

Whereas, in October 2011, the Revolutionary Court in Tehran sentenced seven of these BIHE instructors and administrators, Mr. Vahid Mahmoudi, Mr. Kamran Mortezaie, Mr. Mahmoud Badavam, Ms. Nooshin Khadem, Mr. Farhad Sedghi, Mr. Riaz Sobhani, and Mr. Ramin Zibaie, to prison terms for the crime of "membership of the deviant sect of Baha'ism, with the goal of taking action against the security of the country, in order to further the aims of the deviant sect and those of organizations outside the country";

Whereas six of these educators remain imprisoned, with Mr. Mortezaie serving a 5-year prison term and Mr. Badavam, Ms. Khadem, Mr. Sedghi, Mr. Sobhani, and Mr. Zibaie serving 4-year prison terms;

Whereas, since October 2011, four other BIHE educators have been arrested and imprisoned, with Ms. Faran Hessami, Mr. Kamran Rahimian, and Mr. Shahin Negari serving 4-year prison terms, and Mr. Kayvan Rahimian serving a 5-year prison term;

Whereas the efforts of the Government of Iran to collect information on individual Baha'is have recently intensified as evidenced by a letter, dated November 5, 2011, from the Director of the Department of Education in the county of Shahriar in the province of Tehran, instructing the directors of schools in his jurisdiction to "subtly and in a confidential manner" collect information on Baha'i students;

Whereas the Baha'i community continues to undergo intense economic and social pressure, including an ongoing campaign in the town of Semnan, where the Government of Iran has harassed and detained Baha'is, closed 17 Baha'i owned businesses in the last three years, and imprisoned several members of the community, including three mothers along with their infants;

Whereas ordinary Iranian citizens who belong to the Baha'i Faith are disproportionately targeted, interrogated, and detained under the pretext of national security;

Whereas the Government of Iran is party to the International Covenants on Human Rights and is in violation of its obligations under the Covenants; and

Whereas the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-195) authorizes the President and the Secretary of State to impose sanctions on individuals "responsible for or complicit in, or responsible for ordering, controlling, or otherwise directing, the commission of serious human rights abuses against citizens of Iran or their family members on or after June 12, 2009": Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the Government of Iran for its state-sponsored persecution of its Baha'i minority and its continued violation of the International Covenants on Human Rights;

(2) calls on the Government of Iran to immediately release the seven imprisoned leaders, the ten imprisoned educators, and all other prisoners held solely on account of their religion;

(3) calls on the President and Secretary of State, in cooperation with responsible nations, to immediately condemn the Government of Iran's continued violation of human rights and demand the immediate release of prisoners held solely on account of their religion; and

(4) urges the President and Secretary of State to utilize all available authorities, including the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010, to impose sanctions on officials of the Government of Iran and other individuals directly responsible for serious human rights abuses, including abuses against the Baha'i community of Iran.

## AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 27. Mr. RUBIO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 933, making appropriations for the Department of Defense, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and other departments and agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 28. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 933, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 29. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 933, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 30. Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. LEE, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. PAUL, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin, Mr. RISK, Mr. VITTER, Mr. COBURN, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. HELLER, Mr. TOOMEY, and Mr. JOHANNES) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 26 submitted by Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself and Mr. SHELBY) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 933, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 31. Mrs. FISCHER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 933, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

## TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 27. Mr. RUBIO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 933, making appropriations for the Department of Defense, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and other departments and agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 571, between lines 20 and 21, insert the following:

SEC. \_\_\_\_ (a)(1)(A) None of the amounts appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act or any prior Act making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for bilateral economic assistance under the heading "ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND" may be made available to the Government of Egypt unless a certification under subsection (c)(2) is in effect.

(B) Except as provided under paragraph (3), none of the amounts appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act or any prior Act making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for assistance for Egypt under section 23 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2763; relating to the Foreign Military Financing program) may be obligated or expended for contracts with the Government of Egypt entered into on or after the date of the enactment of this Act unless a certification under subsection (c)(1) is in effect.

(2) Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Secretary of State transmits to the appropriate congressional committees an initial certification under paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (c), and every 6 months thereafter, the Secretary shall transmit to the appropriate congressional committees—

(A) a recertification that the requirements contained in such paragraph are continuing to be met; or

(B) a statement that the Secretary is unable to make such a recertification and that the certification is no longer in effect.

(3) The Secretary of State may waive the requirements of subparagraph (B) of para-

graph (1) for one or more 180-periods if, for each such 180-day period, the Secretary determines and certifies to the appropriate congressional committees that it is in the national security interests of the United States to do so and submits to the appropriate congressional committees a report with detailed reasoning for the determination and certification.

(b) During a period in which a certification described in subsection (c)(2) is not in effect, amounts that may not be made available for Economic Support Fund assistance to the Government of Egypt pursuant to the limitation under subsection (a) shall be reallocated for democracy and governance programs for Egypt, including direct support for secular, democratic nongovernmental organizations, as well as programming and support for rule of law and human rights, good governance, political competition and consensus-building, and civil society.

(c)(1) A certification described in this paragraph is a certification submitted by the Secretary of State to the appropriate congressional committees that the following conditions have been met:

(A) The Government of Egypt has adopted and implemented legal reforms to protect the political, economic, and religious freedoms and human rights of all citizens and residents of Egypt.

(B) The Government of Egypt is not acting to restrict the political, economic, or religious freedoms and human rights of the citizens and residents of Egypt.

