

Whereas, Illegal fishing accounts for economic losses of billions of dollars per year globally, and millions of those lost dollars result from poaching in the Gulf of Mexico; such activity is largely conducted by foreign fleets at the expense of United States fishermen, coastal communities, and the sustainability of global fish stocks; and

Whereas, Illegal fishing is of particular consequence in Texas, where the Gulf Coast waters supply seafood for the American public and support the hospitality industry, tourism-related businesses, and the vibrant recreational and commercial fishing industry; not only does illegal fishing result in economic losses to the Texas fishing industry and other coastal businesses, but it also is a threat to the sustainability of our fisheries and to the Texas Gulf Coast ecosystem; and

Whereas, The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and the United States Coast Guard are to be commended for their partnership in investigating and apprehending foreign vessels engaged in illegal activity along the Texas-Mexico border; and

Whereas, Foreign nationals fishing illegally in U.S. waters compete for local stock, and they disregard state and federal laws on catch limits; when they sell their fish in the United States, they can flood the market with a cheaper product; moreover, they often use banned longline netting that imperils marine mammals and sea turtles; and

Whereas, Vessels involved with illegal fishing are also associated with, other crimes, including drug trafficking, human trafficking, and illegal immigration, and the incursion by these foreign fishing vessels into U.S. waters constitutes a violation of our sovereignty; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas Legislature hereby express its commitment to the elimination of illegal fishing, to the long-term conservation of Texas marine resources, and to the protection of the Texas Gulf Coast fishing and coastal communities; and, be it further

Resolved, That the Texas House of Representatives hereby respectfully urge the United States Congress to take action to protect our coastal borders and to end illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing in our sovereign waters; and, be it further

Resolved, That the chief clerk forward official copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that this resolution be entered in the Congressional Record as a memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING HARKLESS H.
HUTCHINGS

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 11, 2015

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Harkless H. Hutchings, who passed away on August 1, 2015 at the age of 98. As a Colonel in the Ohio National Guard, I appreciate his dedicated service to his country during World War II.

Harkless was born in Rhodell, West Virginia on July 31, 1917. He attended Byrd-Prillerman High School in Amigo, West Virginia. Throughout his life, he attended many high school reunions to reacquire with old friends.

Harkless began his service in World War II in the Army and later went into the Air Force. He fought bravely in the Pacific Islands throughout World War II. Harkless tragically stepped on a landmine causing him to lose 80 percent of his hearing and sustain severe injuries to his feet. Harkless was sent to a special hospital in Arizona to treat his injuries. During his time in Arizona, he met many famous film stars of his era, including Clark Gable, Bette Davis and Joan Crawford.

Harkless lived an extraordinary life of service to his community and country.

IRAN NUCLEAR AGREEMENT

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 11, 2015

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this bill and the underlying Iran nuclear agreement.

Despite entering these negotiations from a position of strength, the deal before us fails to achieve the goal of preventing Iran's capacity to develop a nuclear weapon. It simply contains or manages Iran's nuclear program.

By agreeing to a lax enforcement and inspection regime and fanciful "snap back" sanctions, the Administration has accepted that Iran should remain one year away from a nuclear bomb. I am not prepared to accept that.

The sanctions relief will provide Iran with billions of dollars—funds that will bolster the Revolutionary Guard and non-state militant groups.

This deal ends the conventional arms embargo and the prohibition on ballistic missile technology. Not only will this result in conventional arms flowing to groups like Hezbollah, it concedes the delivery system for a nuclear bomb.

This agreement will provide Iran with a nuclear infrastructure, a missile delivery system, and the funds to pay for it all.

By the way, the "I" in "ICBM" means "intercontinental." I don't believe that New Zealand and Mexico are the intended targets. The target would be us.

This deal cripples and shatters our current notion of nuclear non-proliferation. If Iran can enrich uranium, which they can do under this agreement, their Gulf Arab neighbors will likely do the same.

I do not want a nuclear arms race in the Middle East—a region of state instability and irrational non-state actors. And how will deterrence work under this scenario? I don't want to find out.

We should not reward the Ayatollahs with billions of dollars and sophisticated weapons in exchange for temporary and unenforceable nuclear restrictions.

Mr. Speaker, I have always supported a diplomatic solution to the Iran nuclear issue, but this is a dangerously weak agreement, and I urge my colleagues to reject it.

TEXAS ADOPTED HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1835

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 11, 2015

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to make it known that the Texas House of Representatives through Robert Haney, the Chief Clerk of the House, has adopted House Resolution No. 1835 by Capriglione. This resolution expresses support for the implementation of the Next Generation Air Transportation System.

And that's just the way it is.

RESOLUTION

Whereas, Many airports, especially those in congested urban areas, are near or over their capacities, and such inadequate infrastructure causes long delays, reduced customer service, negative impacts on the economy, and bottlenecks throughout our entire national air transportation system; and

Whereas, Implementation of the Next Generation Air Transportation System (NextGen) would help make air travel even safer and more convenient and environmentally friendly by enhancing the efficiency of airports and airspace procedures; and

Whereas, The long list of airport improvements encompassed in NextGen includes performance-based navigation flight procedures, improved surface management systems, reduced aircraft exhaust emissions, and technology upgrades that bolster all-weather access to airports; and

Whereas, Airport operators must be involved in the development of NextGen capabilities in and around their airports from inception to execution to ensure noise and other environmental factors that affect their communities are appropriately considered; and

Whereas, The latest Future Airport Capacity Task study prepared by the FAA indicates that many of the nation's busiest airports, including George Bush International Airport in Houston, will require new runways to meet projected capacity needs in the coming years even with NextGen, and these findings highlight the critical importance of taking all reasonable steps to reduce airport congestion; and

Whereas, Airports across the nation are ready to work with the FAA, industry partners, the communities they serve, and the U.S. Congress to implement NextGen in order to equip our air transportation system to meet the demands of the 21st century; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas Legislature hereby express its support for the implementation of the Next Generation Air Transportation System; and, be it further

Resolved, That the chief clerk forward official copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to the administrator of