

As the number of HIV cases increases in sub-Saharan Africa and the Caribbean, as well as in Eastern Europe and Asia, the death rate from AIDS among adults in those regions is expected to increase. By 2010 the total number of children in those regions who will lose one or both parents to AIDS is expected to be approximately 30,000,000.

One-third of children born from an HIV-infected mother develop HIV/AIDS. Few of these children have access to HIV/AIDS medications.

Globally, more than 12,000,000 young people ages 15 to 24 are living with HIV/AIDS, and each day another 6,000 young people become infected with HIV. New estimates indicate that more than 70 percent of new HIV cases among this age group in sub-Saharan Africa are young women and girls.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 2½ minutes to the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN), our distinguished colleague and a physician herself.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) for yielding me time.

I also rise in strong support of H.R. 1409, to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to provide assistance for orphans and other vulnerable children in developing countries. I want to commend the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) as well for her commitment to this issue and for sponsoring this bill and for her hard work in getting it to the floor today, and to thank Chairman HYDE and Ranking Member LANTOS for their support.

Mr. Speaker, as the *Navhind Times* wrote earlier this month, "There are more than 100 million children worldwide who are living hand-to-mouth, bereft from family and homes and are particularly vulnerable to abuse." We have all seen the tragedy of children soldiers, the street children of South America, and children refugees.

As of July 2004, there were more than 143 million children living in sub-Saharan Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean who were identified as orphans, having lost one or both parents. Of this number, approximately 16.2 million children were identified as double orphans, having lost both parents, the vast majority of whom died of AIDS.

Numerous United States and indigenous private voluntary organizations, including faith-based organizations, in these countries provide assistance to orphans and other vulnerable children.

One such program is the Rx for Child Survival Campaign, a multimedia campaign aimed at raising the awareness of child hunger, disease and the impact of AIDS on their lives. Many of these organizations have applied for grants to the administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development to provide increased levels of assistance for orphans and other vulnerable children in these developing countries.

Mr. Speaker, the plight of the world's children represents both a humanitarian and a security crisis, and it is getting worse with each succeeding

year. It is essential that the United States Government adopt a comprehensive approach for the provision of assistance to orphans and other vulnerable children around the world.

By acting now, Congress can ensure that important services, such as basic care, psychosocial support, school food programs, increased educational opportunities and employment training, the protection and promotion of their inheritance rights, the treatment of orphans and other vulnerable children of HIV and AIDS and other illnesses have more accessible treatment and support efforts that ensure orphans continue to live with their extended families whenever possible, rather than being placed in orphanages.

I urge my colleagues to support the passage of H.R. 1409.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1409, the Assistance for Orphans and Other Vulnerable Children in Developing Countries Act of 2005. This bipartisan bill will provide assistance to the neediest children in the world's poorest countries, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

AIDS has been so devastating to the developing world, especially sub-Saharan Africa, partly because so many of those killed by AIDS are adults of child-bearing age. These men and women are often the pillars of their communities and families. Most diseases spare at least one parent, but AIDS often kills both mothers and fathers. Sixteen million children in the developing world are "double orphans"—both of their parents are dead—mostly because of AIDS. Unfortunately, their numbers are increasing as AIDS continues to ravage the world. Indeed, in four African countries, one in five children will have lost at least one parent to AIDS by 2010. It is vital that we help these children.

Extended families care for more than 90 percent of orphans in the developing world. Unfortunately, these families often lack the resources to meet the most basic needs of the orphans. These children are less likely than their peers to be enrolled in school. Many orphaned girls in particular are forced into the workforce at an early age. They are more likely than others to go hungry. Because of the stress of losing their parents and coping with the ensuing problems, they are much more likely to suffer from psychological problems.

Many face discrimination both as the children of AIDS victims and as orphans. Orphans and their mothers often have difficulty inheriting the land or other property due to them.

This bill authorizes the President to assist programs in developing nations that benefit orphans and other vulnerable children. USAID will work with an array of groups, including international and non-governmental organizations, to provide needed services to orphans. These services include education, school food, protection of inheritance rights and psychosocial care. When possible, community-based groups will directly provide this care.

