

CITY OF SEBASTOPOL

proclamation

Encouraging Congress to Encourage Relations between the US and Iran

WHEREAS, Unsubstantiated U.S. accusations about Iran's nuclear program and its involvement in the violence in Iraq have led to threats from U.S. officials to attack Iran;

WHEREAS, The Bush Administration, following the same strategy that led to the disastrous invasion and occupation of Iraq, has engaged in a campaign to demonize Iran using biased sources, exaggerated threat assessments and cherry picking of information;

WHEREAS, A U.S. strike on Iran, especially with the nuclear "bunker-buster" bombs being contemplated, would be deadly for tens or hundreds of thousands of Iranians, and would violate the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and the UN Charter;

WHEREAS, According to the estimates of Western intelligence agencies, Iran is years away from having a usable nuclear weapon, if indeed it is seeking one;

WHEREAS, Iran has not invaded or attacked any country for hundreds of years and has not threatened to attack the U.S.;

WHEREAS, Iran is a signatory to the Non-Proliferation Treaty and Iran's nuclear power program, including enriching uranium, is legal under the NPT;

WHEREAS, A U.S. attack on Iran would unite Iranians—even internal critics—behind their government, turn the Iranian people against the United States, and invite retaliation against our troops in Iraq and elsewhere in the Middle East;

WHEREAS, Comprehensive direct diplomatic talks between the US and Iran, with no pre-conditions, would likely result in improved relations between our nations;

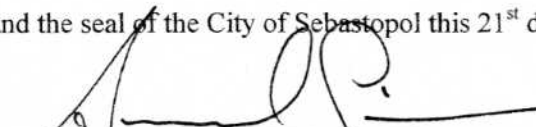
WHEREAS, Exacerbating tensions with Iran could obstruct efforts to cooperate with Iran over ending violence in Iraq and delay the withdrawal of U.S. forces from Iraq;

THEREFORE, THE CITY OF SEBASTOPOL, CALIFORNIA CALLS ON OUR REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS TO:

- Prohibit the use of funds to carry out any military action against Iran without explicit Congressional authorization,
- Ensure that our relations with Iran are consistent with international law; and
- Encourage talks, without pre-conditions, between the US and Iran on nuclear issues and ending the violence in Iraq.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the City of Sebastopol this 21st day of August, 2007.




San Pierce, Mayor
City of Sebastopol