

109TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 6433

To authorize assistance for the reconstruction and stabilization of Lebanon.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 8, 2006

Mr. FARR introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

A BILL

To authorize assistance for the reconstruction and stabilization of Lebanon.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Lebanon Reconstruc-
5 tion and Stabilization Act of 2006”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) On July 25, 2006, United States Amba-
9 sador to Lebanon Jeffrey Feltman declared a hu-
10 manitarian emergency in Lebanon due to ongoing
11 insecurity and humanitarian needs.

1 (2) On August 11, 2006, the United Nations
2 Security Council adopted Security Council Resolu-
3 tion 1701, calling for an end to hostilities between
4 Hezbollah and Israel, and stating that “the situation
5 in Lebanon constitutes a threat to international
6 peace and security”.

7 (3) United Nations Security Council Resolution
8 1701, “Stresses the importance of, and the need to
9 achieve, a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in
10 the Middle East.”.

11 (4) On August 14, 2006, the United Nations
12 brokered a ceasefire between Hezbollah and Israel.

13 (5) United Nations Security Council Resolution
14 1701, “Welcom[es] the efforts of the Lebanese
15 Prime Minister and the commitment of the Govern-
16 ment of Lebanon, in its seven-point plan, to extend
17 its authority over its territory, through its own le-
18 gitimate armed forces, such that there will be no
19 weapons without the consent of the Government of
20 Lebanon and no authority other than that of the
21 Government of Lebanon.”.

22 (6) United Nations Security Council Resolution
23 1701, “Calls on the international community to take
24 immediate steps to extend its financial and humani-
25 tarian assistance to the Lebanese people, including

1 through facilitating the safe return of displaced per-
2 sons and, under the authority of the Government of
3 Lebanon, reopening airports and harbors, consistent
4 with paragraphs 14 and 15, and calls on it also to
5 consider further assistance in the future to con-
6 tribute to the reconstruction and development of
7 Lebanon.”.

8 (7) It is estimated that there are approximately
9 8,500 unexploded ordnance in the region.

10 (8) The Lebanese Government estimates that
11 Lebanon suffered approximately \$3.6 billion in dam-
12 ages to physical infrastructure.

13 (9) Lebanon’s economy has been severely im-
14 pacted by the violence, especially in the tourism sec-
15 tor, which compromises 15 percent of its GDP.

16 (10) It is in the national security interests of
17 the United States, Israel and the region to have a
18 functioning Lebanese central government that is
19 able to protect its borders and provide municipal
20 services to all its citizens and a strong economy able
21 to generate jobs and foster economic growth.

22 **SEC. 3. DECLARATIONS OF POLICY.**

23 Congress makes the following declarations of policy:

24 (1) Assisting failed states emerging from violent
25 conflict is a complex and long-term task, as dem-

1 onstrated by the experience that 50 percent of such
2 states emerging from conditions of violent conflict
3 slip back into violence within five years.

4 (2) The United States Government recognizes
5 the threat to United States national security posed
6 by failed and failing states by adopting Directive
7 3000.05 for the Department of Defense that places
8 stabilization and reconstruction operations on par
9 with traditional war fighting and National Security
10 Policy Directive 45 for the Department of State that
11 makes the State Office of Coordinator for Recon-
12 struction and Stabilization, S/CRS, the government-
13 wide coordinating and planning entity for stabiliza-
14 tion and reconstruction operations.

15 (3) Therefore, it is in the best interests of the
16 United States Government to assist the Lebanese
17 Government with long-term reconstruction and sta-
18 bilization to further peace and stability within Leb-
19 anon and the greater Middle East region.

20 (4) United States assistance to Lebanon shall
21 be implemented in accordance with section 102(b) of
22 the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C.
23 2151–1(b)) that makes building the capacity of local
24 communities and institutional capabilities of the gov-
25 ernment and people a primary goal and “should

1 focus on establishing and upgrading the institutional
2 capacities of developing countries in order to pro-
3 mote long-term development”.

4 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF ASSISTANCE FOR THE RECON-**
5 **STRUCTION AND STABILIZATION OF LEB-**
6 **ANON.**

7 (a) **AUTHORIZATION OF ASSISTANCE.**—The Presi-
8 dent is authorized to provide assistance for the reconstruc-
9 tion and stabilization of Lebanon. Assistance authorized
10 under this subsection shall be planned, coordinated, and
11 implemented through the Department of State’s Office of
12 Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization, S/CRS,
13 and in strict compliance with all provisions of law that
14 prevent United States assistance from being provided to
15 foreign terrorists organizations.

16 (b) **ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED.**—Assistance provided
17 under subsection (a) shall be used to carry out the fol-
18 lowing activities:

19 (1) Rebuild the economic and social infrastruc-
20 ture of Lebanon, including roads, bridges, tele-
21 communication systems, water treatment plants,
22 schools, airports and hospitals.

23 (2) Encourage the World Bank and Inter-
24 national Monetary Fund to provide housing and eco-
25 nomic assistance in the form of grants and micro-

1 lending plans aimed at providing the Lebanese peo-
2 ple with the means to resuscitate small businesses in
3 Lebanon.

4 (3) Establish peace, reconciliation and coexist-
5 ence programs and conflict resolution programs
6 within Lebanon and between Lebanon and Israel.

7 (4) Encourage civic engagement, democratiza-
8 tion, rule of law, and political party strengthening
9 activities.

10 (5) Support efforts to address post-traumatic
11 stress disorders through funding counseling services
12 to civilians. Special efforts should be made to pro-
13 vide funding to Lebanese nongovernmental organiza-
14 tions specializing in such efforts.

15 (6) Improve education systems, with emphasis
16 on improving cross-sectarian educational experiences
17 of Lebanese youth.

18 (7) Increase assistance under chapter 5 of part
19 II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C.
20 2347 et seq.; relating to International Military Edu-
21 cation and Training) for Lebanon.

22 (8) Support demining and mine awareness cam-
23 paigns in Lebanon.

24 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be
2 appropriated to the President to carry out this sec-
3 tion such sums as may be necessary for each of the
4 fiscal years 2007 through 2011.

5 (2) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of
6 Congress that at least \$15,000,000 for each of the
7 fiscal years 2007 through 2011 should be made
8 available to carry out subsection (b)(4).

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