

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

REAFFIRMING LONGSTANDING UNITED STATES POLICY IN SUPPORT OF A DIRECT BILATERALLY NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT

SPEECH OF

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 29, 2016

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member and chairman for their hard work in crafting this resolution. It reiterates a number of points consistent with longstanding U.S. policy on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, including the current Administration, that I support. It is still to be seen what this policy will look like under the new Administration.

No one disputes the need for the parties to directly work out the issues. I articulated that position in a letter I sent to President Obama when he took office in 2009. I reaffirmed that position again in a letter to the President about a year ago. I continue to support that position.

Additionally, no one disputes the need to oppose unilateral actions by either party that undermines the process. As Vice President BIDEN noted earlier this year, "Actions on either side to undermine trust only take us further away from the path of peace. Actions like at the U.N. to undermine Israel, or . . . settlement activities." Such actions clearly erode the prospect of a two-state solution, the stated goal for U.S. policy and efforts for a number of years now.

However, I believe that this resolution we are debating is incomplete.

For example, this resolution should not be mischaracterized or misrepresented as opposing constructive steps by the United States, either unilaterally or with the international community, to help preserve and further a negotiated two-state solution between the Israelis and Palestinians.

While no effort can replace the parties themselves reaching agreement, there are a host of ways in which the U.S. and other stakeholders in the international communities, like Arab countries in the region, with a vital interest in peace can support steps to rebuild trust and good will, both of which are sorely lacking and will be needed. It must be made clear that Congress is not discouraging such efforts through this or any other resolution.

The framework for a resolution to the conflict has long been clear for a number of years and formulated a number of times, including President Clinton and President George W. Bush. No U.N. resolution is needed for that.

The issue isn't whether we know where the major issues of disagreement lie, but how to create an environment that encourages the parties to move forward. The U.S. and international support can be helpful and useful to building that environment. It would be foolhardy to hope that somehow the Israelis and

Palestinians spontaneously decide to stop pointing fingers and come together and find solutions to some very tough and challenging issues.

The challenges to peace at the moment are tremendous which is why it is important that we should encourage all interested in peace to continue to work for it.

Even Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu recently expressed appreciation for and a willingness to build on multilateral and regional efforts regarding the conflict between the Israelis and Palestinians, such as the Arab Peace Initiative.

At the end of his Administration, President George W. Bush held a conference at Annapolis where he hosted the leaders of Israel and the Palestinian Authority, but also other "nations that support a two-state solution, reject violence, recognize Israel's right to exist, and commit to all previous agreements between the parties." President Bush also noted that "the world can do more to build the conditions for peace" between the two parties. The U.S. invited 49 countries and international organizations to participate including Members of the Arab League, Permanent Members of the U.N. Security Council, and the International Quartet for Middle East Peace.

In 2007, President George W. Bush argued for the international community to "rise to the moment, and provide decisive support to responsible Palestinian leaders working for peace" and laid out one role for the international community—helping create viable Palestinian institutions necessary for a state.

Former Senator and head of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Richard Lugar repeatedly noted that "Both Israel and the Palestinians urgently need international support to fortify their ability and willingness to embrace the difficult choices that will be necessary" to reach a peace deal.

While the world has changed much since that time, the need for the international community to do more to "build conditions for peace" between the two parties has not diminished.

Yet, I am concerned that some may read H. Con. Res. 165 as dismissing all efforts by the U.S. to engage the international community to galvanize broad support for meaningful efforts to move the parties towards peace.

I also want to emphasize that no one should read this resolution as preventing the U.S. from supporting non-binding efforts through the U.N. Security Council to further progress toward a negotiated, conflict-ending agreement. This has long been a part of the U.S. Middle East Peace toolbox.

The U.S. was instrumental in drafting and passing UNSC Resolutions 242 (in 1967) and 338 (in 1973) outlining the international community's desire for a peaceful resolution to the Arab-Israeli conflict through territorial compromise. Democratic and Republican Presidents alike have previously worked through the U.N. Security Council to promote peace.

Under President Reagan, the United States did not veto U.N. Security Council Resolutions

criticizing Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights and its activities in the occupied Palestinian territories.

I believe that such efforts remain a viable tool today.

