

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 277

Honoring the Tunisian People for their democratic transition.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 19, 2015

Mr. SCHWEIKERT (for himself and Mr. HASTINGS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Honoring the Tunisian People for their democratic transition.

Whereas the bilateral relationship between the United States and Tunisia dates back to 1795;

Whereas the United States was the first major power to recognize Tunisian sovereignty following Tunisia's independence from France in 1956;

Whereas the United States and Tunisia share many core values, including respect for human rights and the rule of law;

Whereas on December 17, 2010, a popular revolution began in the Tunisian city of Sidi Bouzid that would inspire the “Arab Spring”;

Whereas the people of Tunisia and their freely elected representatives work diligently to secure Tunisia as a beacon

for those dedicated to the rule of law and democracy in a region fraught with forces that oppose such goals;

Whereas Tunisia is the only Arab nation to have successfully transitioned from authoritarian rule to democracy;

Whereas, on January 26, 2014, Tunisia's National Constituent Assembly adopted a new constitution; and

Whereas, on December 31, 2014, Beji Caid Essebsi was sworn into office as Tunisia's first freely elected President: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) commends the people of Tunisia for their
3 commitment to democracy, the rule of law, and free
4 and fair elections;

5 (2) commends the Government of Tunisia for
6 holding successful legislative elections on October
7 26, 2014;

8 (3) commends the Government of Tunisia for
9 holding the successful first round of their Presi-
10 dential election on November 23, 2014, and for the
11 peaceful and fair completion of the Presidential elec-
12 tion on December 21, 2014;

13 (4) encourages all political parties in Tunisia to
14 continue to work together as they endeavor to realize
15 the standards of transparency, inclusiveness, and
16 equality established in the Tunisian Constitution;

17 (5) recognizes Tunisia's legislative and Presi-
18 dential elections as an example of a peaceful, demo-

1 cratic transition of power for other nations through-
2 out the region to follow;

3 (6) affirms the United States commitment to
4 strengthening our bilateral relationship with Tunisia;
5 and

6 (7) calls on the President of the United States
7 to advance the United States–Tunisia relationship,
8 through our shared values and interests, by engag-
9 ing in a Strategic Partnership.

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