

FEB 14 2001

Laid Over Under Rule 25

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 12

BY GREIMANN

A Concurrent Resolution supporting the lifting of nonmilitary sanctions against Iraq by the United States government.

WHEREAS, the children of Iraq continue to suffer malnutrition, disease, and death as a direct result of United Nations-imposed economic sanctions, including a trade embargo; and

WHEREAS, a recent United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) survey of infant and maternal mortality shows marked decline in basic life indicators in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, 4,500 Iraqi children under the age of five are dying every month, and the nation's educational, medical, electrical, and water infrastructure is in disarray due to shortages in supplies; and

WHEREAS, no significant movements forward with regard to food security can be achieved as long as the embargo remains in place; and

WHEREAS, visits by representatives of the Middle East Council of Churches and the American Friends Service Committee have disclosed that many Iraqi children lack adequate food, medicine, and clean water; and

WHEREAS, after 10 years of economic sanctions imposed by the United States as a result of the Gulf War, a deepening social and humanitarian crisis is looming, with the most affected groups being the sick, the young, the elderly, and the poor; and

WHEREAS, there is awareness that the economic

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1 embargo is by no means the sole cause of the
2 continuing suffering of the Iraqi people; and

3 WHEREAS, the Iraqi government inaction does not
4 relieve the international community, including the
5 United States, from the responsibility to end the
6 dreadful suffering caused by the economic embargo; and

7 WHEREAS, in the words of the great humanitarian,
8 Albert Camus, "Perhaps we cannot prevent this world
9 from being a place in which children are tortured.
10 But we can reduce the number of tortured children.
11 And if you don't help us, who else in the world can
12 help us do this?"; NOW THEREFORE,

13 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE
14 SENATE CONCURRING, That the Iowa General Assembly
15 urges that the economic embargo against Iraq be lifted
16 immediately by establishing normal trade while
17 retaining an embargo on military items; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this
19 Resolution be sent by the Chief Clerk of the House of
20 Representatives to the President of the United States,
21 the President of the United States Senate, the
22 Committee on Foreign Relations of the United States
23 Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of
24 Representatives, the Committee on International
25 Relations of the United States House of
26 Representatives, and members of Iowa's congressional
27 delegation.

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