That doesn't mean the U.S. has to support efforts it believes are contrary to peace. It has long been U.S. policy to denounce actions by any party—Israel, the Palestinians, or international actors—that are unwelcomed. This includes opposition to actions by the United Nations—or any other entity—to pass resolutions that are one-sided or anti-Israel. And the Obama Administration has done so when needed.

Additionally, I believe the resolution would have been strengthened by strongly emphasizing that there is no workable alternative to the two-state solution which has been the focus of U.S. peacemaking efforts for years now.

Lastly, I continue to support the current Administration's push for peace between our allies and to urge it to continue to do so even in its waning days. I also urge the incoming Administration to work constructively towards a two-state solution. In a recent poll, 69 percent of American Jewish voters expressed support for President Barack Obama delivering a major speech before leaving office outlining a vision for what Israelis and Palestinians must do to reach a peace agreement.

There is plenty of blame to apportion for why the status quo of violence, instability, and conflict continues unabated.

We owe it to every Israeli and Palestinian who share a vision of two peoples living side by side in peace and security to never quit on working toward a meaningful peace and that should include pursuing every tool and leveraging every ally in that pursuit.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID JOHNSON, CO-FOUNDER OF POLARIS INDUSTRIES

HON. COLLIN C. PETERSON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2016

Mr. PETERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a visionary business man from my district, David Johnson. He co-founded Polaris Industries and designed its first snowmobile.

While Mr. Johnson was in the Navy he invested half of his paycheck . . . just \$11 after he received a letter from his friend asking for help. When he returned home after his military service Mr. Johnson went to work for the company.

The company he helped found reached its first billion-dollar sales year in 1995. It now generates over \$4 billion in sales yearly and has a major impact on the local economy.

Despite retiring in 1988, Mr Johnson was a regular fixture at the company's Roseau, Minnesota plant, which is in my district. He would

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check in on the newer models the company was producing and he would also give tours and share stories about company history.

Mr. Johnson was a lifelong snowmobile rider. For his 90th birthday, he took a three-day 150 mile ride aboard a Polaris snowmobile from Roseau to his old cabin in the Northwest angle.

Mr. Johnson was inducted into the snowmobile Hall of Fame in 1999. Mr. Johnson died in his Roseau MN home after a long illness. He was 93 years old.

David Johnson is survived by his wife of 68 years, Eleanor, and their children, Rodney, Mary, Mitchell, and Aaron. All Polaris employees were honorary pallbearers for his funeral service.

It was my sincere pleasure to know David Johnson and to work with him.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life and achievements of David Johnson.

TRIBUTE TO STAFF SERGEANT CLAYTON E. MONEYMAKER

HON. MO BROOKS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2016

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and military service of Staff Sergeant Clayton E. Moneymaker, who, after service in the U.S. Army during World War II, dedicated 41 years of his life to the service of veterans in the Huntsville-Madison County community and the State of Alabama.

Clayton Eugene Moneymaker was born on January 1, 1918 in Heysworth, Illinois to Mr. and Mrs. Lee Moneymaker. On August 10, 1943, at 25 years old, Clayton joined the U.S. Army and officially entered active military service on August 31, 1943. Clayton served honorably, and on January 8, 1946, separated from the Army having attained the rank of Staff Sergeant.

In 1981, Clayton mortgaged his home to complete the purchase, construction, and completion of the new home for the Huntsville-Madison County American Legion Post 237.

Clayton served his fellow veterans from 1982 to 2011 in numerous positions including as the American Legion Department of Alabama Commander, the District 12 Commander, the Division 1 Commander, and twice he served as the American Legion Post 237 Commander, spanning 19 years.

In recognition of his dedication to veterans in our community, the American Legion Post 237 membership, living heirs of Clayton, the American Legion Department of Alabama, and the National Headquarters of the American Legion all agreed to rename the Huntsville-Madison County American Legion Post 237 as the Clayton E. Moneymaker American Legion Post 237.

Clayton Eugene Moneymaker dedicated 41 years of his life to serving veterans in the Huntsville-Madison County community and the State of Alabama.

Today I pay tribute to an extraordinary individual, Clayton E. Moneymaker, and express my sincere gratitude for his life of committed service to the veterans of Alabama.

HONORING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF GRACE HEALTH CLINIC AND THE LEADERSHIP OF DR. RANDY HICKLE

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2016

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 10th anniversary of Grace Health Clinic in Lubbock, Texas. I would also like to honor Grace Health Clinic's founder and CEO, Dr. Randy Hickle, and recognize his commitment to providing quality, service and value to the countless families throughout the South Plains.

