

Act. The MOMS for the 21st Century Act expands Federal research on maternity practices and ensures the healthiest of maternity outcomes, and it authorizes a scientifically based media campaign to educate the public about those practices. In addition, the bill creates a national focus on maternity care by establishing an inter-agency coordinating committee to promote optimal outcomes for mothers and babies.

To help address serious health disparities in maternity care outcome, the MOMS for the 21st Century Act directs the collection of data to determine the areas in our country which lack adequate access to maternity care providers. It also directs the Secretary of HHS to support the education of a more culturally and geographically diverse interdisciplinary workforce by convening a maternity curriculum commission to develop core curricula across maternity professional disciplines, establishing loan repayment programs for providers in maternity care shortage areas and by authorizing grant programs for maternity professional organizations to recruit and retain minority providers.

Mr. Speaker, as Lee Jong-wook, former Deputy General of the World Health Organization once said, "Mothers, the newborn, and children represent the well-being of a society and its potential for the future. Their health needs cannot be left unmet without harming the whole of society."

Mr. Speaker, there is no doubt the future of our country depends on the health and well-being of our mothers and their children. I urge my colleagues to make evidence-based maternity care a national priority by cosponsoring and helping to pass the MOMS for the 21st Century Act.

BAND PLAYS ON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the band continues to play the same song, third or fourth verse, and that is the song of nuclear weapons in Iran.

Now, is there anyone in the House of Representatives, Democratic, Republican, who believes that Iran has stopped its development of nuclear weapons? I think not. Is there anyone in this world who thinks that Iran has stopped its development of nuclear weapons? I think not.

You know, they used the philosophy and the politics of delay, of promise, of hope to tell the world that really they are not really interested in nuclear weapons. Meanwhile, the band continues to play the song of nuclear weapons coming from the desert and the tiny tyrant of the desert, Ahmadinejad.

He is bent on the destruction of, first, Israel and then the West, and he is primarily concerned right now with

destroying opposition in his own country. After all, he is an illegitimate officeholder and President of Iran. He rigged the elections, and so he took control. He killed his own people in the streets, and, Mr. Speaker, he is still at war with the Iranian people, those good folks in Iran who want to control their destiny and don't want it controlled by their dictator, the little tyrant in the desert.

We as a Nation and as a world need to support the people of Iran to change their regime. Our quarrel is not with the people of Iran. Our quarrel is with the tiny tyrant in the desert who wants the nuclear destruction of Israel and the West.

□ 1640

And he has continued his attack on his own people in Camp Ashraf. Those Iranian folks that are in Camp Ashraf in Iraq that we as a Nation have promised to protect but because of our agreement with the Iraqi Government, Camp Grizzly, that organization or that camp we have in Iraq to protect the Iranians in Camp Ashraf, we have abandoned that Camp Grizzly. The United Nations assistance team has also left.

So who is in charge of protecting the Iranians in Iraq? Certainly not the Iranian Government. They want them destroyed. After all, it was about a year ago when they encouraged the Iraqi Government to go into Camp Ashraf and they did. They killed 11 Iranians; 500 others were wounded. And now we hear media talk that the Iranian Government is working with the Iraqi Government to present warrants of arrest so the Iraqi Government will go back into Camp Ashraf and arrest those pro-democracy Iranians that want to remove Ahmadinejad. We cannot allow that to happen. We must protect the people, the citizens of Camp Ashraf. It is our obligation, our moral duty as a Nation and as a world to make sure those dissidents remain protected and free.

It is important to the world that we as a Nation understand the importance of Israel as our ally. Israel is surrounded by its enemies; it's surrounded by Hamas to the south, Hezbollah to the north. And you know what, Mr. Speaker? Iran is supplying weapons and money to Hezbollah in the north, Hamas in the south. You see, the little rogue dictator, the tiny tyrant of the desert, Ahmadinejad, is trying to have insurrection in Israel as well as in his own country.

So, Mr. Speaker, the great hope for Iran, the great hope for the world is a regime change in Iran. And we need to be vigilant and supportive and watchful and make sure that we help in any way we can, at least verbally and politically, to support the good people of Iran to take control of their own country, to get rid of this illegitimate dictator that's trying to destroy not only Israel and the West, but his own country for some unfortunate reason.

Mr. Speaker, regime change is the answer. A nuclear Iran is not a nuclear option.

And that's just the way it is.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BRIGHT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BRIGHT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

AFGHANISTAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I have a poster beside me of a handsome couple. It's Marine Sergeant Tom Bagosy and his wife, Katie. I would like to read from an article:

"Marine Sgt. Tom Bagosy stepped out of his black GMC Sierra pickup and onto the gray speckled pavement of McHugh Boulevard, a busy thoroughfare in the heart of Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. He held a pistol in his right hand. The military police car that had pulled him over idled on the shoulder a safe distance behind him. The midday traffic stopped. Bagosy stood for a moment on the warm pavement under a cloudless May sky. Then he raised the pistol, pointed it to the right side of his throat just below his jaw, and pulled the trigger. The bullet sliced through his jugular vein, traveled through his skull, and exited near the top left side of his head. He crumpled down in the road. Even if the bullet had failed to rip through his brain, shooting through the jugular was solid insurance. He would have bled out in minutes anyway.

"Bagosy, 25, who had served in Iraq and Afghanistan, had become another statistic in the war-fatigued military and its steadily escalating suicide rate. Last year, 52 marines committed suicide."

Mr. Speaker, I bring this to the floor because I don't know what we're trying to accomplish in Afghanistan. The experts say they can identify about 50 al Qaeda. Yes, we know al Qaeda is in other parts of Afghanistan, of the 50, then Pakistan, Yemen, Somalia, and other countries. And yet Tom Bagosy is like so many in our military who are willing to go time after time, time after time. But they also are human beings that break down as well as get tired. And the families—Katie is now the mother to two children without her husband, Tom.

Mr. Speaker, the tragedy of war goes on and on and on, and yet we have no endpoint in Afghanistan. We just keep sending the troops back and back and back and back. Just recently we had a debate on the floor of the House and we tried to debate what is the endpoint to the strategy. I'm not a military man, Mr. Speaker, but I've talked to many,