

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. HJ0002

Support of Azerbaijan.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Zwonitzer, Dn., Connolly  
and Miller and Senator(s) Christensen

A Bill

for

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION recognizing the importance of strategic  
2 partnership between the United States of America and the  
3 Republic of Azerbaijan.

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5 WHEREAS, the Republic of Azerbaijan restored its  
6 independence in October, 1991 after the collapse of the  
7 Soviet Union, proclaiming itself the heir to the Azerbaijan  
8 Democratic Republic, which was established in 1918 and was  
9 the first secular democratic republic in the Turkic and  
10 Muslim world and among the first nation-states granting the  
11 right to vote to women; and

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13 WHEREAS, the United States of America was one of the first  
14 countries to recognize the independence of the Republic of  
15 Azerbaijan in 1991 and to establish full-fledged diplomatic  
16 relations with it in 1992; and

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2 WHEREAS, over the last twenty (20) years, the Republic of  
3 Azerbaijan has consolidated its sovereignty and  
4 independence and has become one of the fastest-developing  
5 countries in the region and beyond; and

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7 WHEREAS, the election of the Republic of Azerbaijan to a  
8 nonpermanent seat on the United Nations security council in  
9 October, 2011 is a testament to the growing role and  
10 increased capabilities of the Republic of Azerbaijan in  
11 maintaining peace and security in the wider Middle East;  
12 and

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14 WHEREAS, the United States of America, along with the  
15 United Nations, recognizes and supports the Republic of  
16 Azerbaijan's sovereignty and territorial integrity; and

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18 WHEREAS, the Republic of Azerbaijan has an area of thirty-  
19 three thousand four hundred forty (33,440) square miles;  
20 and

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22 WHEREAS, the United States of America and the Republic of  
23 Azerbaijan have developed a strong strategic partnership

1 based on shared values and interests and a shared vision;  
2 and

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4 WHEREAS, the Republic of Azerbaijan is a staunch ally and  
5 strategic partner of the United States of America in the  
6 critically important Caspian region; and

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8 WHEREAS, the Republic of Azerbaijan was one of the first  
9 countries to render unconditional assistance to the United  
10 States after the terror attacks of September 11, 2001,  
11 opening its airspace and airports for use by coalition  
12 troops in Afghanistan and sending officers and soldiers to  
13 serve shoulder-to-shoulder with United States troops; and

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15 WHEREAS, today approximately forty percent (40%) of all  
16 supplies for troops of the United States of America and its  
17 allies in Afghanistan are delivered via the Republic of  
18 Azerbaijan; and

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20 WHEREAS, the United States of America and the Republic of  
21 Azerbaijan continue their successful cooperation in  
22 counterterrorism efforts and the nonproliferation of  
23 weapons of mass destruction, which is of particular

1 importance, given that the Republic of Azerbaijan is an  
2 ally nation located between Iran and Russia; and

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4 WHEREAS, the Republic of Azerbaijan possesses vast oil and  
5 gas resources and contributes to the energy security of the  
6 United States of America and the European nations, and it  
7 is a critical element of the southern gas corridor, which  
8 will further enhance diversification of energy supplies  
9 used by European allies of the Republic of Azerbaijan and  
10 the United States of America; and

11  
12 WHEREAS, Azerbaijan has a long-standing tradition of  
13 peaceful coexistence with various ethnic and religious  
14 communities and is one of the few secular countries in the  
15 Middle East with a predominately Muslim population that  
16 maintains close, friendly ties with Israel; and

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18 WHEREAS, it is critical for the United States of America to  
19 further strengthen the relations with its allies, such as  
20 the Republic of Azerbaijan, to advance common interests  
21 currently and in the future.

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23 *NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE*  
24 *LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING:*

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2           **Section 1.**       That the importance of a strategic  
3 partnership and friendship between the United States of  
4 America and the Republic of Azerbaijan be recognized and  
5 further enhanced through mutual efforts over the years to  
6 come.

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8           **Section 2.**   That the Secretary of State of Wyoming  
9   transmit copies of this resolution to the Wyoming  
10   Congressional delegation.

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12 (END)