To appreciate this accomplishment, one must understand the humble beginnings from which Grace Health Clinic came.

Dr. Hickle founded Grace Clinic in 2006 with just eight doctors on staff. Under his guidance, Grace Health Clinic has transformed into Grace Health System, growing to more than 50 doctors and specialists and expanding its operations to better serve their patients' needs.

The award-winning clinic is the only locally owned, doctor-operated health facility in the region. Thanks to the tireless efforts of Dr. Hickle, Grace Health Clinic has been able to grow without losing its focus on patients and their healthcare needs.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize a clinic that has contributed so much to our community. It is my pleasure to take this opportunity and praise the vision that Dr. Hickle had when he founded this clinic 10 years ago and the leadership he has exhibited throughout this journey.

RECOGNIZING MR. WILLIAM "BILL" HALD

HON. DOUG LaMALFA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2016

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Mr. William "Bill" Hald of Grass Valley, California, an artist and a veteran from the North State.

Bill served in the United States Navy from 1967 through 1973. After graduating 2nd in his class, he served as a computer fire control missile technician aboard the USS *Ramsey*, a *Brooke*-class destroyer escort for the USS *Hancock* aircraft carrier in the Western Pacific. Mr. Hald was one of the six crewmembers required to use the *Ramsey's* Tartar Missile System—but during his first tour he was the sole technician able to use the system's analog computer, resulting in long days and nights. Throughout his tour in the Western Pacific, the USS *Ramsey* earned 5 Battle Stars in addition to a number of citations and campaign ribbons. After his service, Bill returned to the North State and began to sculpt, sometimes using patriotic symbols, such as the bald eagle.

Bill's wife Camille placed one of his sculptures, *We The People*, up for the 2016 National Veterans Administration Creative Arts Competition. This annual competition focuses on the use of the creative arts to assist in re-

habilitative treatment for enrolled Veterans recovering from, and coping with physical and emotional disabilities. The competition has 51 categories, including sculptures. *We The People* quickly gained recognition, placing first in local and regional competitions. On October 16, 2016, at the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival in Jackson, Mississippi, *We The People* won first place in the sculpture category.

We The People portrays a bald eagle perched atop four books: the Holy Bible, on top, followed by three books labelled Legislative, Executive and Judicial to represent the first three Articles of the Constitution of the United States. The right talon of the eagle is placed on the Holy Bible, while it stands "on the wall," over the Constitution in a protective stance. In total, Bill spent over a year crafting the 100 pound pure bronze sculpture in his garage. There are 5,000 accurately handcrafted feathers on the piece. I am deeply grateful to Bill for his service in the United States Navy, but also for the incredible devotion and patriotism that he has shown to his country after his service ended.

HONORING THE LIFE OF THE HONORABLE GEORGE R. GROSSE OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2016

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of The Honorable George R. Grosse. We in Jacksonville, Florida, mourned Mr. Grosse's passing after 86 years of life on June 3, 2016.

Born in Jacksonville, Florida, in 1930, George dedicated his life to his faith, his family and his community. He graduated from Baldwin High School and was a lifelong resident of Jacksonville's Westside. George became an accomplished businessman, a successful law enforcement official, and a public servant who enjoyed a reputation for honesty, fair dealings, and a strong Christian faith. He was a member of Westside Baptist Church where he served as a Deacon for more than 25 years.

George always held an entrepreneurial spirit, a strong work ethic, and the American Dream in his heart. He started a chicken farm and later became a journeyman carpenter. Then in 1957, George joined the Duval County Road Patrol as a Deputy Sheriff. In 1968, he was elected President of the Duval County Fraternal Order of Police Lodge Number 30. Then, when the city and the county consolidated, he was elected as the first President of the consolidated FOP Lodge Number 5-30 and was selected as Officer of the Year for the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office. He continued to serve as FOP President until he left JSO in 1970 to devote his full attention to Gateway Concrete Contractors, Inc., a concrete business he founded and which he ultimately grew to be the largest concrete contractor of its day in Northeast Florida.

In 1973, George was elected to the Florida House of Representatives for District 15. He represented West Duval County, as well as all of Baker, Nassau and Union counties for three terms. I had the privilege of serving with him