



H.RES. 1195 – Expressing condolences and sympathy to the people of the People's Republic of China for the grave loss of life and vast destruction caused by the earthquake of May 12, 2008 in Sichuan Province

FLOOR SITUATION

H.Res. 1195 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative David Wu (D-OR) on May 14, 2008. The resolution was referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs where the Committee agreed to seek consideration under suspension of the rules.

H.Res. 1195 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on May 20, 2008.

SUMMARY

H.Res. 1195 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- Extends its condolences and sympathy to the people of the People's Republic of China for the grave loss of life and vast destruction caused by the massive earthquake centered in Sichuan Province;
- Vows its full support for the people of the People's Republic of China as well as the members of the Chinese American community in the United States who have relatives in the affected areas of China; and
- Expresses confidence that the people of the People's Republic of China will come together to help those in need and succeed in overcoming the hardships incurred because of this tragedy.

BACKGROUND

On Monday, May 12, 2008, at 2:28 p.m. EST, a massive earthquake measuring 7.9 on the Richter scale struck a mountainous region of Sichuan Province in southwest China. The earthquake is currently estimated to have claimed the lives of at least 32,500 people, left more than 5 million people homeless, and caused more than \$20 billion in damage to buildings.

Thousands of students, teachers, workers and families are still buried in the destruction. One school with up to 1,000 students and teachers inside collapsed in the city of Mianyang. The People's Republic of China has said that it is spending \$120 million on rescue efforts and that it would accept international aid to cope with the disaster.

STAFF CONTACT

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