effectively when disaster strikes.

U.S. military servicemembers and their families make tremendous sacrifices both for our Nation and in working to help people in times of need all over the world.

On behalf of Congress, I want to thank our heroes in uniform and all of those involved in Operation Unified Response for the extraordinary contribu-

tions to the Haitian people. I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to first of all thank Mr. SKELTON, chairman of the Armed Services Committee, and also Mr. MCKEON, the ranking member, and other Members who have supported this resolution.

I rise today in recognition of the men and women of the Armed Forces who have played such an important role in easing the suffering in Haiti after the January 12 earthquake that left thousands dead, thousands injured, and the country in ruins. Our military's swift, dedicated, and selfless action provided much-needed rescue, recovery, logistics and security capability in the immediate aftermath, and our service men and women who have done so much to put Haiti back on the road to recovery.

We Americans can understand the impacts of disasters, such as Hurricane Katrina, Hurricane Andrew, the Northridge earthquake to name just a few. So our hearts go out to those in Haiti whose lives have been shattered by this earthquake.

Even so, the extent of the devastation was shocking. In over 200 years, Haiti has not felt as powerful an earthquake as was experienced that day in January. Over 3 million Haitians, a third of the country's entire population, were affected by the disaster. To put the scale of this earthquake's impact into perspective, imagine an event affecting more than 100 million Americans in an instant.

For a country whose infrastructure and services were already insufficient, the effects of the 7.0 earthquake were exacerbated. Buildings throughout Port-au-Prince and the surrounding countryside collapsed like card houses—trapping, injuring, and killing many. The United Nation's peacekeeping force in Haiti to aid in stabilizing that struggling nation was unable to fully respond as it had lost its headquarters and a number of peacekeepers during the quake.

The presidential palace, city hospital, and the World Bank building were all severely damaged. Roads, highways, power lines and basic services were all impacted, making immediate life-saving efforts all the more important and difficult. The images coming from Haiti revealed an apocalyptic scene.

Our military's response was immediate, focusing on life saving and assessment, humanitarian assistance, and disaster relief and evacuation operations. U.S. Southern Command was charged with coordinating and executing all military support and by chance found the Deputy Commander, Lieutenant General P.K. (Ken) Keen, already on the ground as he happened to be in Haiti on an official visit when the earthquake hit.

□ 1400

In these initial moments of confusion, our Armed Forces displayed the focus, determination, and steadiness that we all expect from such a well-trained force.

Under the direction of the U.S. Southern Command, the members of Operation Unified Response worked closely with the U.S. Embassy personnel, the U.S. Agency for International Development, the United Nations, and the many nations and the U.S. States who had sent rescue teams and aid personnel to quickly and effectively assess the damage, begin immediate rescue operations, and open logistical lines so that aid and recovery efforts could begin. All those involved in Operation Unified Response deserve our utmost thanks and praise for their efforts to save lives and restore hope in Haiti.

An estimated 230,000 lives were lost—76 American citizens are among the confirmed dead—and almost 200,000 injured in the earthquake. These already shocking numbers could have been all the worse had our response been any less. Instead, lives have been saved, the injured are receiving treatment, food and water are flowing, and recovery has started.

Mr. Speaker, Operation Unified Response is a reminder that America stands ready to aid a neighbor and friend in need. Once again, our military men and women have been a shining example of the American spirit. Today, we recognize and honor their efforts in Haiti and wish them, and all those helping Haiti recover, Godspeed in their work. And for Haiti and its people, we remind them that we, America, are with them in this time of need.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to my friend, my colleague, and the sponsor of this resolution, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MEEK).

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the chairman, the ranking member, and all of the Members that are cosponsors on House Resolution 1066.

I can't tell you how important this resolution is going to be for our men and women in uniform, not only those in the armed services, Mr. Speaker, but those that are serving as urban rescue personnel throughout this great country of ours.

