

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 430

Expressing condolences to the citizens of Italy and support for the Government of Italy in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake that struck the Abruzzo region of central Italy.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 12, 2009

Mr. PASCRELL (for himself, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. SIRES, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. MAFFEI, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. DELAHUNT, Ms. TITUS, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Mr. MCCOTTER, and Mr. FILNER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Expressing condolences to the citizens of Italy and support for the Government of Italy in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake that struck the Abruzzo region of central Italy.

Whereas, in the early morning hours of April 6, 2009, a 6.3 magnitude earthquake struck the Abruzzo region of central Italy, killing over 250 people, damaging or destroying up to 15,000 buildings, and leaving tens of thousands homeless;

Whereas the epicenter of the quake was the town of L'Aquila, located 60 miles northeast of Rome, and massive destruc-

tion was reported in 26 surrounding cities, towns, and villages;

Whereas rescue workers, who have heroically pulled over 100 survivors from the rubble, continue to find survivors amongst the wreckage days after the quake struck;

Whereas strong aftershocks continue to rock the region and create hazardous conditions for residents and rescue workers;

Whereas this was Italy's deadliest quake since 1980;

Whereas the earthquake damaged centuries old landmarks including churches and castles;

Whereas humanitarian aid agencies in the United States and around the world are mobilizing to provide much needed assistance to the relief and recovery efforts;

Whereas President Barack Obama has expressed his condolences, and those of the people of the United States, to families that have lost loved ones and assured Italian Prime Minister Berlusconi that the United States stands ready to help Italy at this time of need; and

Whereas Prime Minister Berlusconi said that Italy would accept the support offered by President Obama and would devote it to preserving the region's cultural and artistic heritage and educational institutions: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) mourns the loss of life and expresses its
3 deepest condolences to the families of those killed
4 and injured in the earthquake;

1 (2) recognizes the deep ties between the United
2 States and Italy and expresses continued solidarity
3 with the people of Italy during this time of crisis;

4 (3) applauds the courageous response of Italian
5 rescue workers;

6 (4) supports President Obama's offer of United
7 States assistance to Italy in response to this cata-
8 strophic event;

9 (5) urges the people of the United States to
10 generously support those humanitarian aid agencies
11 working to assist the people of Italy in this time of
12 need;

13 (6) commends the many United States organi-
14 zations, including the National Italian-American
15 Foundation, working to demonstrate support and
16 solidarity with the Italian people and raising funds
17 to provide needed help; and

18 (7) expresses gratitude to the people of the
19 United States who have generously supported those
20 humanitarian aid agencies working to assist the peo-
21 ple of Italy in this time of need.

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