

106TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. RES. 614

Condemning the Government of Iran for the continued imprisonment of 10 Jews and 2 Muslims on false charges of espionage and urging the President to sustain United States sanctions against Iran, including opposition to assistance provided by international institutions, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 6, 2000

Mr. ACKERMAN (for himself and Mr. GEJDENSON) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Condemning the Government of Iran for the continued imprisonment of 10 Jews and 2 Muslims on false charges of espionage and urging the President to sustain United States sanctions against Iran, including opposition to assistance provided by international institutions, and for other purposes.

Whereas on July 1, 2000, the Government of Iran convicted 10 Jewish and 2 Muslim Iranian citizens on unproven charges through a judicial process utterly at odds with international standards of human rights and due process;

Whereas the Government of Iran, prior to trial, incarcerated these individuals incommunicado for more than a year without presentation of charges, denied the accused the

right to choose their own counsel, compelled and coerced fabricated confessions, and conducted the trials in secret, without a jury and with the prosecutor also acting as the judge in the case;

Whereas the Government of Iran has never produced any evidence whatsoever to substantiate the indictments or the subsequent convictions;

Whereas the Iranian Revolutionary Court, having heard the appeal of the 10 wrongly convicted Jews, decided to affirm the bulk of their sentences while largely voiding the grounds on which they were convicted;

Whereas the Government of Iran actively opposes the United States-sponsored Middle East peace process and, as the foremost state sponsor of international terrorism, continues to provide arms, financial aid, and diplomatic support to criminal organizations hostile to the United States, United States allies, and United States interests;

Whereas the Government of Iran is pursuing the acquisition of weapons of mass destruction in contravention to its own freely chosen and fundamental obligations as a signatory to international treaties and agreements, including the nuclear Non-Proliferation of Treaty, the Chemical Weapons Convention, and the Biological Weapons Convention;

Whereas in 1982, 1984, 1988, 1990, 1992, 1994, and 1996, Congress, by concurrent resolution, declared that it holds the Government of Iran responsible for upholding the rights of all its nationals;

Whereas on September 19, 2000, the House of Representatives agreed to House Concurrent Resolution 257, con-

cerning the emancipation of the Iranian Baha'i community, and transmitted it to the Senate; and

Whereas on June 29, 2000, the House of Representatives reduced funding for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Health Service by \$15,510 (the amount used for the inspection of imported Iranian food products) and on July 20, 2000, prevented the lifting of the embargo on Iranian goods: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) condemns the decision by the Iranian Revolutionary Court to sustain the unjust imprisonment
3 of the 10 Jews improperly convicted on July 1,
4 2000, and urges their immediate release;

5 (2) reiterates its call to the Government of Iran
6 to fulfill its obligation to respect fundamental human
7 rights including, inter alia, the rights of free exercise
8 of all religious faiths and entitlement to due process
9 of law;

10 (3) calls for the cessation of unilateral gestures
11 of good faith on the part of the United States absent
12 significant and recognizable reciprocal actions by the
13 Government of Iran, particularly steps relating to—

14 (A) ceasing its active opposition to the
15 Middle East peace process;

16 (B) ending its support for international
17 terrorism;
18

1 (C) stopping its illegal and destabilizing
2 weapons of mass destruction acquisition efforts;
3 and

4 (D) acknowledging and protecting the fun-
5 damental human rights of the Iranian people;

6 (4) commends the President, the Secretary of
7 State, the United States Permanent Representative
8 to the United Nations, and the Secretary General of
9 the United Nations for their diligence and urges
10 them to continue their efforts to sustain inter-
11 national pressure on the Government of Iran to re-
12 lease these 12 men; and

13 (5) calls on the President—

14 (A) to consider the fate of the 10 Jews and
15 2 Muslims imprisoned as a benchmark against
16 which the intentions and good faith of the Gov-
17 ernment of Iran should be measured and urges
18 the Secretary to direct all United States diplo-
19 matic personnel to promote international efforts
20 to free the 12 falsely imprisoned Iranians; and

21 (B) to sustain, and consider strengthening,
22 existing United States sanctions against Iran,
23 including United States opposition to assistance
24 to Iran provided by international institutions.

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