

106TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. CON. RES. 150

Relating to the reestablishment of representative government in Afghanistan.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 12 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 22), 2000

Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself and Mr. TORRICELLI) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Relating to the reestablishment of representative government
in Afghanistan.

Whereas Afghanistan has existed as a sovereign nation since 1747, maintaining its independence, neutrality, and dignity;

Whereas Afghanistan had maintained its own decisionmaking through a traditional process called a “Loya Jirgah”, or Grand Assembly, by selecting, respecting, and following the decisions of their leaders;

Whereas recently warlords, factional leaders, and foreign regimes have laid siege to Afghanistan, leaving the landscape littered with landmines, making the most fundamental activities dangerous;

Whereas in recent years, and especially since the Taliban came to power in 1996, Afghanistan has become a haven for terrorist activity, has produced most of the world's opium supply, and has become infamous for its human rights abuses, particularly abuses against women and children;

Whereas the former King of Afghanistan, Mohammed Zahir Shah, ruled the country peacefully for 40 years, and after years in exile retains his popularity and support; and

Whereas former King Mohammed Zahir Shah plans to convene an emergency “Loya Jirgah” to reestablish a stable government, with no desire to regain power or reestablish a monarchy, and the Department of State supports such ongoing efforts: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*
2 *concurring)*, That the United States—

3 (1) supports the democratic efforts that respect
4 the human and political rights of all ethnic and reli-
5 gious groups in Afghanistan, including the effort to
6 establish a “Loya Jirgah” process that would lead to
7 the people of Afghanistan determining their own
8 destiny through a democratic process and free and
9 fair elections; and

10 (2) supports the continuing efforts of former
11 King Mohammed Zahir Shah and other responsible
12 parties searching for peace to convene a Loya
13 Jirgah—

- 1 (A) to reestablish a representative govern-
2 ment in Afghanistan that respects the rights of
3 all ethnic groups, including the right to govern
4 their own affairs through inclusive institution
5 building and a democratic process;
- 6 (B) to bring freedom, peace, and stability
7 to Afghanistan; and
- 8 (C) to end terrorist activities, illicit drug
9 production, and human rights abuses in Af-
10 ghanistan.

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