

Rep. Graves offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 50.

A resolution to urge the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to release American citizen and Michigan resident, Amir Hekmati, after more than 1,000 days of unjust and unlawful imprisonment.

Whereas, Amir Hekmati is being unjustly and illegally imprisoned by the Iranian government on false charges of espionage. Seized during a visit to his grandmother and other relatives in Iran, this graduate of Flint Central High School and U.S. Marine veteran has suffered through nearly four years of mistreatment and injustice; and

Whereas, Iran's own courts have found that the charges against Amir Hekmati are unsubstantiated. Originally sentenced to death after months in solitary confinement, his sentence was overturned by an Iranian higher court for lack of evidence. He has since been sentenced to 10 years imprisonment in a secret, closed-door trial that neither he nor his attorney were made aware of or allowed to attend; and

Whereas, Amir Hekmati has been used long enough as a political pawn. Justice and simple human decency should be allowed to prevail, and Amir Hekmati released so that he may be reunited with his family in Michigan who anxiously await his safe return; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we urge the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to release American citizen and Michigan resident, Amir Hekmati, after more than 1,000 days of unjust and unlawful imprisonment; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the U.S. Secretary of State and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.