H.R. 1409 includes provisions that monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the programs funded, so resources will be channeled to the groups that do the best work and need the most assistance. It also creates the office of the Special Advisor for Assistance to Vulnerable Populations, appointed by the Secretary of State, who will oversee the imple-

mentation of this bill in USAID programs and coordinate U.S. assistance to orphans and other vulnerable children.

Mr. Speaker, this bipartisan bill will ease the suffering of the millions of children who have been orphaned in the developing world, and it is worthy of this House's support.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1409, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

MOURNING LOSS OF LIFE CAUSED BY EARTHQUAKE THAT OCCURRED ON OCTOBER 8, 2005, IN PAKISTAN AND INDIA

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 492) mourning the loss of life caused by the earthquake that occurred on October 8, 2005, in Pakistan and India, expressing the condolences of the American people to the families of the victims, and urging assistance to those affected.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 492

Whereas on October 8, 2005, a powerful earthquake measuring 7.6 on the Richter Scale occurred in Pakistan and India, centered on the city of Muzaffarabad;

Whereas the earthquake caused severe damage in both Pakistan and India;

Whereas the earthquake and continuing aftershocks have caused more than 50,000 deaths, resulted in serious injuries to additional tens of thousands of people, and left between 2.5 and 3 million homeless as winter in the affected mountainous region approaches;

Whereas millions of people throughout the affected region currently lack clean water, food, proper sanitation, basic healthcare, adequate shelter, and other necessities, thereby increasing the risk of additional suffering and death; and

Whereas the United States and donors from at least 30 other countries have, to date, pledged several hundred million dollars in emergency and long-term reconstruction assistance, and have begun to deliver humanitarian supplies to survivors of the earthquake: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) mourns the tragic loss of life and horrendous suffering caused by the earthquake that occurred on October 8, 2005, in Pakistan and India;

(2) expresses the deepest condolences of the American people to the families, communities, and governments of the tens of thousands of individuals who lost their lives in this earthquake;

(3) welcomes and commends the prompt international humanitarian response to the earthquake by the governments of many countries, the United Nations and other international organizations, and nongovernmental organizations;

(4) expresses gratitude and respect for the courageous and committed work of all individuals providing aid, relief and assistance, including United States civilian and military personnel, who are working to save lives and provide relief in the devastated areas; and

(5) supports the actions to assist the victims taken by the President and the Government of the United States to provide all appropriate assistance to the governments and people of the affected region.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Res. 492, the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the tragic earthquake in Kashmir reminds us of the uncertain course of nature and the parlous state of humanity as we confront a dangerous and uncertain world.

We are also reminded that globalization, our ability to be instantly affected by events on the other side of the globe, allows us to express our humanity in ways unknown to previous generations. We can respond almost instantly, because we learn almost instantly, about the plight of poor victims in faraway lands.

The areas affected by the earthquake of October 8 are about as far as one can get from our shores. Yet Americans, like others from around the world, were able to share the tragedy of the Pakistani and Indian peoples almost as it unfolded and could then react to it, generously, as is our history, including by dispatching considerable material assistance. We can be proud of the role our government and our private sector have played in making that response possible.

Winter is coming to the affected areas, and there is a great need for shelter for the millions of homeless persons. India and Pakistan are significant countries, and not without considerable resources to devote to their own problems. However, an examination of the level of devastation from the recent earthquake and a consideration of the degree to which even our Nation's

ability to respond to the hurricane's emergencies was strained, means that we need to be mindful of the ongoing and immediate needs of millions of South Asians. Shelter is in especially short supply.

This resolution properly expresses our sense of mourning for the losses suffered, our sympathy to their survivors, commends those who have stepped forward with help, and encourages additional assistance. It is a privilege to bring this before the House today.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise in strong support of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express the condolences of the United States Congress and the American people to the people of Pakistan and the people of India who have suffered so grievously from the horrendous earthquake that struck South Asia just 10 days ago.

Mr. Speaker, the day after the earthquake, I received a telephone call from the President of Pakistan, Pervez Musharraf. The President requested, in the strongest terms possible, assistance not only from our Nation but from other donors around the globe. I immediately reached out to our own government and to other friendly governments and to nongovernmental organizations, and I am profoundly grateful that additional aid is flowing to the people of Pakistan as we speak.