(C) The Government of Egypt is continuing to demonstrate a commitment to free and fair elections and is not taking any steps to interfere with or undermine the credibility of such elections.

(D) Egypt is implementing the Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty.

(E) The Government of Egypt is taking all necessary action to eliminate smuggling networks and to detect and destroy tunnels between Egypt and the Gaza Strip.

(F) The Government of Egypt is taking all necessary action to combat terrorism in the Sinai, and the Department of Defense has allocated a portion of Egypt's Foreign Military Financing (FMF) assistance, not less than \$100,000,000, toward counterterrorism tools, including equipment and training related to border security, to address this problem.

(G) The Department of Defense has consulted with the Government of Egypt and produced an analysis of Egypt's current security needs, and the analysis has been shared with the relevant congressional committees.

(H) The Government of Egypt has lifted restrictions in law and practice on the work and funding of Egyptian and international nongovernmental organizations, comprising those in the human rights and democracy field, including the International Republican Institute, the National Democratic Institute, and Freedom House.

(2) A certification described in this paragraph is a certification submitted by the Secretary of State to the appropriate congressional committees that—

(A) the conditions set forth in paragraph (1) have been met; and

(B) the Government of Egypt has signed and submitted to the International Monetary Fund a Letter of Intent and Memorandum of Economic and Financial Policies designed to achieve such actions as reducing and streamlining energy subsidies, improving the government financial management, and increasing taxation revenues through a broadened tax base and reducing tax exemptions and has begun to implement such measures.

(d) Any interest earned from amounts in an interest bearing account for Egypt related to funds made available under section

23 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2763) shall be—

(1) transferred to and consolidated with amounts available for assistance for the Middle East Partnership Initiative under chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2346 et seq.; relating to the Economic Support Fund); and

(2) allocated for democracy and governance programs for Egypt, including direct support for secular, democratic nongovernmental organizations.

(e) Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report describing the results of a policy review on Egypt conducted after a dialogue with the Government of Egypt and civil society on how to rebalance United States military and economic assistance to Egypt.

(f) Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report listing all of the Foreign Military Financing contracts for the Government of Egypt carried out over the previous 10 years and describing plans for such contracts over the next 10 years.

(g) In this section, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

**SA 28.** Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 933, making appropriations for the Department of Defense, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and other departments and agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. \_\_\_\_\_. None of the amounts appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act or any other Act may be made available to the Government of Egypt until the President certifies that the President of Egypt has publicly declared, in English and Arabic, his intent to abide by the Camp David Accords.

**SA 29.** Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 933, making appropriations for the Department of Defense, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and other departments and agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title VII of division C, insert the following:

SEC. 17\_\_\_\_\_. No funds made available under this Act shall be used to implement or enforce with respect to any farm (as that term is defined in section 112.2 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations)) the Spill, Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure rule, including amendments to that rule, promulgated by the Environmental Protection Agency under part 112 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations.

**SA 30.** Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. LEE, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. PAUL, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin,

Mr. RISCH, Mr. VITTER, Mr. COBURN, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. HELLER, Mr. TOOMEY, and Mr. JOHANNES) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 26 submitted by Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself and Mr. SHELBY) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 933, making appropriations for the Department of Defense, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and other departments and agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

**SEC. \_\_\_\_\_. PROHIBITION ON FUNDING.**

None of the funds made available in this Act may be used—

(1) to carry out any provision of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111–148) or title I or subtitle B of title II of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–152), or the amendments made by such Act, title, or subtitle; or

(2) for rulemaking under such Act, title, or subtitle.

**SA 31.** Mrs. FISCHER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 933, making appropriations for the Department of Defense, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and other departments and agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle VIII of division C, insert the following:

SEC. 8131. (a) INCREASED AMOUNT FOR OTHER PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE, FOR STRATEGIC COMMAND AND CONTROL.—The amount appropriated by title III of this division under the heading “OTHER PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE” is hereby increased by \$25,000,000, with the amount of the increase to be available for Strategic Command and Control.

(b) OFFSET.—The amount appropriated by title III of this division under the heading “DEFENSE ACT PRODUCTION PURCHASES” is hereby decreased by \$25,000,000.

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions will meet in open session on Thursday, March 14, 2013, at 10 a.m. in room 430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled “Keeping Up With a Changing Economy: Indexing the Minimum Wage.”

For further information regarding this meeting, please contact Anna Porto of the committee staff on (202) 224–5363.

**AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET**

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 12, 2013, at 9:30 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 12, 2013, at 10 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 12, 2013, at 2:45 p.m. in room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

The Committee will hold a hearing entitled, “Oversight of the Federal Communications Commission.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet, during the session of the Senate, to conduct a hearing entitled “Job Corps Budget Shortfall: Safeguarding Workforce Training for America’s Disconnected Youth” on March 12, 2013, at 2:30 p.m. in room 430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on March 12, 2013, at 10:15 a.m., in SD–226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to continue its executive business meeting from March 7, 2013.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 12, 2013, at 10 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

**APPOINTMENTS**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair announces, on behalf of the Republican leader, pursuant to the provisions of S. Res. 64, adopted March 5, 2013, the appointment of the following Senators as members of the Senate National Security Working Group for the 113th Congress: MITCH MCCONNELL of Kentucky (serving in his capacity as Republican Leader); MARCO RUBIO of Florida (Republican Co-Chairman and designated as Administrative Co-Chairman); THAD COCHRAN of Mississippi (Republican Co-Chairman); LINDSEY