

Believe it or not, in my small town of Columbus, Indiana, I grew up next door to a Hungarian immigrant who fled Hungary in the wake of the Soviet repression of the Hungarian Revolution in 1956. I sat often with Julius Perr, now passed away, and heard of the way the Hungarian people, inspired by our calls for freedom, stood up for their own freedom. And as Bret Stephens recounts in today's Wall Street Journal, We stood by idly, we didn't want to interfere, and the Soviet tanks rolled.

We cannot stand idly by, speak of Iran sovereignty, speak of their own right to choose their own leadership at a time when hundreds of thousands of Iranians are risking their liberty, and even their lives, to stand for free elections and democracy.

Ronald Reagan said, There is no arsenal or no weapon in the arsenals of the world so formidable as the will and moral courage of free men and women. All of us desire a fresh start with Iran, and it seems from news reports and the extraordinary images coming from the streets of Iran that millions of Iranians long for a new start in their government. There is a reformist movement afoot in Iran.

Today, I will introduce a resolution. I urge all of my colleagues in both parties to join me in expressing support for these brave and courageous men and women.

#### WHERE'S THE TRANSPARENCY?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I do appreciate this opportunity.

You know, there's so many people out of work around this country. We know since President Obama took office 2 million more people have lost jobs. It's staggering and quite sobering.

I recently met with many people who are unemployed in a north Lufkin church, and I guess virtually all were African Americans. These were people that were ready to go to work, willing to go to work, good, strong work ethic, have families, deeply caring about their community and their families. And so it got me to looking and thinking what can I do to use my position to try to help people get jobs.

There's the Texas Workforce Commission that does a good job trying to have job fairs. It turned out by using my position, partnering with other groups, the Chamber, different groups, we were able to have 50 employers with over 1,000 jobs to offer, but even that doesn't satisfy all of the need for all of the jobs people are needing that are out of work.

But it did sensitize me to the fact, look around for job opportunities. Where is this Nation spending money that might go to help people who are unemployed? Where could they get jobs? We've got another job fair coming up in Longview in a couple of weeks, and we're hoping it will be as successful.

But as I look around and I see the millions of dollars being spent and I hear from constituents, and having a heart, wanting to help them, I'm brought to the question after we hear about the Uyghurs, four of them going to Bermuda—although we were promised great transparency—and that was one of the things that appealed to the voters of the United States, that if we elect this administration we will have complete transparency, everything will be transparent, we'll know what they're spending money on, we will know what they're doing. Well, we don't know. They won't tell us what money has been sent to Bermuda to take four Uyghurs, but some are estimating \$12 million apiece. They don't think it's very much, maybe \$12 million apiece or so. We know that supposedly other Uyghurs are going from Guantanamo to Palau.

One report I read estimated that over the last 14 years, going back to the middle of the Clinton administration, we paid Palau about \$852 million just for aid. And so there's some question that we're going to pay them more millions to take these, or since their 15-year agreement is up, are they willing to take these?

The bottom line is millions and millions of dollars are being paid to take 17 Uyghurs, and for those that don't know, those are people in China who, because of their religious belief, are adverse to China. And we know that these 17 were captured in terrorist camps in Afghanistan. Some say, well, they weren't being trained to terrorize us, but they were in terrorist camps in Afghanistan.

So the question many are asking now is, for those 2 million of us who have lost our jobs since January of this year, what terrorist camp can we go to to train so that maybe we could spend the rest of our lives at U.S. expense on the beaches of Bermuda? We saw the people, the pictures of the four Uyghurs in Bermuda. They really seemed to be enjoying themselves, laughing, cutting up, out there on the beach, the waves crashing. Those Uyghurs who have gone to Palau, how many millions have been paid we don't know. But I have got a bunch of constituents who are willing to go train in terrorist camps, in Afghanistan if necessary, if our government will pay millions of dollars to send them to the beaches.

Also, one other point, we know there's been no transparency with the auto task force. We don't know what they're being paid. We just know that this group that has never run anything in the car business is running the car businesses and dictating what will happen. Well, I've got lots of people that are every bit as unqualified to run the car business in my district who are unemployed. They want that job. Where do they apply to run the car businesses of America and get on the auto task force? We want to know because they'd like that job.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 19 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until noon.

#### UNITED STATES ASSOCIATION OF FORMER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS 2009 ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS

Mr. HERTEL. It is an honor for me to introduce the gentleman from Maryland, who for over three decades has provided leadership in this House on behalf of the Democratic Party, on behalf of the State of Maryland but on behalf of our Nation, most importantly.

This session of Congress that we are in today has been the most productive in my lifetime. We see the many challenges that face us—on the economy, the war, on health care, on all the different issues that have faced the American public, and the majority leader, who has been forging ahead and working in a bipartisan way on these very important challenges, has had the time not only to play golf with us yesterday at our Wounded Warriors tournament but to come again this morning and take some time to welcome us.

Thank you very much, Majority Leader.

Mr. HOYER. Thank you very much, Mr. Vice President, Mr. Speaker. You know Bob Michel was my Speaker. You've heard my story on going up to Ray LaHood and saying, Ray—this is 1995, John—and I said to Ray, who was presiding—you know, Ray presided a lot and was an excellent presiding officer. I went up to him and told him—we had about 197 votes at that point in time. I said, you know, I'll get you 197, you get 21 and we'll elect Bob Michel the Speaker. He smiled. It probably crossed his mind that that was a worthwhile endeavor but maybe he couldn't get there.

But in any event, it's always a pleasure to be with Bob Michel and all of you; my former colleague in the Maryland delegation, Connie Morella, who is one of your officers in this organization; John Rhodes, with whom I served. John, thank you very much for the great service you gave to this country and that your father gave to this country and that you continue to give to this country. We're blessed by that. And all of you with whom I have served over the years. As a matter of fact, most of the people as I look around here, it was a great pleasure to serve with you. Marty Russo, of course, I served with him as well and that was a little more of a trial.

Marty played golf yesterday. Dennis, he's really feeling badly. He shot six under par and he didn't win. He thinks it was fixed that the former Members were not allowed to win the tournament. He said, you know, what was the worth of playing in it.