Each day, the news from Pakistan grows worse. The death toll now seems certain to rise above 55,000. More than 2 million people are homeless in the midst of recent torrential rainstorms, and the freezing cold of winter is fast approaching the mountainous regions most affected.

Landslides and poor weather have hampered relief operations, heightening the misery of the injured and the destitute as they wait for help. Relief supplies still have not reached many remote areas where whole villages have been devastated.

Over 30 nations, led by the United States, have rushed to aid and comfort the victims of the earthquake and its horrible after-effects. With natural disasters such as the South Asia earthquake and the Indian Ocean tsunami, the world has seen the generous heart of the American people.

Our country has committed \$50 million in initial relief supplies only from our government. We have also dedicated eight military helicopters to fly humanitarian missions, and we have transported over 70 tons of relief supplies to the neediest in the most remote areas.

Mr. Speaker, the United States counts Pakistan as a strong ally in the war against terrorism, and it was my great pleasure recently to welcome President Musharraf to New York. Our assistance thus far proves that the

United States is a solid friend of the Pakistani people. I urge our government and this Congress to support additional assistance to the people of Pakistan, India, and Kashmir.

Our resolution offers the condolences of the House of Representatives and of the American people to the families, to the communities, and to the governments of Pakistan and India. It welcomes the humanitarian relief offered by other governments, the United Nations and expresses gratitude for the courageous work being performed by individuals providing aid, relief and assistance, including U.S. civilian and military personnel, under often extremely dangerous conditions.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY), a distinguished member of our committee.

(Mr. CROWLEY asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

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Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time. I thank the chairman of the committee and the ranking member of the committee for introducing this resolution.

Through this resolution today, the House of Representatives will send the condolences of the American people to those who have been so tragically affected by the October 8 earthquake. I believe this House can do more than just send our condolences, though.

The President has taken the first step with the initial pledge of \$50 million and the USAID Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance activated its disaster assistance relief team quickly to ensure that urgent aid was provided. But the situation in Pakistan, the hardest hit in South Asia, remains critical.

The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs said that weather and lack of access to remote areas is delaying the aid needed to save countless lives. We are also seeing logistical problems in providing the basic needs of the people who were made homeless and without shelter by this quake and, as I mentioned earlier, further impaired by heavy rains and flooding in the earthquake region.

Critical needs such as food, clean water, and shelter are badly needed as the winter is fast approaching in this mountainous region, akin to the Adirondack region in New York State, which this time of year can have snow, and especially during the evening. So far, we have been able to help thousands of people, but that is simply the tip of the iceberg.

Madam Speaker, I represent one of the largest populations of South Asians in the country and over the past week I have been reaching out to my Pakistani community. What I have found is a community doing all that it can to

raise funds to help their families and friends who were so tragically affected by this earthquake. I also had the honor of speaking to a private Muslim school in my district to update them on the U.S. efforts to provide emergency relief. I was sad to learn that several students' families were directly affected, one student losing over 40 members of their family. The students and the community leaders were very grateful that our country is working to help their homeland, but we all agree that more can and needs to be done.

Madam Speaker, I challenge this House to provide for the millions who have been left injured and homeless. This is a chance not only to help people in need, but to change the hearts and minds of Muslim countries' attitude towards the United States.

After the tsunami, the majority of Indonesians changed their view of us because they saw the soft power of the United States. It is time to show that same soft power to the people of Pakistan so that they too can have a change of heart towards the United States and our people.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, before yielding time, I want to recognize my associate, Peter Yeo, who drafted and did the major work on this important legislation.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3½ minutes to my good friend and colleague from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, let me first of all thank the leadership of the gentleman from Illinois (Chairman HYDE) and the gentleman from California (Ranking Member LANTOS) for their quick and compassionate expression that we now have on the floor of the House.

I rise today to join in the support of H.J. Res. 492, and I acknowledge as the cochair of the Pakistan Caucus, newly-founded, to have the pleasure of having both of the members of the Committee on International Relations leadership, the ranking member and chairman, being supportive of this effort, as I co-chaired with my colleague, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON). I can assure my colleagues that we are very grateful for this profound statement, mourning the loss of so many. We do realize that the numbers continue to climb and that the difficulties are rising beyond our understanding.

