

(2) recognizes the research scientists, administrative staff, professional societies, and patient groups for their active participation in support of the research programs and goals of the NIAID; and

(3) reaffirms its support of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and its commitment to advance knowledge and improve health.

• Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I am pleased to submit a Senate Concurrent Resolution recognizing and honoring the 50th anniversary of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. An identical resolution is being introduced in the House by my distinguished colleague, Representative NORTHUP.

As you know I am an ardent supporter of biomedical research and the National Institutes of Health. In this century, great strides have been made in the control of such killer infectious diseases such as polio, rubella, measles, cholera, typhoid fever, and diphtheria. Small pox has been eradicated. We continue to benefit from the development of new drugs and vaccines that contribute enormously to the betterment of the public health.

At the forefront of these advances stands the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. NIAID began as the National Microbiological Institute, formed through the union of the Rocky Mountain Laboratory, the Biologics Control Laboratory, the Division of Infectious Diseases, and the Division of Tropical Disease of the NIH. In 1955, Congress renamed the Institute as the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, recognizing the need for a coordinated scientific research program on infectious, allergic, and immunologic diseases.

Research supported by the Institute has led to important advances, including: the development of vaccines against infectious diseases such as meningitis, hepatitis A, whooping cough and the rotavirus diarrhea; new treatments to fight against the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV); and novel interventions to treat childhood asthma.

However, despite significant progress, infectious diseases remain the world's leading cause of death, and the third leading cause of death in the United States, and immune-mediated diseases continue to exact a considerable toll. NIAID-supported research will continue to provide the necessary tools to develop diagnostic tests, new and improved treatments, vaccines, and other means to combat the microbial threats of today and those of the future, and to address diseases of the immune system.

I am submitting this resolution today to demonstrate the support of the United States Senate for the NIAID, the NIH and all of the dedicated professionals who have devoted their lives to improving the quality of the nation's health. •

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 128—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING MEASURES TO ACHIEVE A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THE CONFLICT IN THE STATE OF CHIAPAS, MEXICO

Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. DODD, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. KERRY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. BUMPERS, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. WYDEN, and Ms. MIKULSKI) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 128

Whereas the United States and Mexico have a long history of close relations and share many economic and security interests;

Whereas the democratic and prosperous Mexico is in the interest of the United States;

Whereas the United States is providing assistance and licensing exports of military equipment to Mexican security forces for counter-narcotics purposes;

Whereas the Department of State has documented human rights violations by Mexican security forces and paramilitary groups;

Whereas the conflict in Chiapas, Mexico has resulted in the deaths and disappearance of innocent civilians;

Whereas the lack of progress in implementing a preliminary peace agreement signed in 1996 and the presence of tens of thousands of Mexican soldiers, as well as paramilitary and other groups, have contributed to increased political tension and violence in Chiapas and the absence of basic human rights protections;

Whereas the persistence of political tension and violence has exacerbated the impoverished conditions of indigenous people in Chiapas;

Whereas thousands of indigenous people in Chiapas have fled their homes as a result of the violence and are living in deplorable conditions;

Whereas despite President Zedillo's calls for negotiations and repeated visits to Chiapas, efforts to negotiate a peaceful resolution of the conflict have been unsuccessful and the National Mediation Commission was dissolved after the resignation of its President, Bishop Samuel Ruiz, due to the lack of progress in the peace process; and

Whereas the summary expulsions of United States citizens and human rights monitors from Mexico raise concerns about the commitment of the Government of Mexico to freedom of movement, association and expression. Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),* That it is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of State should—

(1) take effective measures to ensure that United States assistance and exports of equipment to Mexican security forces—

(A) are used primarily for counter-narcotics purposes; and

(B) do not contribute to human rights violations;

(2) encourage the Government of Mexico to reduce political tension and violence in Chiapas by disarming paramilitary groups and decreasing its military presence there;

(3) commend the Government of Mexico for inviting the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to visit Mexico to discuss the Chiapas conflict;

(4) encourage the Government of Mexico and the Zapatista National Liberation Army

to take steps to create conditions for good faith negotiations that address the social, economic and political causes of the conflict to achieve a peaceful and lasting resolution of the conflict, and to vigorously pursue such negotiations;

(5) support efforts to provide relief assistance to displaced persons in Chiapas and adequate monitoring of such assistance; and

(6) seek a commitment from the Government of Mexico to respect the rights of United States citizens and human rights monitors in Mexico in accordance with Mexican law and international law.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am today submitting a Concurrent Resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding measures to achieve a peaceful resolution of the conflict in the state of Chiapas, Mexico.

