

are an important symbol to the Filipino people, who wish to have them re-installed in the belfry of the Balangiga Church. I believe that it is time to resolve this situation in order to solidify the bonds between our two nations. My resolution would honor and promote the positive relationship our counties enjoy.

As the years pass, I am confident that relations between our two nations will grow even stronger. To that end, the United States Government which has final disposition over the bells of Balangiga should transfer ownership of the bells to the people of the Philippines as a measure of good will and cooperation.

IN SUPPORT OF FOOD FOR PEACE

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 18, 2011

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of Food for Peace. Over the past 50 years, this essential program has fought hunger and offered hope for some 3 billion people in 150 countries. For less than .05% of our total federal budget, Food for Peace is able to provide emergency food relief, combat famine and starvation, and promote much-needed stability in the most poverty-stricken corners of the world. Without question, food security is global security. Struggles to gain access to food can easily erupt in violence, instability, and health epidemics. Food for Peace's small financial investment in hunger security yields tremendous returns in the form of increased stability in fragile areas, reduced dependence on foreign aid, and increased goodwill towards America.

As the Ranking Member on the House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee, I know that Food for Peace is far more than just a helping hand. This program works with communities to promote agricultural development and access to local markets so that food recipients can transform into food producers. Rather than create enduring reliance on U.S. aid, Food for Peace strengthens communities to provide for themselves. In this tight fiscal climate, what better return on our investment could we ask for than decreased dependence on foreign assistance and increased stability in conflict-prone states?

Yet, my colleagues have made dangerous cuts to this critical capacity-building program. These cuts, which amount to marginal cost-savings, would eliminate support to millions of the world's poorest and hungriest at a time when food prices are rising across the globe. Rather than providing smart investments to uplift these communities, we are ripping away resources and sinking them deeper into an unbreakable cycle of poverty and instability. As our country faces increasing international scrutiny, this is not the face of America that we need to be showing the world.

On behalf of the billions who have been lifted up by Food for Peace and the millions for whom it currently gives hope, I strongly oppose my colleagues' misguided efforts to save a few dollars. America is better than this, and I will never stop fighting to promote our national security through smart international assistance.

SIDING WITH THE PRO-
DEMOCRACY MOVEMENT IN IRAN

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 18, 2011

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I recently reintroduced H. Res. 94, Siding with the Pro-Democracy Movement in Iran. This resolution addresses Iran's nuclear threat as Tehran seeks a nuclear weapon in violation of UN Security Council resolutions, has started to enrich uranium to 20 percent, and has plans to build 10 additional uranium enrichment facilities. Moreover, Tehran's continued support for terrorism and its suppression of dissidents require the United States to adopt a new approach.

Over the past year, millions of ordinary Iranians have taken to the streets to participate in anti-government demonstrations, despite growing suppression and risk of arrest, imprisonment and execution. The ruling regime, for its part, has resorted to a brutal campaign of murdering protesters such as Neda Agha Soltan in the streets and in its many gallows. My resolution calls on the U.S. government to side with the Iranian people's endeavors by refraining from a selective approach to Iranian opponents who struggle for democracy and human rights. It invites the Secretary of State to join our British and European allies in ending the blacklisting of Iran's main opposition, the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran (PMOI) by removing them from the list of Foreign Terrorist Organizations (FTO).

Removing the PMOI from the FTO list is not only the right thing to do, but it also sends the right message to Tehran. The Iranian regime and its President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad have rebuffed offers of negotiations, and stepped up their intransigence in very sphere of contention with the United States, including human rights, the nuclear weapons program and support for terrorism in the region.

In November, I sent a joint bi-partisan letter along with a number of my colleagues to Secretary Clinton. In this letter we brought the resolution to the attention of the Secretary of State and stated that over 100 House Members have already urged her to delist the PMOI. In our letter, we noted that "Iranian officials should not be seen as exploiting an unjust US designation to further justify imparting their draconian punishments on prisoners of conscience."

The PMOI's continued designation in the US has deadly consequences. I invite my colleagues to support this resolution and send a message to the world that violations of human rights will not be tolerated!

HONORING THE LIFE AND
PASSING OF TY KILLEN

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 18, 2011

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, Mr. McCARTHY and I rise today to honor the life and passing of Ty Killen, a proud veteran of our nation's Armed Forces and a resident of Lancaster, California. Ty's unwavering commitment to her country began during the height of WWII when

at 19 years old she joined the military as a Women Airforce Service Pilot (WASP). During this difficult time in our nation's history, this brave group of women selflessly rose to the occasion and supported the war effort by flying thousands of stateside missions for the United States Armed Services. For her service, Ty was recognized and awarded the Congressional Gold Medal last year by the 111th Congress.

Following the war, Ms. Killen moved back to southern California and continued to serve her community as a school teacher in Lancaster. Retiring after 40 years, Ms. Killen's distinguished career continues to have a lasting effect on the community. Ty will surely be missed, and our thoughts and prayers go out to the family, friends, and students who have been moved and inspired by Ty during her life.

KEEP FAMILIES TOGETHER

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 18, 2011

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about a very important bill that I just reintroduced, the Keeping Families Together Act of 2011 (H.R. 713). This bill would reinstate judicial review to the immigration process, end the practice of automatically detaining productive members of our society for minor crimes they committed years ago and for which they have already served with their sentence, and allow immigrants previously deported to appeal that decision.

This law has allowed stable, long-term families headed by legal immigrants to be torn apart because of minor crimes committed years ago—crimes for which the offender has already served their sentence!

You may recall that a basic legislative attempt to fix this law was passed by the House of Representatives in the 106th Congress, but it was never taken up by the Senate. The time has come to reverse the unfair so-called "immigration reforms" instituted by the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996.

Please join me in supporting this critical legislation to restore justice to our immigration process, by co-sponsoring the Keeping Families Together Act of 2011.

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 17, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the Kline amendment, which seeks to short circuit the Department of Education's ongoing rulemaking process regarding the Higher Education Act's "gainful employment" requirement for postsecondary programs.