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(Original Signature of Member)

113TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. RES.

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Urging the Government of Afghanistan, following a successful first round of the presidential election on April 5, 2014, to pursue a transparent, credible, and inclusive run-off presidential election on June 14, 2014, while ensuring the safety of voters, candidates, poll workers, and election observers.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. GRAYSON submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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# RESOLUTION

Urging the Government of Afghanistan, following a successful first round of the presidential election on April 5, 2014, to pursue a transparent, credible, and inclusive run-off presidential election on June 14, 2014, while ensuring the safety of voters, candidates, poll workers, and election observers.

Whereas on April 5, 2014, the Government of Afghanistan held the first round of the presidential election in which voter participation was 60 percent;

Whereas on May 15, 2014, Afghanistan's Independent Election Commission (IEC) certified the results, and an-

nounced that a run-off election would be held on June 14, 2014, because no candidate received more than 50 percent of the votes;

Whereas on May 14, 2014, the IEC invalidated votes from 331 polling stations and removed them from the final tabulation, based on Electoral Complaints Commission (ECC) decisions;

Whereas there have been widespread reports of voter and election monitor intimidation, including the killing of members of the National Democratic Institute (NDI) during an attack at the Serena Hotel in Kabul on March 20, 2014, as well as attempts to bribe members of the IEC, the ECC, and other election monitoring organizations;

Whereas investigations by the ECC, and its coordination with the IEC, have not been conducted in a transparent manner;

Whereas 17 members of the Afghanistan National Security Forces (ANSF) were killed while supporting the April 5, 2014, elections;

Whereas United States and coalition armed forces have greatly contributed to the stability and security of Afghanistan at a considerable personal sacrifice; and

Whereas the United States has contributed more than \$200,000,000 toward the 2014 Afghan presidential election: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2               (1) commends the Government of Afghanistan  
3       for holding a successful first round of the presi-  
4       dential election and expresses strong support for a

1 credible, inclusive, and transparent second round on  
2 June 14, 2014;

3 (2) supports the mandate of Afghan electoral  
4 bodies such as the Independent Election Commission  
5 (IEC) and the Electoral Complaints Commission  
6 (ECC) to administer, adjudicate, and manage polls,  
7 as well as oversee logistical and technical prepara-  
8 tions in a transparent, fair, and credible manner to  
9 prevent fraud and misconduct;

10 (3) encourages the Government of Afghanistan  
11 to implement measures that will increase voter par-  
12 ticipation, particularly among the Afghan female  
13 population;

14 (4) recognizes the determination of the Afghan  
15 people to exercise their right to vote and determine  
16 their country's destiny;

17 (5) urges the Government of Afghanistan to  
18 take steps to assure that fraudulent electoral activi-  
19 ties do not take place during the runoff;

20 (6) urges the IEC to adopt measures to better  
21 mitigate fraud, improve electoral transparency of the  
22 polling and counting process, and communicate these  
23 measures clearly and consistently to the people of  
24 Afghanistan;

1           (7) urges close and continuing communication  
2           between the IEC and the Afghanistan National Se-  
3           curity Forces (ANSF) to identify and provide secu-  
4           rity for vulnerable areas of the country during the  
5           election period;

6           (8) encourages all elements of Afghan society to  
7           refrain from fomenting violence and other disturb-  
8           ances in voting areas;

9           (9) urges the ANSF to make every necessary  
10          effort to ensure the safety of voters, candidates, poll  
11          workers, and election observers;

12          (10) expresses its support for the full participa-  
13          tion of Afghan civil society in the election process;

14          (11) recognizes that a democratically-elected  
15          government that reflects the will of the Afghan peo-  
16          ple would promote the long-term prosperity, sta-  
17          bility, and security interests of Afghanistan and its  
18          neighbors, its partners in the North Atlantic Treaty  
19          Organization International Security Assistance  
20          Force, and the United States; and

21          (12) recognizes the sacrifices of United States  
22          and coalition armed forces that have contributed,  
23          and will continue to contribute, to the security and  
24          stability of Afghanistan.