This resolution is cosponsored by Senator DODD, who is the ranking member of the Western Hemisphere subcommittee and among the most knowledgeable Members of Congress on Mexican affairs, Senator FEINSTEIN, Senator BINGAMAN, Senator JEFFORDS, Senator FEINGOLD, Senator KERRY of Massachusetts, Senator WELLSTONE, Senator BUMPERS, Senator BOXER, Senator KENNEDY, Senator DURBIN, Senator MURRAY, Senator WYDEN, Senator HARKIN, and Senator MIKULSKI.

Congresswoman NANCY PELOSI is today introducing an identical resolution in the House of Representatives.

Mr. President, the purpose of this resolution is to convey our support for a peaceful resolution of the conflict in Chiapas that has been simmering since the Zapatista uprising in 1994. Since then, and despite attempts at negotiations, the situation remains explosive. Scores of innocent people, mostly impoverished Indians, have been killed. Thousands have fled their homes and are living in squalid conditions, made unbearable by the recent flooding.

This resolution does not attempt to take sides or to dictate an outcome. The situation in Chiapas is a complex one that has social, ethnic, economic and political dimensions. It is a manifestation of years of Mexican history. It is for the Mexican people to resolve.

But despite its complexities, there is no doubt that the indigenous people of Chiapas have been the victims of centuries of injustice. Most do not own any land and they live—as their parents and grandparents did—in abject poverty. The Zapatista uprising was a reflection of that injustice and despair, and the political tension and violence of recent years has only exacerbated their plight.

To his credit, President Zedillo has called for a resumption of negotiations and has visited Chiapas several times. Recently, his government invited Mary Robinson, the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights, to visit Mexico to discuss the Chiapas situation. I welcome that. But there remains a deep distrust between the two sides, and no sign that the government's strategy is working. This resolution calls on our Secretary of State to encourage the Mexican Government and the

Zapatistas to support negotiations that address the underlying causes of the conflict, to achieve lasting peace.

Mr. President, this resolution is not meant to embarrass or interfere. It is to convey our concern about the people of Chiapas, and the urgent need for concrete progress to resolve a conflict that has cost many innocent lives and which threatens the economic and political development of our southern neighbor.

Many Senators may not know the history of the Chiapas conflict. After the 1994 uprising, the Zapatistas and the government tried to resolve the conflict peacefully. Those negotiations collapsed in 1996 when the Mexican Government walked away from a partial agreement which would have given the inhabitants of Chiapas greater rights.

Since then the situation has gotten worse. Last December, Mexican paramilitary forces killed 45 unarmed civilians in the village of Acteal. In June, two police officers and eight villagers died when Mexican soldiers and police clashed with Zapatista supporters. There are now tens of thousands of Mexican soldiers who patrol the roads in and out of Chiapas in armored vehicles. They patrol the skies in low flying helicopters. They surround the impoverished communities of Zapatista supporters, who, not surprisingly, see the government as their enemy. On top of that, there are armed paramilitary groups who have been responsible for some of the worst atrocities.

The dissolution of the National Mediation Commission after the resignation of its President, Bishop Samuel Ruiz, has further impeded efforts to resolve the conflict peacefully.

I regularly receive reports of violence or harassment directed against human rights monitors, including American citizens, who have been summarily expelled from Mexico for activities that amount to nothing more than criticizing the policies of the Mexican Government.

One case I have followed closely involves an American priest who lived in Chiapas for some 19 years. He was arrested, driven to the airport, accused of engaging in illegal political activity on the basis of anonymous, unsubstantiated allegations, and summarily expelled. Efforts by myself, the American Ambassador, and the Department of State to correct this injustice have been entirely unsuccessful. The Mexican Government has consistently misrepresented the facts in his case.

Despite President Zedillo's repeated calls for renewed dialogue with the Zapatistas and their supporters, and despite the fact that the Zapatistas do not pose a credible threat to the Mexican Government, the Mexican Government's actions have not improved the situation. The government seems to believe that it can solve the problem by simultaneously threatening and holding out promises to Zapatista supporters, even though they live in the same

miserable conditions as their parents, their parents' parents, and their grandparents' grandparents, and they deeply distrust the government.

