

enough to pursue a path that will only lead to more conflict and bloodshed.

That's why I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in voting for H. Res. 268 and in opposing the Palestinians' dangerous and desperate effort to obtain an empty declaration of statehood without peace at the United Nations.

HONORING REVEREND GEORGE  
LEE JOHNSON

**HON. JEFF DENHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 7, 2011*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues, Mr. NUNES and Mr. COSTA, to acknowledge and honor the life of a beloved leader in the Fresno Community, Reverend George Lee Johnson, and to recognize his tireless work as the Senior Pastor of Peoples Church. Ministering to thousands, Reverend Johnson earned the respect of fellow clergy and civic leaders alike.

The son of a Baptist minister, George Lee Johnson, or G.L. as he came to be known, grew up in Houston. He moved to Fresno in 1961 to work as the Associate General Director of the Latin American Orphanage. That same year, Reverend Johnson and his wife, Jackie, joined the then small Peoples Church. In 1963, Reverend Johnson became the Pastor of Peoples Church at the age 37.

Reverend Johnson's commitment to his faith and the congregation of Peoples Church resulted in significant growth of the organization. His uplifting messages of hope and faith appealed to many worshippers. In 1978, Peoples Church moved to a sanctuary with capacity of more than 2,000 people, allowing over 5,000 people to attend numerous different services on Sunday. With an ever-increasing following, Peoples Church attracted a mix of civic leaders. Moreover, Reverend Johnson's hard work and service were influential in the community of Fresno. He organized the Pastor's Prayer Summit in Oakhurst, where over 45 clergy members met to pray for guidance for civic leaders in combating Fresno's crime rate and resolving socioeconomic problems. The success of this event inspired Reverend Johnson to organize a weekly Citywide Pastors Prayer Meeting which began in 1993 and still takes place today. In 2001, the Reverend was instrumental in bringing the Central Valley Billy Graham Crusade to Bulldog Stadium, an event which united more than 200,000 people.

Reverend G.L. Johnson retired from Peoples Church in 2008 after 45 years of service as the Senior Pastor. However, his retirement from the church did not mark the end of his ministry. Reverend Johnson continued to support the church and lend his wisdom and knowledge to the many Fresno residents who looked to him for guidance. He also traveled throughout the world, teaching at various religious conferences. After a brave battle with cancer, Reverend George Lee Johnson passed away surrounded by his loving family at the age of 83.

Mr. Speaker, please join Mr. NUNES, Mr. COSTA, and I in honoring Reverend George Lee Johnson for his unwavering leadership, and recognizing his accomplishments and contributions as Pastor of Peoples Church.

The life of Reverend George Lee Johnson serves as an example of excellence to those in our community, and his legacy will not be soon forgotten.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MIKE McINTYRE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 7, 2011*

Mr. McINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 498 on July 6, 2011, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

INTRODUCING THE AMERICAN  
TRAVELER DIGNITY ACT OF 2011

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 7, 2011*

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce legislation to protect Americans from physical and emotional abuse by Federal Transportation Security Administration employees conducting screenings at the nation's airports. Year after year the TSA seems more belligerent toward Americans simply seeking to travel within their own country—a most basic of our fundamental rights—and sadly Americans are just expected to shut up and take it. We should not have to shut up and take it.

Many Americans continue to fool themselves into accepting TSA abuses by saying "I don't mind giving up my freedoms for security." In fact, they are giving up their liberties and not receiving security in return. Time and time again we see the revolting pictures of Federal screeners with their hands down the pants of children while parents watch helplessly in agony. We see elderly or disabled Americans being forced to endure all manner of indignity. At the same time, we repeatedly hear of passengers who seem to check all the boxes marked "suspicious activity" slipping through unencumbered. Just recently we read of a Nigerian immigrant breezing through TSA security checks to board a flight from New York to LA—with a stolen, expired boarding pass and an out-of-date student ID as his sole identification. We should not be surprised to find government ineptitude and indifference at the TSA, however.

What we ultimately need is real privatization of security, but not phony privatization with the same TSA screeners in private security firm uniforms still operating under the "guidance" of the Federal Government. Real security will be achieved when the airlines are once again in charge of protecting their property and their passengers.

To move us in that direction, I am today introducing the American Traveler Dignity Act, which establishes that any Federal employee or agency or any individual or entity that receives Federal funds is not immune from any U.S. law regarding physical contact with another person, making images of another person, or causing physical harm through the use of radiation-emitting machinery on another person. It means they are not above laws the rest of us must obey. As we continue to see

more and more outrageous stories of TSA abuses and failures, I hope that my colleagues in the House will listen to their constituents and join with me to support this legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. STEVE KING**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 7, 2011*

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 24, I was delayed in leaving the Medal of Honor Recognition Ceremony for Staff Sergeant Salvatore Guinta and was unable to reach the floor to cast my vote before the vote was closed. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

ANOTHER UNFOLDING TRAGEDY  
IN SUDAN

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 7, 2011*

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I submit an article which recently ran in the BBC regarding the unfolding tragedy in Sudan.

On the eve of the birth of a new nation in South Sudan, Khartoum is once again perpetrating acts of violence against its own people—this time in Southern Kordofan.

First-hand accounts emerging from the region are chilling . . . door to door executions, reportedly based on ethnicity and political affiliation; Antonov bombers leaving a trail of devastation in their wake, mass displacement.

The world says, "never again," and yet in the face of mounting atrocities, where is the outrage?

[From BBC News, June 23, 2011]

SUDAN'S SOUTH KORDOFAN: "BOMBINGS,  
BLOOD AND TERROR"

More than 70,000 people are said to have fled violence in Sudan's South Kordofan state, where the government says it is disarming rebels. The region borders South Sudan, a largely Christian and animist region, which is due to gain independence from the mostly Arabic-speaking, Muslim north on 9 July.

There is concern about the humanitarian crisis and the alleged atrocities being committed. The area has effectively been cut off by the military and not much has been heard from people in the area. One aid worker who has just left the region told the BBC's Will Ross about his experiences:

It is terrifying. The civilians try to hide but generally they run in panic and hence, sadly, there are many casualties who die because of shrapnel. There are bombings and shellings every day in different areas.

There is a plane called an Antonov which circles high in the sky and keeps coming over. Then there is the whistle of the bombs as they fall. You have a few seconds to run but you do not know if it is going to fall on you or not. The sounds of the explosions are huge and sometimes the craters they leave are five or six metres across.

Burning hot pieces of jagged metal, the shrapnel, go flying across the air and if you are not below the surface in a hole or a dug-out you are at huge risk.

BLOOD AND FLIES

Then there are the MiGs [planes] which come in very, very fast and low. These fire