

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 101

Expressing the sense of the Senate relating to the March 11, 2011,
earthquake and tsunami in Japan.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 14, 2011

Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. McCONNELL, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. ALEXANDER, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. BURR, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. COATS, Mr. COBURN, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORKER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. ENZI, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. FRANKEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. INOUE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. JOHANNES, Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. KIRK, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. KOHL, Mr. KYL, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MCCAIN, Mrs. McCASKILL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. REED, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SHELBY, Ms. SNOWE, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. VITTER, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WEBB, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate relating to the March 11, 2011, earthquake and tsunami in Japan.

Whereas at 2:46 pm on March 11, 2011, an earthquake initially reported as measuring 8.9 on the Richter scale, the strongest recorded in more than 100 years in Japan, occurred near the Tohoku region of Northeast Japan, 81 miles off the coast from Sendai City;

Whereas intense shaking could be felt from Tokyo to Kamaishi, an arc of roughly 360 miles;

Whereas the earthquake generated a massive tsunami that caused widespread damage to a swath of the northeast Japanese coastline and traveled across the Pacific Ocean, causing damage to coastal communities as far away as the States of Hawaii, Oregon, and California;

Whereas authorities in Japan confirm at least 2,800 deaths from the earthquake and resulting tsunami, a toll that is expected to rise as many thousands remain missing as of the date of approval of this resolution;

Whereas approximately 400,000 people have been displaced from their homes and are now living in shelters or with relatives;

Whereas within minutes of the earthquake, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration alerted emergency workers in the States of Hawaii, California, Oregon, Washington, and Alaska that a potentially catastrophic tsunami was heading toward those States and mobilized the Tsunami Warning System in the Pacific;

Whereas the earthquake forced the emergency shutdown of 4 nuclear power facilities in Japan, representing a signifi-

cant loss of electric generation capacity for Japan and necessitating rolling blackouts in portions of Tokyo;

Whereas the earthquake and the resulting tsunami severely damaged the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station, precipitating a loss of power for cooling systems at that facility and necessitating emergency measures to prevent serious radiation leakages;

Whereas emergency management experts at the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Department of Energy, and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission are continuing to work with authorities in Japan to address the challenges posed by the damage to the Daiichi nuclear facility;

Whereas international response to the disaster has been swift, with search and rescue teams arriving from the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, France, and China, among other countries;

Whereas the USS Ronald Reagan aircraft carrier and its support vessels have deployed to the earthquake region to participate in search and rescue and relief operations;

Whereas elements of the III Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF), a United States Agency for International Development Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART), and other United States military and civilian personnel have deployed to Japan to render aid and help coordinate United States relief efforts;

Whereas January 19, 2011, marked the 51st anniversary of the signing of the United States-Japan Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security, which has played an indispensable role in ensuring the security and prosperity of both the United States and Japan, as well as in promoting regional peace and stability;

Whereas the United States-Japan alliance is based upon shared values, democratic ideals, free markets, and a mutual respect for human rights, individual liberties, and the rule of law;

Whereas Japan is among the most generous donor nations, providing billions of dollars of foreign assistance, including disaster relief, annually to developing countries; and

Whereas the Self-Defense Forces of Japan have contributed broadly to global security missions, including relief operations following the tsunami in Indonesia in 2005, reconstruction in Iraq from 2004 to 2006, and relief assistance following the earthquake in Haiti in 2010: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) mourns the loss of life resulting from the
3 earthquake and tsunami in Japan on March 11,
4 2011;

5 (2) expresses its deepest condolences to the
6 families of the victims of this tragedy;

7 (3) expresses its sympathies to the survivors
8 who are still suffering in the aftermath of this nat-
9 ural disaster;

10 (4) commends the government of Japan for its
11 courageous and professional response to this natural
12 disaster;

13 (5) supports the efforts already underway by
14 the United States Government, relief agencies, and

1 private citizens to assist the government and people
2 of Japan in their time of need; and

3 (6) urges the United States and the inter-
4 national community to provide additional humani-
5 tarian assistance to aid the survivors and support
6 reconstruction efforts.

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