I can tell you, being a Member of Congress that got to Port-au-Prince shortly after the event took place, seeing some of the loss of life that took place; seeing some of the people that were in desperation because they were without shelter and under blankets that they were using for tents; seeing a number of nongovernmental organizations trying to check their personnel, making sure that they are secure and rescue their personnel and help the Haitian people at the same time; but seeing our military stand up in a way, moving very fast, expeditiously to

Haiti under the command of Southern Command, and also seeing a number including our Coast Guard that was one of the first on the scene; the urban rescue teams that came from not only L.A. County, but Fairfax County in Virginia, Miami-Dade County, New York City, and a number of other areas throughout this great country of ours responded to the needs of the Haitian people, and I can tell you that it was an outpouring of love and outstanding work on behalf of our men and women.

Madam Speaker, I just want to say that I had a chance to go out with the urban rescue team from Miami-Dade County. There were some 40 individuals. They came recently and presented me with this helmet with all of their signatures on it, just to tell them how much we appreciate the fact that we appreciate them for the work that they were able to do. But I have watched these men and women from the south Florida area work 20 hours saving lives, save not only a 2-year-old little girl and reunited her with her father, but there are a number of those kinds of stories that are scattered, and the work that our men and women in uniform have done as relates to saving lives throughout Haiti, but also as it relates to our first responders that are our urban rescue teams, one of the best units on the face of this Earth.

I am glad Chairman SKELTON and the ranking member took the time to allow us to bring this bill to the floor, 1066, to let those individuals know how much we appreciate them, those that are in the armed services, those that are our first responders, those in the recovery process in Haiti right now.

Being from Florida, Madam Speaker, I can tell you that the international response to Haiti is key. It was kicked off by many of our men and women in uniform and those that are first responders. It is an international response now, and it is very important that we continue in that spirit.

With that, I want to thank, Madam Speaker, the ranking member, and all of the Members that signed on to this bill to let these men and women know how much we truly appreciate their help and also their families' sacrifices for allowing them to serve our country and be goodwill ambassadors at a time when the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere needed us most.

Mr. FLEMING. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlelady from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN).

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I rise today as a proud original cosponsor of House Resolution 1066, recognizing the bravery and the efforts of the United States Armed Forces, the local first responders, and other members of Operation Unified Response.

Six weeks ago today, Haiti was struck by the largest earthquake to reach its shores in over two centuries. And while many of us were trying to grasp the tremendous impact of this disaster, the United States Armed

Forces were mobilized. They were engaged in what turned out to be one of, if not the most key operation in Haiti's recovery.

Operation Unified Response was assembled almost immediately following the January 12 earthquake, and it was headed by the largest joint task force in the history of the U.S. Southern Command, SOUTHCOM.

At the height of the emergency relief efforts, there were more than 20,000 U.S. military personnel afloat and ashore working to facilitate search and rescue operations, delivering supplies, providing security in support of humanitarian assistance and disaster relief efforts.

In addition, the men and women of the U.S. military did a remarkable job in quickly standing up the airport in Port-au-Prince and in helping to repair and increase the capacity of many of the destroyed ports in that city. Before the earthquake, Port-au-Prince airport was averaging about 20 flights a day. In the days following the disaster, the airport was processing roughly 120 flights a day and really operating around the clock, 24 hours a day, thereby enabling countless shipments of vital supplies and resources to reach the citizens of Haiti during this most dire time of need.

Under the leadership of General Douglas Fraser, SOUTHCOM commander, and General Ken Keen, commander of the Joint Task Force-Haiti, Operation Unified Response has delivered, to date, and these are amazing numbers, over 2.5 million bottles of water, 2.2 million food rations, 14.1 million pounds of bulk food, and 125,000 pounds of medical supplies to Haiti's earthquake survivors.

In addition, our medical teams from the military have seen over 28,000 patients. They have performed more than 800 surgeries.

As the representative of Florida's 18th Congressional District, I take special pride in the instrumental role that SOUTHCOM has played in these vital relief efforts. I would like to again recognize the bravery of the efforts of all who were involved in Operation Unified Response. Thank you for your service.

And I thank my good friend and fellow Floridian, Congressman KENDRICK MEEK, for introducing this important measure. I encourage all of our colleagues to support it.

I thank the gentleman for the time.

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, before I yield to my friend, the gentlelady from California, let me acknowledge the cooperation of my friend and my colleague, the chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Mr. BERMAN, for expediting consideration of this resolution. I extend these thanks to the committee's ranking member as well, the gentlelady from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN).

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, February 4, 2010.

