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S. RES. 224

Recognizing the increasingly beneficial relationship between the United States and the Republic of Indonesia.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 24, 2009

Mr. BOND (for himself and Mr. INOUE) submitted the following resolution;
which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the increasingly beneficial relationship between the United States and the Republic of Indonesia.

Whereas the historical ties between the United States and the Republic of Indonesia began during the struggle of the people of Indonesia to become independent and the early years of independence beginning in 1945;

Whereas the constitutionally required “free and active” foreign policy of Indonesia resulted in a close relationship with the United States, and this relationship reflects growing connections between the developed and the developing world;

Whereas, following the 1998 financial crisis of Asia, Indonesia instituted numerous democratic reforms, including amending the constitution of Indonesia in order to become more democratic and transparent, holding the first

direct presidential election in 2004, and direct, nationwide local elections beginning in 2006, and giving the judicial branch independent administrative and financial responsibility for all courts in 2004;

Whereas the administration of President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, the first President of Indonesia elected directly by the people, is strongly committed to strengthening democracy and remains focused on developing good governance and promoting and protecting human rights, civil liberties, a free press, and a vibrant civil society;

Whereas the Government of Indonesia continues to reform the military in accordance with internationally accepted democratic principles;

Whereas Indonesia signed a peace agreement in August 2005 that ended the conflict in Aceh, met its obligations under the agreement, oversaw the return of normalcy to Aceh, and held free, transparent, and peaceful elections for local government leaders in December 2006;

Whereas the Government of Indonesia continues to work to peacefully resolve other internal conflicts, including Papua, with concern for the welfare and security of the entire population;

Whereas, following the recovery of economic and political stability in Indonesia after the 1998 Asian financial crisis, the country regained a pivotal role in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and continues to work toward a secure, peaceful, and vibrant Southeast Asia, particularly by successfully proposing to establish the ASEAN Security Community, the ASEAN Economic Community, and the ASEAN Socio-cultural Community;

Whereas the Government and the people of Indonesia endured several terrorist bombings, have shown resilience in the fight against international terrorism by apprehending and bringing to justice numerous perpetrators, and remain open to international cooperation in this area;

Whereas the Government of Indonesia, together with the Governments of Malaysia and Singapore as fellow littoral states and user-countries, maintains and is further strengthening efforts to secure the important international shipping lane in the Malacca Strait;

Whereas, as shown in international fora, the Government of Indonesia remains committed to addressing the problems related to the control of the spread of weapons of mass destruction;

Whereas the Government of Indonesia deployed a military battalion to support the peacekeeping operations of the United Nations Interim Force In Lebanon, and as the largest Muslim democracy in the world, has helped facilitate dialogue among many Islamic factions in the Middle East; and

Whereas, though the Government of Indonesia has shown significant progress in the areas of democracy, good governance, human rights, and counterterrorism, there remains much to be done and many reforms yet to be implemented: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) recognizes the progress made by the Gov-
3 ernment of Indonesia in promoting democracy;

4 (2) expresses ongoing support for further demo-
5 cratic reform in Indonesia and the efforts of the

1 Government and the people of Indonesia toward de-
2 veloping good governance;

3 (3) encourages the Government and the people
4 of Indonesia to continue working to promote and
5 protect human rights, civil liberties, a free press,
6 and a strong civil society in Indonesia; and

7 (4) encourages the President, the Secretary of
8 State, and other officials of the United States Gov-
9 ernment to continue assisting the Government of In-
10 donesia in promoting democracy and ensuring the
11 liberty and welfare of the people of Indonesia.

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