

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 629

Extending the condolences and sympathy of the House of Representatives to the Government and the people of Greece for the grave loss of life and vast destruction caused by the devastating fires raging through Greece since June 2007.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 4, 2007

Mr. SARBANES (for himself, Mr. LANTOS, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. SPACE, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. SHAYS, Ms. WATSON, Mr. CROWLEY, and Mr. WEXLER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Extending the condolences and sympathy of the House of Representatives to the Government and the people of Greece for the grave loss of life and vast destruction caused by the devastating fires raging through Greece since June 2007.

Whereas more than 3,000 forest fires have been recorded in Greece since June 2007;

Whereas over a 10-day period, an estimated 4,000 people saw their homes destroyed by the wildfires, which razed dozens of villages, destroyed livestock and charred an estimated 469,000 acres of mostly forest and farmland;

Whereas dozens of Greek families have lost their loved ones to the fires;

Whereas thousands of Greeks have been left homeless and hundreds of thousands of acres of pristine forest have been destroyed;

Whereas hundreds of thousands of mature olive trees, vineyards and thousands of animals perished in the flames;

Whereas damage to the Greek economy is estimated at between \$1,600,000,000 and \$5,400,000,000;

Whereas the United States and Greece have stood side by side in confronting world challenges throughout the 20th century, and will stand together in confronting this new challenge; and

Whereas the United States, through its government, its people and its Greek-American community, has already extended significant support to the people of Greece during this difficult time: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) extends its condolences and sympathy to the
3 Government and the people of Greece for the grave
4 loss of life and vast destruction caused by the dev-
5 astating fires raging through Greece;

6 (2) vows its full support and solidarity to a
7 close friend, a strategic partner, and a longstanding
8 ally in this painful and difficult hour;

9 (3) fully supports the Administration's initia-
10 tives to provide assistance and relief to the people of

1 Greece, including its pledge of \$1,500,000 in aid as
2 well as expert and technical assistance;

3 (4) encourages public institutions, specialized
4 agencies, as well as private citizens, to offer their re-
5 sources; and

6 (5) expresses confidence that Greece and its
7 people will succeed in overcoming the hardships in-
8 curred through this tragedy.

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