

Congressman Joe Wilson (R-SC)

And ladies and gentlemen and fellow friends of the people of Iran, what an honor for me to be here with you today. And it's so meaningful to me, I always like to remind people of Iranian heritage that when I got married, the very first couple that we ran into as we were leaving the church were Ali and Essa Davani, and so a very prominent doctor of Iranian background in South Carolina. So it's very personal when I think of what a great country Iran should be and how you're going to make that possible, and then the bravery of the people of Iran. Our hearts are with them and in particular, **I want to commend you. The display that you have on the Capitol grounds. The American people need to see that. And so I'm just so hopeful that there's proper coverage of that in every way.**

Additionally, I want you to be aware that I was working with Congressman Darrell Issa of California, and we have a letter requesting a hearing to have the situation of the bravery of the people of Iran to be presented to the people of the world. It's the bravery but also, sadly, the atrocities that the people of the world should know. But it's the bravery that seems to me so inspiring.

And then with the changes in Congress, I will be working very closely with Chairman Mike McCall of Texas, a friend of the people of Iran. And then, very hopeful for me, I hope that I will be working as the Chairman of the Middle East North Africa Global Terrorism Subcommittee, and we will have a hearing. And I want to thank the Taba family, so many people here who have been so instrumental with the Iranian American community. What an inspiration you are. Wherever you go around the United States as I see longtime friends here, wherever you go, you've made such a contribution to our country but at the same time it's so important that the people of Iran finally be free and be able to exercise their rights. And we see now the abuses of working with war criminal Putin, that this is just wrong, what's occurring. But it can be corrected, will be corrected. There will be a free Iran. God bless you. Thank you.