Just this past Sunday, some 70 members of the South Asian community were convened by my office in Houston, people of different views and political perspectives, but they united, as we did with the tsunami, and we have called ourselves Houston's Solution for Earthquake Relief and Rehabilitation in Pakistan.

The reason I believe is because this picture is worth a thousand words. The impact on children is going to be unbelievable and without expression.

So it is very important as we look to, as my colleagues have said, the relief from the United States, that we do several things. One, we are the coordinator, and I congratulate the administration for designating Afghanistan as the site of the command, and we acknowledge the loss, devastation in Afghanistan, not as much loss of life, and certainly India has been a real partner. I met last week with the ambassadors from India and spoke to both of them and offered my sympathy and also how we can be involved. Obviously, the obvious things that are needed are food and medicine and tents, but, most of all, coordination and dollars.

So I am asking today that we put our heads together in this Congress and find the additional resources beyond the \$50 million, because I can assure my colleagues that we believe these numbers are going to go up, not out of hysteria, of 100,000. We do not know the numbers for sure, but they will be climbing.

The added concern is that it is getting enormously cold. It makes it very difficult for the rescuers to come. The roads are impassable, and many of those who were in that room on Sunday could recount for me the very terrible stories of their relatives, living outdoors, no heating, no addressing of their wounds, and, of course, this picture that shows the children who are orphaned.

So I ask my colleagues to support H.J. Res. 492 and that we spend a moment of mourning, and I would ask that when it is appropriate that we rise in silence. During the time that we are on the floor of the House, I ask the Speaker to convene us in a moment of silence as we mourn for those who have lost their lives.

I finally conclude by saying that we are grateful for what we have been able to do, but we all know that a good Samaritan, no matter what faith you may articulate this philosophy, it is better to give than to receive. We have given and are still giving to our own who are victims and survivors of Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita. Many who would say who are listening to this debate or discussion that we have our own to take care of, and we realize that America does have the responsibility of her own, but we know also that America has many blessings to count for, and those blessings, I believe, come because we have been willing to give, even until it hurts. These are people who are in desperate need, children by the thousands are suffering, and we hope that we will be able to provide for them as well.

I ask my colleagues to support H.J. Res. 492.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 492, "Mourning the loss of life caused by the earthquake that occurred on October 8, 2005, in Pakistan and India expressing condolences of the American people to the families of the victims, and urging assistance to those affected."

Earlier this month, a disaster occurred on a virtually unimaginable scale when an earth-

quake violently shook Southeast Asia. Over 50,000 people were killed in India and Pakistan, and countless more were seriously injured. Whole cities were razed to the ground, and an estimated 2.5 to 3 million people lost their homes. This winter in Pakistan and India men, women, children, the elderly, the orphaned and the infirmed will be sleeping outside, exposed to the harsh mountain climate. They are lacking the basic necessities for life; in need of food, water, sanitation, basic healthcare, and adequate shelter.

Disasters of this magnitude, no matter where they occur, affect all of us. In the face of this disaster, countries from around the world have joined together in pledging humanitarian aid to the affected regions. The United States can uniquely sympathize with the suffering and devastation felt in the earthquake-ravaged region. We too have felt the bitter sting of a natural disaster this year. Our feeling of loss and suffering gives us only a glimpse, however, of the utter devastation in the affected regions of India and Pakistan. Our shared losses bring the United States closer to our fellow humans on the other side of the globe, and should only serve to strengthen our national resolve to help those in need, rather than give us excuses for not giving the full support of the American people.

The House of Representatives, together with the American people we represent, mourn the horrific loss of life and livelihood experienced in Pakistan and India. We offer them our fullest support in the reconstruction effort of the region, but also understand that no amount of money, goods, and supplies will replace the loss of life in the region. For this, we can only offer our deepest condolences to the people affected by the earthquake, and ask them to find the strength to see their friends, families, and communities through these difficult times.

I support H. Res. 492 for the foregoing reasons, and I appeal to my colleagues to follow suit. The people of Pakistan and India will be in all of our thoughts and our prayers. I yield the remainder of my time.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to my good friend and our distinguished colleague from New York (Mr. OWENS).

(Mr. OWENS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of this very appropriate resolution. I think that beyond the spirit of this resolution there must be immediate response from the entire apparatus of the United States Government and from the United States people.