Hon. IKE SKELTON,

Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, Rayburn House Office Bldg., Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing to you concerning House Resolution 1066, "Recognizing the bravery and efforts of the United States Armed Forces, local first responders, and other members of Operation Unified Response for their swift and coordinated action in light of the devastation wrought upon the nation of Haiti after a horrific 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck Port-Au-Prince and surrounding cities on January 12, 2010." As you know, this measure was referred to the Committee on Armed Services and, in addition, to the Committee on Foreign Affairs for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

This resolution contains provisions within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on Foreign Affairs. In the interest of permitting your Committee to proceed expeditiously to floor consideration of this important resolution, I am willing to waive this Committee's right to mark up this resolution. I do so with the understanding that by waiving consideration of the resolution, the Committee on Foreign Affairs does not waive any future jurisdictional claim over the subject matters contained in the resolution which fall within its Rule X jurisdiction.

Please include a copy of this letter and your response in the Congressional Record during consideration of the measure on the House floor.

Sincerely,

HOWARD L. BERMAN,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
Washington, DC, February 5, 2010.

Hon. HOWARD L. BERMAN,

Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding House Resolution 1066, "Recognizing the bravery and efforts of the United States Armed Forces, local first responders, and other members of Operation Unified Response for their swift and coordinated action in light of the devastation wrought upon the nation of Haiti after a horrific 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck Port-Au-Prince and surrounding cities on January 12, 2010." This measure was referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

I agree that the Committee on Foreign Affairs has certain valid jurisdictional claims to this resolution, and I appreciate your decision to waive further consideration of H. Res. 1066 in the interest of expediting consideration of this important measure. I agree that by agreeing to waive further consideration, the Committee on Foreign Affairs is not waiving its jurisdictional claims over similar measures in the future.

During consideration of this measure on the House floor, I will ask that this exchange of letters be included in the Congressional Record.

Very truly yours,

IKE SKELTON,
Chairman.

Mr. SKELTON. I yield 3 minutes to my friend, the gentlelady from California (Ms. LEE).

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, let me first thank Chairman SKELTON for his leadership, for bringing this resolution to the floor today, and for his support and his love for the men and women in uniform.

I rise in support today of this resolution, which recognizes the honorable efforts of our United States Armed Forces and our local first responders to meet the needs of Haitians following the tragic earthquake of January 12, 2010. We thank them for their service, we thank them for making us very proud, and we thank them for their compassion and their professionalism as they conducted their work.

As Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, I would like to extend our thanks also to Congressman MEEK for his work on this bipartisan resolution as well as for his leadership on issues related to Haiti, which he has demonstrated for so many years, long before this devastating earthquake struck. I actually spoke with Congressman MEEK when he was in Haiti recently, and I will tell you that his work and his insights and his commitment to help those suffering was deep and real.

The CBC has a long history of working with the Haitian and Haitian American communities, and during the current crisis, we have and will continue to work closely with the Obama administration to provide whatever assistance it can to the relief, recovery, and reconstruction efforts.

I would also like to take a moment and thank Congressman MCMAHON and Congressman TIM MURPHY for their work on two more Haiti-related resolutions coming to the floor today. H. Res. 1059, honoring the heroism of the USAID urban search and rescue teams, one of which is from my home State of California; and H. Res. 1048, commending the work of the men and women of the USNS *Comfort* and the United States Navy.

As our President recently said, America has no greater resource than the strength and the compassion of the American people. During the current crisis, we have seen the strength and compassion firsthand. Our Armed Forces, our urban rescue teams, our first responders have certainly shown us this firsthand and, as I said earlier, they have made us extremely proud.

While all of our eyes are on Haiti, we must determine the best way to help Haiti move forward, to empower Haitians to rebuild in a much more sustainable manner, one that can withstand natural disasters and economic recessions alike. What an even greater tragedy it would be if just a few years down the line another disaster strikes and again we look to ourselves to ask the same questions: What went wrong? What do we do now?

So now is the time to garner the support of the international community. Now is the time to develop a strategy to promote the long-term reconstruction and development of one of the

poorest countries in the world yet one we call our neighbor, one whose people are strong and resilient. We have not only the resources; we have the compassion of the American people.

