

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 1045

Recognizing the paramount need to address the threat of international terrorism and protect the global security of the United States by reducing the number and accessibility of nuclear weapons and preventing their proliferation, and directing a portion of the resulting savings towards child survival, hunger, and universal education, and calling on the President to take action to achieve these goals.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 13, 2008

Mr. MCGOVERN (for himself and Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the paramount need to address the threat of international terrorism and protect the global security of the United States by reducing the number and accessibility of nuclear weapons and preventing their proliferation, and directing a portion of the resulting savings towards child survival, hunger, and universal education, and calling on the President to take action to achieve these goals.

Whereas the United States and the Russian Federation have in the past entered into arms control treaties providing for reductions of several thousand nuclear delivery systems, including the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty of

1991 (START I) and the Intermediate Range Nuclear Forces Treaty of 1987 (INF);

Whereas both countries retain several thousand nuclear weapons, delivery systems, and supporting infrastructure at a cost of many billions of dollars;

Whereas the United States and the Russian Federation now face different threats to their security since the end of the Cold War, notably that of international terrorism;

Whereas international terrorism, particularly the danger posed by a terrorist entity acquiring a nuclear explosive device, requires that the countries redouble efforts to prevent the proliferation of such devices and the technology to produce them;

Whereas since 1992, the Cooperative Threat Reduction (CTR) program of assistance to the Russian Federation and certain other states of the former Soviet Union, initiated under the leadership of Senators Sam Nunn and Richard Lugar, has proven an effective and necessary tool to combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction at a cost far below that of maintaining such weapons;

Whereas additional reductions in nuclear armaments of both the United States and the Russian Federation, together with other nuclear powers, will—

(1) meet the objective of the eventual elimination of nuclear weapons as prescribed in Article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the vision of a nuclear-weapon-free world of Presidents Reagan and Gorbachev at the Reykjavik Summit of 1986;

(2) reduce the number of nuclear weapons subject to diversion or theft by terrorist groups; and

(3) eventually make available additional funds in the range of tens of billions of dollars to further enhance international security, reduce world poverty, and address the root causes of international terrorism;

Whereas the United States and the Russian Federation, committed by international agreement as well as joint commitments by their respective Presidents, will reduce nuclear armaments in coming years and will encourage other countries to do likewise;

Whereas the Task Force on Department of Energy Non-proliferation Programs with Russia, commonly known as the Baker-Cutler Task Force, recommended in its final report of January 10, 2001, significant increases in the amounts of funding devoted to securing nuclear arsenals and other weapons of mass destruction;

Whereas the savings generated in the long term by significant reduction of nuclear armaments will be appreciable, with estimates as high as \$13,000,000,000 annually, even in the face of the extra costs of eliminating a large portion of the nuclear arsenals of both the Russian Federation and the United States;

Whereas on March 22, 2002, President George W. Bush stated that “We fight against poverty because hope is an answer to terror. We fight against poverty because opportunity is a fundamental right to human dignity. We fight against poverty because faith requires it and conscience demands it. We fight against poverty with a growing conviction that major progress is within our reach.”;

Whereas the 2002 National Security Strategy of the United States of America, issued by the White House, noted that “a world where some live in comfort and plenty, while

half of the human race lives on less than \$2 per day, is neither just nor stable. Including all of the world's poor in an expanding circle of development and opportunity is a moral imperative and one of the top priorities of U.S. international policy”;

Whereas the final report of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States (more commonly known as the 9/11 Commission Report), issued on July 22, 2004, recommended that a comprehensive U.S. strategy to counter terrorism should include policies that encourage development, more open societies, and opportunities that improve the lives of families and enhance prospects for their children's futures;

Whereas addressing the needs of the very poor in the world, particularly children, reduces a source of international tension and local despair that contribute to terrorist initiatives;

Whereas despite significant progress worldwide in reducing child mortality rates over time, the State of the World's Children 2008: Child Survival, released by UNICEF in January 2008, reports that 9,700,000 children under the age of 5 die every year, most from preventable and treatable causes;

