

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 148

Calling on the Government of Iran to fulfill their promises of assistance in this case of Robert Levinson, the longest held United States civilian in our Nation's history.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 10, 2015

Mr. DEUTCH (for himself, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and Mr. DIAZ-BALART) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Calling on the Government of Iran to fulfill their promises of assistance in this case of Robert Levinson, the longest held United States civilian in our Nation's history.

Whereas United States citizen Robert Levinson is a retired agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), a resident of Coral Springs, Florida, the husband of Christine Levinson, and father of their 7 children;

Whereas Robert Levinson traveled from Dubai, UAE, to Kish Island, Iran, on March 8, 2007;

Whereas, after traveling to Kish Island and checking into the Hotel Maryam, Robert Levinson disappeared on March 9, 2007;

Whereas, in December 2007, Robert Levinson's wife, Christine, traveled to Kish Island to retrace Mr. Levinson's steps and met with officials of the Government of Iran who pledged to help in the investigation;

Whereas, for more than 8 years, the United States Government has continually pressed the Government of Iran to provide any information on the whereabouts of Robert Levinson and to help ensure his prompt and safe return to his family;

Whereas officials of the Government of Iran promised their continued assistance to the relatives of Robert Levinson during the visit of the family to the Islamic Republic of Iran in December 2007;

Whereas, in November 2010, the Levinson family received a video of Mr. Levinson in captivity, representing the first proof of life since his disappearance and providing some initial indications that he was being held somewhere in southwest Asia;

Whereas, in April 2011, the Levinson family received a series of pictures of Mr. Levinson, which provided further indications that he was being held somewhere in southwest Asia;

Whereas Secretary John Kerry stated on August 28, 2013, "The United States respectfully asks the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to work cooperatively with us in our efforts to help U.S. citizen Robert Levinson.";

Whereas, on September 28, 2013, during the first direct phone conversation between the leaders of the United States and Iran since 1979, President Barack Obama raised the case of Robert Levinson to President of Iran

Hassan Rouhani and urged the President of Iran to help locate Mr. Levinson and reunite him with his family;

Whereas, on August 29, 2014, Secretary of State John Kerry again stated that the United States “respectfully request the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran work cooperatively with us to find Mr. Levinson and bring him home.”;

Whereas the United States is currently engaged in regular, direct negotiations with the Government of Iran over its nuclear program;

Whereas March 9, 2015, marks the 2,922nd day since Mr. Levinson’s disappearance, and he is now the longest held United States civilian in our Nation’s history; and

Whereas the FBI has announced a \$5,000,000 reward for information leading to Mr. Levinson’s safe return: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House—

2 (1) recognizes that Robert Levinson is the long-
3 est held United States civilian in our Nation’s his-
4 tory;

5 (2) notes the pledges by current officials of the
6 Government of Iran to provide their Government’s
7 assistance in the case of Robert Levinson;

8 (3) urges the Government of Iran, as a humani-
9 tarian gesture, to intensify its cooperation on the
10 case of Robert Levinson and to immediately share
11 the results of its investigation into the disappearance

1 of Robert Levinson with the United States Govern-
2 ment;

3 (4) urges the President and the allies of the
4 United States to continue to raise with officials of
5 the Government of Iran the case of Robert Levinson
6 at every opportunity, notwithstanding serious dis-
7 agreements the United States Government has with
8 the Government of Iran on a broad array of issues,
9 including human rights, the nuclear program of
10 Iran, the Middle East peace process, regional sta-
11 bility, and international terrorism; and

12 (5) expresses sympathy to the family of Robert
13 Levinson for their anguish and expresses hope that
14 their ordeal can be brought to an end in the near
15 future.

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