Mr. President, the United States and Mexico share many interests. We have worked together to address concerns on both sides of the border. I have no doubt that the government and the Zapatistas can solve this problem, if they want to. But we must also recognize that violence and instability in Mexico directly affect United States economic and security interests, and human rights abuses, wherever and however they occur, deserve our attention.

This Resolution reflects a balanced approach. Neither side in the conflict is blameless. To resolve it peacefully, both must want peace and be willing to take steps to create the conditions that make it possible for good faith negotiations to succeed, and then sit down at the table together.

The Resolution urges the Secretary of State to ensure that the United States is not contributing to the political violence, by reaffirming current law which limits assistance and exports of equipment only to Mexican security forces who are primarily involved in counter-narcotics activities and who do not commit human rights abuses.

It calls on the Mexican Government to respect the rights of American citizens and human rights monitors in Mexico.

Mr. President, some may ask why we are submitting this Resolution today, when this conflict has been simmering for years. One reason is that after all this time the problem is no closer to being solved. It has gotten worse, not better. The recent flooding has caused an urgent, humanitarian crisis among displaced people in Chiapas who are struggling to survive. And last week's elections showed, not surprisingly, that fully half the people in Chiapas have no faith in the political process.

In short, the status quo is unacceptable. The violence is unacceptable. The lack of any meaningful peace process is unacceptable. There is no reason why so many civilians have died. There is no reason why the causes of the conflict cannot be openly discussed and effectively addressed.

This Resolution sends a message to the Mexican Government, the Zapatistas, our own administration and the international community that an intensified effort is needed urgently to resolve the conflict peacefully.

Mr. President, I want to thank the other Senators who have cosponsored this resolution

SENATE RESOLUTION 294 EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE WITH RESPECT TO DEVELOPMENTS IN MALAYSIA AND THE ARREST OF DATO SERI ANWAR IBRAHIM

Mr. THOMAS (for himself, Mr. KERRY, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr.

LIEBERMAN, and Mr. GRAMS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 294

Whereas on September 2, 1998, Malaysia's Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad dismissed Deputy Prim Minister Dato Seri Anwar Ibrahim;

Whereas over the past year, Dato Seri Anwar has advocated adopting meaningful economic structural reforms to combat an increasingly deteriorating economy—a view which runs counter to those of Dr. Mahathir;

Whereas after being dismissed, Dato Seri Anwar began touring the country and publicly criticizing Dr. Mahathir and the policies of the ruling United Malays Organization Baru (UMNO) party;

Whereas in apparent reaction to this criticism Dato Seri Anwar was arrested on September 20, 1998, and held under the provisions of the Malaysian Internal Security Act (ISA);

Whereas the ISA removes arrested individuals from the protections afforded criminal defendants under Malaysia's constitution and statutes, and consequently Dato Seri Anwar was held in an undisclosed location without any formal charges being lodged against him;

Whereas on September 29, 1998, Dato Seri Anwar was formally charged with nine counts of corruption and sexual misconduct, including four sodomy counts, to which another count was later added;

Whereas the vague nature of the charges, as well as the fact that two of the government's "witnesses" have already recanted, could reasonably lead to a conclusion that the charges were manufactured by the government for maximum shock value to discredit Dato Seri Anwar and silence him;

Whereas when Dato Seri Anwar appeared at his arraignment, he had been beaten by police while in custody; and told the judge that on his first night of detention, while handcuffed and blindfolded, that he was "boxed very hard on my head and lower jaw and left eye . . . I was then slapped very hard, left and right, until blood came out from my nose and my lips cracked. Because of this I could not walk or see properly";

Whereas to substantiate his claims, Dato Seri Anwar showed the court a large bruise on his arm; his swollen black eye was evident to everyone in the courtroom;

Whereas Dr. Mahathir suggested that Dato Seri Anwar inflicted the injuries to himself in order to gain public sympathy;

Whereas since its independence Malaysia has been transformed from a divided multi-racial developing nation into a modern, cosmopolitan, economically sophisticated country; and

Whereas the government's actions in case of Dato Seri Anwar seriously damage the reputation of Malaysia in the eyes of the rest of the world; Now therefore be it

*Resolved by the Senate*, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the Malaysian government should take every step to safeguard the rights of Dato Seri Anwar, ensure that any charges brought against him are not spurious, afford him a fair and open trial, and fully investigate and prosecute those responsible for his mistreatment while in detention; and that

(2) all Malaysians should be permitted to express their political views in a peaceful and orderly fashion without fear of arrest or intimidation.