So I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this measure and to express our deep appreciation to our Armed Forces, to our first responders, to the urban rescue teams.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. TITUS). The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. SKELTON. I yield the gentlewoman an additional 30 seconds.

Ms. LEE of California. I just want to make sure that we recognize and understand that this resolution is so important today, because we don't have many opportunities to thank our Armed Forces and our first responders and the urban rescue teams who were the face of America, who are the face of America, as they rose to the occasion to help the people of Haiti in the wake of this ongoing tragedy.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 1066—to honor the extreme bravery, responsiveness and effectiveness demonstrated by our United States Armed Services, local first responders and other members in support of Operation Unified Response led by USAID.

As you know, on Tuesday, January 12, a massive, 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck Haiti near the capital of Port-au-Prince. There is still no official estimate of death or destruction but the damage to buildings is extensive and the number of injured or dead is estimated to be in the hundreds of thousands.

Within hours of the earthquake, the United States sent world-class teams of first responders and search and rescue teams to help search for survivors. These teams, from all across the country, comprised roughly one-third of the entire international search and rescue effort in Haiti. In total, the United States sent over 511 rescue workers. These rescue workers worked tirelessly to search for survivors, and found and rescued more than 130 people from under the rubble. Without these search and rescue units, it is possible that these people would not have been located in time to save their lives.

In the following days, U.S. Southern Command deployed a team of 30 people to Haiti to support U.S. relief efforts in the aftermath of one of the largest natural disasters in the western hemisphere. The team included U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. military engineers, operational planners, and a command and control group and communication specialists arriving on two C-130 Hercules aircraft.

Shortly thereafter, U.S. Southern Command had established Joint Task Force-Haiti to oversee U.S. military relief efforts in which was commanded by U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Ken Keen. From the initial response forward more than 13,000 U.S. military personnel, 19 ships and more than 60 aircraft are supporting operations to provide relief and care to more than three million Haitians who were affected by the January 12 earthquake.

U.S. military forces are currently supporting efforts to provide shelter, establish settlements, and conduct debris removal as well as ensuring the delivery of aid to the Haitian people. They are also assisting the World Food

Program's food distribution surge while continuing to work with the U.N. Stabilization Mission in Haiti, MINUSTAH, the international community and local responders to alleviate human suffering and support humanitarian relief efforts.

The hospital ship USNS *Comfort*, embarked with nearly 1,000 medical personnel, is treating a steady stream of Haitian patients. *Comfort's* hospital capabilities include fully-equipped operating rooms, digital radiological services, a medical laboratory, a pharmacy, an optometry lab, a CAT-scan and two oxygen-producing plants. *Comfort's* bed capacity is about 1,000.

Members supporting Operation Unified Response are also helping move thousands of pounds of medical aid to various distribution points and are working with local officials to address long-term rehabilitation of the Haitian public health system.

As of February 21 the incredible members of Operation Unified Response had delivered more than 2.6 million bottles of water, 2.2 million food rations, 17 million pounds of bulk food and 147,000 pounds of medical supplies into Haiti. Additionally, water production continues as U.S. military and international water purification units produce thousands of gallons of drinkable water daily.

I would like to personally thank the professional team of Sailor, Soldiers, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen of U.S. Southern Command for their role in providing guidance and securing passage for a Texas-based initial response medical team. These military professionals played a key role in arranging for the doctors and medical personnel from the Forest Park Medical Center to obtain the necessary clearance from the State and Defense Departments to fly jets carrying supplies, seven doctors, six nurses, two techs, and two search and rescue volunteers to Haiti.

The medical team, led by Dr. Richard Tousaint, flew from Dallas Love Field Airport and arrived in Haiti where they treated about 600 patients, including 70 amputations, and 150 surgeries. The team also provided medical and supplies to Haiti's Hospital Sacre Coeur.

America is committed to deliver her support to our neighbor who is still in dire need of our continued and immediate humanitarian assistance. This effort will be a monumental task that will take years to complete but we must be resolute to help the people of this struggling island nation rebuild their livelihoods.

To date the United States Government has contributed over \$400 million in earthquake response funding for Haiti. It has also deployed approximately 19,000 military personnel in support of the relief effort. Subsequently, as part of the new Government of Haiti-lead effort, the U.N. World Food Program will provide commodities, non-governmental organizations will manage distributions, and U.S. military will provide security escorts.

