

The U.S. House of Representatives today approved a resolution offered by U.S. Rep. John Campbell (CA-48) condemning the United Nations Human Rights Council for ignoring human rights abuses in various countries, while unfairly targeting Israel. The resolution, H. Res. 557, which Rep. Campbell co-auth... The U.S. House of Representatives today approved a resolution offered by U.S. Rep. John Campbell (CA-48) condemning the United Nations Human Rights Council for ignoring human rights abuses in various countries, while unfairly targeting Israel. The resolution, H. Res. 557, which Rep. Campbell co-authored with U.S. Rep. Howard L. Berman (CA-28), was approved overwhelmingly by the full House by a vote of 416-2.

“I am pleased that the full House of Representatives today approved this important resolution condemning the United Nations Human Rights Council for turning a blind eye to human rights abuses around the world, while unfairly singling out Israel,” said Congressman Campbell. “This Council is a sham. While it goes around masquerading as an organization dedicated to human rights, its own members perpetuate human rights violations around the world, and promote extreme anti-Israel bias. I am hopeful that today’s action will send a strong message to the UN that the Council’s complete lack of reasoned objectivity and their inherent discrimination against Israel will not be tolerated.”

During his speech to the UN General Assembly today, President Bush stated, “the American people are disappointed by the failures of the Human Rights Council. This body has been silent on repression by regimes from Havana to Caracas to Pyongyang and Tehran -- while focusing its criticism excessively on Israel. To be credible on human rights in the world, the United Nations must reform its own Human Rights Council.”

The UN Human Rights Council replaced the previous UN Commission on Human Rights, which was discredited by its extreme anti-Israel bias and by granting membership to flagrant human rights abusers—even elevating them to leadership positions on the Commission.□ □

The Council was established on March 15, 2006, with the purpose of "promoting universal respect for the protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all" and to "address situations of violations of human rights, including gross and systematic violations.”

Since the formation of the Human Rights Council there have been numerous serious violations of fundamental human rights across the globe that cry out for justice and redress (such as Sudan, Burma, North Korea, Uzbekistan, Iran, and Zimbabwe). Unfortunately, the Council has deemed only one country in the world to be a human rights violator—Israel.