Whereas investing in the health and nutrition of children and their mothers is a sound economic decision and one of the surest ways for a country to set its course toward a better future;

Whereas international health experts estimate that an additional \$5,000,000,000 a year in global assistance for proven child survival interventions could save the lives of 6,000,000 young children each year;

Whereas in sub-Saharan Africa, UNICEF and other organizations estimate that scaling up a minimum package of existing interventions delivered through effective, community-based health services could cut the region's child mortality rate by 30 percent, and the maternal mortality rate by 15 percent, at an estimated annual cost of \$1,000 per life saved;

Whereas the United States supports child survival programs to meet the needs of children in poor countries through its contributions to international organizations and support for bilateral and multilateral programs;

Whereas according to the United Nations World Food Program, more than 300,000,000 children suffer from chronic hunger, and an estimated 121,000,000 of these children, two-thirds of whom are girls, do not attend school;

Whereas providing nutritious meals in schools has proven to be one of the most effective strategies to increase school attendance and enrollment, particularly among girls, decrease the incidence of hunger and malnutrition in school-age children, and help create literate, self-sustaining, and healthy societies;

Whereas the United States supports programs to address chronic hunger and malnutrition and promote universal education among adolescent and school-age children;

Whereas the World Food Programme and the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations estimate that an additional \$5,000,000,000 annually in global assistance for school feeding and other food supports could eliminate hunger and malnutrition among the world's school-age children; and

Whereas Americans consistently rank child survival and ending hunger in poor countries as a top priority of United States foreign assistance: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved,*

2 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

3 This resolution may be cited as the “Global Security
4 Priorities Resolution”.

5 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF THE HOUSE.**

6 It is the sense of the House of Representatives that—

7 (1) the President should continue both negotia-
8 tions with other countries and unilateral initiatives
9 to achieve further reductions in nuclear arms to
10 minimum levels;

11 (2) the President should agree to the verifiable
12 reduction of deployed nuclear weapons of both the
13 United States and the Russian Federation to equal
14 levels of 1,000, and a total nuclear inventory of not
15 more than 3,000, by the year 2015;

16 (3) the Cooperative Threat Reduction (Nunn-
17 Lugar) Program should be enhanced and extended
18 to third countries who request it as a truly coopera-
19 tive, equally funded program between the United
20 States and the Russian Federation to assist in the
21 reduction and elimination of nuclear weapons
22 throughout the world and to establish an environ-
23 ment of assurance that nuclear explosive material

1 will not and cannot be diverted into the hands of
2 terrorists; and

3 (4) the funds saved through nuclear arms re-
4 ductions should be used for cooperative threat reduc-
5 tion and to alleviate those problems in the world af-
6 fecting children and families that can contribute to
7 the support for international terrorism, including—

8 (A) as a first priority, allocating funds an-
9 nually to extend the Nunn-Lugar Program at a
10 rate of at least an additional \$500,000,000 per
11 year, and increased as warranted, to dismantle
12 remaining weapons, establish verifiable safe-
13 guards, and improve accounting and physical
14 security;

15 (B) increasing United States contributions
16 to such programs as the Global Partnership
17 Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials
18 of Mass Destruction and the Global Threat Re-
19 duction Initiative by an additional
20 \$2,500,000,000 annually over a period of 5
21 years, if and when it can be demonstrated that
22 these programs can usefully absorb these funds;

23 (C) in addition to funds already available
24 for such purposes, providing an additional
25 \$5,000,000,000 over a period of 5 years to en-

1 hance child survival in the world's most needy
2 countries, by scaling up implementation of inte-
3 grated packages of high-impact and low-cost
4 health and nutrition interventions at the com-
5 munity level; and

6 (D) in addition to funds already available
7 for such purposes, providing an additional
8 \$1,500,000,000 annually over a period of 5
9 years for programs under title II of Public Law
10 480 (Food for Peace) and the George McGov-
11 ern-Robert Dole International Food for Edu-
12 cation and Child Nutrition Program, specifically
13 for programs targeted at reducing the incidence
14 of child hunger and increasing child nutrition
15 and educational opportunities.

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