Madam Speaker, we are weary, maybe, of disasters. When you add up the tsunami and Katrina and Rita, and now in Pakistan 55,000 have already died, and in the mountains they are freezing cold, without any shelter, twice that number may die before it is over, and one might say, well, we just cannot keep going on. We are donor weary, we are disaster weary. That is ridiculous. When we add up all of these people, maybe we will get 100,000 victims, but the world consists of 6 billion people and more than 200 nations. We can take care of all of these disasters if we put our mind to it.

The United States must provide the leadership. \$50 million is not enough. Speed is very important here. The formalities of waiting will mean that thousands and thousands of people will die unnecessarily.

Madam Speaker, I hope that we will use as many of the helicopters in Afghanistan as we can, send them across the border to Pakistan. Eight helicopters is not enough. That is the only way these areas can be reached in the mountains. The roads are not passable. There are no places to land other kinds of aircraft. Only helicopters can land.

I have one of the largest Pakistani communities in America in my district, and I visited Pakistan 4 years ago. I went to a school, several schools in Kashmir. One of the schools, an all-girls school that was having a test, an eighth grade test, I could see that eighth grade girls were studying quadratic equations. That is one of the schools that was crushed in the earthquake. I hope that the students were not in there. But I saw school after school of eager young people, anxious to learn, in those mountain schools. I went on those roads.

Madam Speaker, if not in humanitarian terms alone, let us stop and think about the diplomacy issues here. Pakistan has long been our ally. Throughout the whole Cold War, they were our ally. We could not have driven the Russians from Afghanistan. We did not have a single soldier involved, but we were behind the sting of missiles and the whole strategy that drove the Russians out of Afghanistan and led to the collapse of the Soviet Union, but they were disappointed we did not honor them more for that. That is in the past. Right now, they are helping us in the war against terrorism. Their government is at risk because of their position with the United States on terrorism.

What we do now with this earthquake, how we respond to this earthquake can determine the nature of our relationship with Pakistan forever. We have an opportunity, it is tragic, but an opportunity to demonstrate how we operate, how we react to help our friends. If they are really a friend, we can do so much more, and I hope that this resolution is just the beginning. I hope all Members will become sensitive to the fact that we can do more. We must do more. God expects us to do more.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I am delighted to yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), a distinguished member of the Committee on International Relations and the chairman of the Democratic Caucus.

(Mr. MENENDEZ asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam Speaker, I want to thank the distinguished ranking Democrat from California (Mr. LANTOS) not only for his support but also for his leadership along with the

gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) in taking the lead on this important issue and bringing a resolution to the floor, one that I am strongly in support of.

As we learned in September here in the United States, natural disasters strike without warning, destroy our homes and communities, and challenge us to take care of the victims. We also learned that it is only with the help of the world that we can respond to such large-scale natural disasters. Over 90 countries responded after Hurricane Katrina, including both India and Pakistan. Now it is our turn to respond to them.

Current estimates are that over 40,000 people were killed in India and Pakistan, and the number is only expected to rise. We know that the rescue efforts have been difficult, because many of the villages that were hardest hit were in remote mountainous areas which are almost impossible to reach. In fact, the U.N. estimates that only 30 to 40 percent of an estimated 350 to 900 villages damaged by the earthquake have been inspected. Right now, many suffer without food, medicine, or shelter and face the oncoming winter cold with great fear.

I want to commend the international rescue effort that is underway and the U.S. contribution to that effort. As Andrew Macleod, the United Nations Operations Chief in Pakistan, said, the task of responding to this crisis is "bigger than all of us." We have all heard the saying, "the whole is greater than the sum of its parts." When nations contribute to the relief efforts in India and Pakistan, they are working together to create that greater response, that whole which is greater than the sum of its parts.

In response to the United Nations' appeal for \$272 million for emergency aid, over 30 countries have already offered assistance, and the United States has pledged \$50 million. I hope the world and the United States will continue to provide not only immediate, but long-term assistance to those areas that need it most, and I hope our combined efforts can prevent any public health disasters that could result from this tragedy.

