

111TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. RES. 1032

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States should continue to assist the Mexican Government in fighting the drug cartels and curbing violence against Mexican and United States citizens, both in the United States and abroad.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 21, 2010

Ms. CHU submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States should continue to assist the Mexican Government in fighting the drug cartels and curbing violence against Mexican and United States citizens, both in the United States and abroad.

Whereas Mr. Agustin Roberto “Bobby” Salcedo was senselessly murdered on December 31, 2009, at the young age of 33 while vacationing with his family in the city of Gomez Palacio, Durango, Mexico;

Whereas Bobby Salcedo was a rising star in the community, had just been elected to his second term as a member of the El Monte City School Board, and served as the vice principal and football coach at his alma mater, Mountain View High School;

Whereas Bobby Salcedo was studying for his doctorate in educational leadership at the University of California, Los Angeles, after having earned his bachelor's degree in history from California State University, Long Beach, and a master's degree in educational administration from California State University, San Bernardino;

Whereas Bobby Salcedo, the son of immigrant parents, sought to chart a better course for his entire community, serving as a local leader for such organizations as the South El Monte/Gomez Palacio, Durango, Mexico Sister City Organization;

Whereas, on December 31, 2009, Mr. Salcedo was having dinner in a restaurant with family and friends when a group of armed and masked men burst in and forcibly removed Mr. Salcedo and 5 other men;

Whereas Mr. Salcedo was killed execution-style with a single gunshot to the head;

Whereas Bobby Salcedo's body, along with the bodies of the 5 other men, was found several hours later dumped in a field near a canal;

Whereas Bobby Salcedo, as well as the 5 other men who were killed, had no connection to the Mexican drug trade;

Whereas the Federal Bureau of Investigation has been asked by the Mexican Government to assist in investigating the death of Mr. Salcedo;

Whereas the Federal Government should provide the Mexican Government any assistance necessary to bring Mr. Salcedo's killers to justice;

Whereas the violence in Mexico has historically involved disputes between warring drug cartels, Mr. Salcedo's tragic

death is the result of the recent and pervasive surge in violence against innocent bystanders;

Whereas the Mexican drug cartels are major producers and suppliers to the United States market for heroin, methamphetamine, and marijuana and the major transit country for cocaine sold in the United States;

Whereas the Department of Justice has identified Mexican drug trafficking organizations as the greatest drug trafficking threat to the United States worldwide;

Whereas Mexican drug cartels have repatriated huge sums of money to Mexico from drug sales in the United States, estimated to range from \$15,000,000,000 to \$25,000,000,000 annually;

Whereas the Mexican Government estimates that 2,000 guns are smuggled from the United States into Mexico every day;

Whereas the Mexican drug cartels have become increasingly violent, killing at least 5,600 people in 2008 and more than 7,000 people in 2009;

Whereas the Mexican State of Durango is one of the most violent with more than 700 recorded gang related killings in 2009;

Whereas the Mexican Government, under President Felipe Calderón, has significantly increased its efforts to stop the drug cartels and end the violence, deploying some 45,000 troops and 5,000 police throughout Mexico;

Whereas the United States has appropriated over \$1,300,000,000 under the Mérida Initiative to Mexico to help break the power and impunity of the drug cartels, assist the Mexican Government in strengthening its military organizations, help improve the capacity of its jus-

tice system, curtail gang activity in Mexico, and diminish demand for drugs in the region; and

Whereas the United States should continue to assist the Mexican Government in fighting the drug cartels and curbing violence against United States and Mexican citizens both in the United States and abroad: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-
2 resentatives that—

3 (1) all efforts should be made to find those re-
4 sponsible for the violent drug-related killings of in-
5 nocent United States and Mexican citizens through-
6 out Mexico, including the people who killed Mr.
7 Salcedo;

8 (2) the extreme violence by the Mexican drug
9 cartels has affected and continues to affect the lives
10 of thousands of innocent people in Mexico, the
11 United States, and around the world; and

12 (3) the United States Congress should continue
13 to support bilateral cooperation between the United
14 States and Mexico to break the power of the Mexi-
15 can drug cartels, curtail violence, reduce arms traf-
16 ficking, and diminish the demand for drugs through-
17 out North America.

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