America and her allies have delivered a comprehensive, interagency response to the earthquake. The State Department, Department of Defense, Department of Homeland Security, Coast Guard, USAID—all worked vigorously to ensure critical resources were positioned to support the response and recovery effort, including efforts to find and assist American citizens in Haiti.

Once again I am proud of our Armed Services, the first responders and all the members of Operation Unified Relief that deliver an

overwhelming successful initial response. We all owe you a debt of gratitude and our undying support.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to voice my support for H. Res. 1066 to recognize the bravery and efforts of the United States Armed Forces, local first responders, and other members of Operation Unified Response for their coordinated response to the January 12, 2010 Haitian earthquake. I am remarkably proud of the work we have done to assist with the recovery efforts in Haiti after this earthquake devastated Port-au-Prince and surrounding areas.

With this in mind, many citizens from my home city of Dallas answered the call to service and went to Haiti to help with relief efforts. I am particularly moved by the work of Dr. Craig Hobar who is the founder of Life Enhancement Association for People, LEAP, a non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing and enriching the lives of people around the world by providing specialized medical services. Shortly after the earthquake in Haiti, Dr. Hobar was in the country with Dr. Ale Mitchell to help assist with amputations and trauma surgeries. In addition to this, Dr. Hobar has pledged to help bring volunteer medical teams to Haiti from around the world for the next year through the LEAP Foundation.

Madam Speaker, I encourage my fellow colleagues to join me today in honoring all the first responders in Haiti by supporting this important resolution.

□ 1415

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

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, having no further requests for time, I yield back the balance of my time as well.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1066.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

HONORING THE HEROISM OF THE SEVEN URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAMS DEPLOYED TO HAITI

Mr. MCMAHON. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1059) honoring the heroism of the seven United States Agency for International Development and Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance supported urban search and rescue teams deployed to Haiti from New York City, New York, Fairfax County, Virginia, Los Angeles County, California, Miami, Florida, Miami-Dade County, Florida, and Virginia Beach, Virginia, and commending their

dedication and assistance in the aftermath of the January 12, 2010, Haitian earthquake, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1059

Whereas a catastrophic earthquake measuring 7.0 on the Richter scale struck the nation of Haiti at 4:53 p.m. (local time) on January 12, 2010;

Whereas the January 12, 2010, earthquake was the largest earthquake to hit the island-nation in over 200 years and has caused unconscionable loss of life, affected over 3,000,000 people, and caused widespread physical devastation to buildings and infrastructure;

Whereas United States urban search and rescue teams (US&R) were immediately activated and deployed from Fairfax County, Virginia, Los Angeles County, California, and Miami-Dade County, Florida, to assist the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART);

Whereas each US&R task force is comprised of 70 members, who are multifaceted and cross trained in the major functional areas of search, rescue, medical, hazardous materials, logistics, and planning, and who are supported by trained canines able to conduct physical search and heavy rescue operations;

Whereas task forces have been activated for natural and man-made disasters and incidents both at home and abroad, including hurricanes, earthquakes, and the attacks of September 11, 2001;

Whereas New York City's first responders asked the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) to activate a New York City US&R task force shortly after the disaster struck;

Whereas the 511 United States rescue workers comprised roughly one-third of the entire international US&R effort in Haiti;

Whereas more than 130 people have been rescued from under the rubble in Haiti by the US&R task forces, of whom at least 47 were rescued by United States US&R task forces;

Whereas United States US&R task forces deployed to Haiti also trained many of the other foreign search and rescue task forces in Haiti;

Whereas, on January 21, 2010, Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs David T. Johnson and New York City Police Commissioner Raymond W. Kelly signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to provide the Haitian national police, among other police forces, with training and technical assistance; and

Whereas the search and rescue effort in Haiti officially transitioned to a long-term humanitarian relief effort on January 23, 2010: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) honors the bravery and dedication of the United States Agency for International Development, Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance, and Federal Emergency Management Agency supported urban search and rescue teams, the best trained of these teams in the world;

(2) congratulates the 511 United States urban search and rescue workers for the many lives they helped to save in Haiti;

(3) recognizes the contribution of these teams not only in the lives that they directly saved, but to the international teams that they trained and to the people of Haiti;