Our diversity is our greatest strength and connects us to almost every country in the world. When tragedy strikes anywhere in the world, it is also directly felt in the homes of U.S. citizens who still have family and friends in their countries of origin. So I would like to acknowledge the actions of the U.S. Indian and Pakistani communities who are sending money and aid to help the survivors. I see that in my own home State of New Jersey, which has the third largest population of Indian Americans in the country and a very large Pakistani community as well.

In closing, I want to express my deepest sympathies and condolences to the families and friends of those who perished in last Saturday's earthquake in India and Pakistan. This has been a year of great trials and tribulations, of

enormous disasters followed by unprecedented responses. But as we learned after the tsunami at the start of the year and during the hurricanes last month, and as I am confident we will see again with this earthquake, together we can be greater than the sum of our parts and overcome these grave natural disasters.

I encourage all Members to vote for the resolution.

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Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS).

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, let me first of all commend and congratulate the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) not only for their leadership in bringing this resolution, this legislation to the floor, but also for the tremendous leadership that they have consistently provided in dealing with the international affairs and international relationships between our country and how we respond to the needs of many other nations throughout the world. I think that they have both demonstrated exactly what we need in this direction, and I commend them.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this legislation because it is an indication of our leadership responsibility. The Bible says that to those to whom much is given, much is expected in return. We have indeed been a very fortunate Nation, and we are fortunate to be able to provide assistance to others throughout the world.

I have worked very closely with the Indian and Palestinian communities in Chicago and the Chicago area. As a matter of fact, I serve on the board of directors of East-West University, which is a Pakistani-owned-primarily university, and have many close friends there.

So I extend condolences to those who have been adversely affected and again commend our leadership.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support H. Res. 492 of which I am an original cosponsor and join with my colleagues in mourning the loss of life as a result of the earthquake that occurred on October 8, 2005 in Pakistan and India.

It is estimated that the earthquake claimed the lives of 20,000 to 40,000 people and left more than 2.5 million homeless. Millions of people throughout the region now lack clean water, food, proper sanitation, basic healthcare, adequate shelter, and other necessities.

To date, the U.S. and 30 other donor countries have pledged several hundred million dollars in emergency and long-term reconstruction assistance and many are involved in delivering humanitarian supplies.

As the ranking member of the International Relations Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, I express my condolences to the victims and urge continued assistance of those affected. In the case of India, I especially commend the efforts of the Indian American community for mobilizing its forces and working

with Members of Congress to make sure help is rendered.

I urge support of this legislation and I thank Chairman HYDE and Ranking Member LANTOS for their leadership in crafting this important piece of legislation and bringing it before the House for consideration this day.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HYDE. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 492.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

SANTA ANA RIVER WATER SUPPLY ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2005

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 177) to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Prado Basin Natural Treatment System Project, to authorize the Secretary to carry out a program to assist agencies in projects to construct regional brine lines in California, to authorize the Secretary to participate in the Lower Chino Dairy Area desalination demonstration and reclamation project, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 177

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Santa Ana River Water Supply Enhancement Act of 2005".

SEC. 2. PRADO BASIN NATURAL TREATMENT SYSTEM PROJECT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act (Public Law 102-575, title XVI; 43 U.S.C. 390h et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 1636. PRADO BASIN NATURAL TREATMENT SYSTEM PROJECT.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in cooperation with the Orange County Water District, shall participate in the planning, design, and construction of natural treatment systems and wetlands for the flows of the Santa Ana River, California, and its tributaries into the Prado Basin.

"(b) COST SHARING.—The Federal share of the cost of the project described in subsection (a) shall not exceed 25 percent of the total cost of the project.

"(c) LIMITATION.—Funds provided by the Secretary shall not be used for the operation and maintenance of the project described in subsection (a).

"(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$20,000,000.

"(e) SUNSET OF AUTHORITY.—This section shall have no effect after the date that is 10 years after the date of the enactment of this section."

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections in section 2 of Public Law 102-575 is further amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1634 the following:

"1636. Prado Basin Natural Treatment System Project."

SEC. 3. REGIONAL BRINE LINES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act (Public Law 102-575, title XVI; 43 U.S.C. 390h et seq.) is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 1637. REGIONAL BRINE LINES.

"(a) SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.—The Secretary, under Federal reclamation laws and in cooperation with units of local government, may assist agencies in projects to construct regional brine lines to export the salinity imported from the Colorado River to the Pacific Ocean as identified in—

"(1) the Salinity Management Study prepared by the Bureau of Reclamation and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California; and

"(2) the Southern California Comprehensive Water Reclamation and Reuse Study prepared by the Bureau of Reclamation.

"(b) AGREEMENTS AND REGULATIONS.—The Secretary may enter into such agreements and promulgate such regulations as are necessary to carry out this section.

"(c) COST SHARING.—The Federal share of the cost of a project to construct regional brine lines described in subsection (a) shall not exceed—

"(1) 25 percent of the total cost of the project; or

"(2) \$40,000,000.

"(d) LIMITATION.—Funds provided by the Secretary shall not be used for operation or maintenance of any project described in subsection (a).

"(e) SUNSET OF AUTHORITY.—This section shall have no effect after the date that is 10 years after the date of the enactment of this section."

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections in section 2 of Public Law 102-575 is further amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1635 the following:

"1637. Regional brine lines."

SEC. 4. LOWER CHINO DAIRY AREA DESALINATION DEMONSTRATION AND RECLAMATION PROJECT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act (Public Law 102-575, title XVI; 43 U.S.C. 390h et seq.) is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 1638. LOWER CHINO DAIRY AREA DESALINATION DEMONSTRATION AND RECLAMATION PROJECT.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in cooperation with the Chino Basin Watermaster, the Inland Empire Utilities Agency, and the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority and acting under the Federal reclamation laws, shall participate in the design, planning, and construction of the Lower Chino Dairy Area desalination demonstration and reclamation project.

"(b) COST SHARING.—The Federal share of the cost of the project described in subsection (a) shall not exceed—

"(1) 25 percent of the total cost of the project; or

"(2) \$50,000,000.

"(c) LIMITATION.—Funds provided by the Secretary shall not be used for operation or maintenance of the project described in subsection (a).

"(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.

"(e) SUNSET OF AUTHORITY.—This section shall have no effect after the date that is 10 years after the date of the enactment of this section."

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections in section 2 of Public Law 102-575 is further amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1636 the following:

"1638. Lower Chino dairy area desalination demonstration and reclamation project."

SEC. 5. CEILING INCREASE ON FEDERAL SHARE OF WATER RECLAMATION PROJECT.

Section 1631(d) of the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act (43 U.S.C. 390h-13(d)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1) by striking "paragraph (2)" and inserting "paragraphs (2) and (3)"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(3) The Federal share of the costs of the project authorized by section 1624 shall not exceed the following:

"(A) \$22,000,000 for fiscal year 2007.

"(B) \$24,200,000 for fiscal year 2008.

"(C) \$26,620,000 for fiscal year 2009.

"(D) \$29,282,000 for fiscal year 2010.

"(E) \$32,210,200 for fiscal year 2011.

"(F) \$35,431,220 for fiscal year 2012.

"(G) \$38,974,342 for fiscal year 2013.

"(H) \$42,871,776 for fiscal year 2014.

"(I) \$47,158,953 for fiscal year 2015.

"(J) \$51,874,849 for fiscal year 2016."

SEC. 6. CENTER FOR TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENT OF MEMBRANE TECHNOLOGY AND EDUCATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior shall establish at the Orange County Water District located in Orange County, California, a center for the expressed purposes of providing—

(1) assistance in the development and advancement of membrane technologies; and

(2) educational support in the advancement of public understanding and acceptance of membrane produced water supplies.

(b) MANAGEMENT OF CENTER.—

(1) CONTRACTS.—In establishing the center, the Secretary shall enter into contracts with the Orange County Water District for purposes of managing such center.

(2) PLAN.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary, in consultation with the Orange County Water District, shall jointly prepare a plan, updated annually, identifying the goals and objectives of the center.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to carry out subsections (a) and (b), \$2,000,000, for each of fiscal years 2006 through 2011. Such sums shall remain available until expended.

(d) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of this section and annually thereafter, the Secretary, in consultation with the Orange County Water District, shall provide a report to Congress on the status of the center and its accomplishments.

(e) SUNSET OF AUTHORITY.—This section shall have no effect after the date that is 10 years after the date of the enactment of this section.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. MUSGRAVE) and the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) each will control 20 minutes.