



**Bipartisan  
House Members**

**Celebrate  
Iranian New Year  
“NOWRUZ”**

**Wednesday, March 7, 2018  
U.S. House of Representatives**



Organization of Iranian American Communities - US







## **Dr. Ramesh Sepherrad**

### **OIAC Board Member**

“For many years, we have come together to celebrate the rich culture of our native land, Iran, to celebrate Persian New Year. This year we are not only celebrating the arrival of Nowruz, but we are also celebrating the uprising against the Iranian regime. There is indeed a new day upon us. As our homeland is rising for another revolution, we stand with them in solidarity. As our homeland calls for down with Khamenei and down with Rouhani we stand with them in solidarity. As our homeland shouts, “Reformers, hardliners, your game is now over,” we stand with them in solidarity.”







## Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA)

“This Nowruz, in the spirit of hope and new beginnings, let’s pray for the rebirth of freedom and democracy in Iran. Let us commit ourselves to an ongoing fight for peace and justice in our communities around the world. I know the Iranian community is a blessing here, but you’re a blessing other places as well. What we want in Iran is a secular, nonnuclear, democratic Iran. And at the time of new year, let us make that wish something that will come true soon.”





## **Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL)** **Middle East and North Africa Subcommittee Chair**

Excerpt:

... And just look at what the world has been witnessing these past few months. In many ways, it has been more important for the people of Iran than the 2009 uprisings, because these protests are really from the grassroots level. And this is about popular unrest with the regime, not about fighting within the regime. So the widespread public discontent with the theocratic Islamist regime has shown that the tides are ready to change....I will continue to push for more action until we see some real change in Iran. We need to sanction more human rights abusers. We need to cut Iran off from the access to money that it uses to support terror around the region and around the world. And we need to ensure that the people of Iran have access to the internet and the ability to communicate amongst themselves free from interference from the regime. “







**Congressman Brad Sherman (D-CA)**  
**Senior Foreign Affairs Committee Member**

Excerpt:

“let me take this opportunity to say happy Nowruz and to say Eid shumma Mubarak. [applause] But this is not any Nowruz. This is the first Nowruz after the beginning of the ongoing protests in Iran and I know that the quote “Supreme” leader of Iran has come out and said that these protests are caused by the MEK. Now I do not know whether that’s true or not. But what I do know is that that is a supreme complement to the MEK. At any time you can be condemned by the Supreme leader of Iran. At any time you can be - it can be said by the Supreme leader that you are responsible for an uprising of the Iranian people. You should take that as an incredible compliment.”



**Congressman Dana Rohrabacher (R-CA)**  
**Europe, Eurasia and Emerging Threats Subcommittee Chair**

Excerpt:

“This will be a great year for Iran and a great year for the world. This will be the year that the mullahs go back to the mosque and the people of Iran are freed from their tyrants. This will be a year that will be not just to the benefit of the people of Iran, but a year in which the people of the world will breathe a sigh of relief “



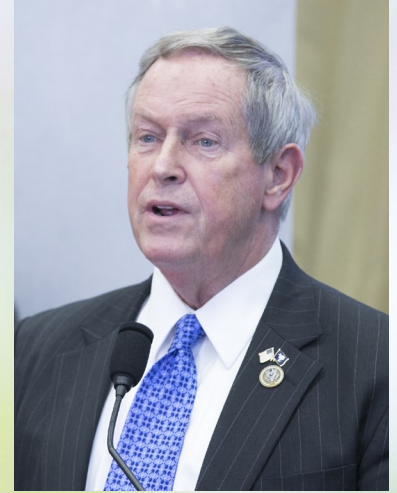




**Congressman Albio Sires (D-NJ)**  
**Senior Foreign Affairs Committee Member**

Excerpt:

“My message to the people of Iran is look at this group that we have here. They haven’t given up on the country of Iran. We haven’t given up on the country of Iran. We want a free democratic Iran and for the people of Iran, it’s important that you do not lose faith, that you continue to work hard”.



**Congressman Joe Wilson (R-SC)**  
**Senior Foreign Affairs Committee Member**

Excerpt:

“You’ve had people here today—leaders of the Republican party, leaders of the Democratic party, people have actually fled from terrorism. Albio Sires and Ileana Ros-Lehtinen to come to freedom in the United States and so over and over, you - it’s so inspiring. The people of Iran. Their whole support of a secular, democratic, nonnuclear Republic of Iran”.







**Congressman Tom McClintock  
(R-CA)**  
**Senior Member of Budget Committee**

Excerpt:  
“The Iranian people need more than our good wishes, and the time has come to act. They need direct satellite access to the internet that the regime has denied them on the ground. They need us to restore economic sanctions against the regime and U.S. leadership in a renewed boycott of Iran. They need the voice of America to express unequivocal support for the resistance movement in Iran”

**Congressman Steve Cohen  
(D-TN)**  
**Senior Member of Judiciary Committee**

Excerpt:  
“I congratulate and thank you for continuing to raise your voices and articulate the issues that tell the rest of the world and Americans that indeed there is going to be change in Iran and that one day in the not too distant future there will be freedom and democracy there as there is in much of the rest of the world.”







**Congressman Barry Loudermilk  
(R-GA)**

**Financial Services Committee Member**

Excerpt:

“I know that there’s a struggle that’s been going on for a long time, and there are a lot of people [of Iran] who are beginning to stand up now and say, “We want our freedom. We want our nation. We want our independence. We want democracy.” And I want you to know that there are many of us here in Congress that stand with you”



**Rep. Judy Chu (D-CA)**  
**Senior Member of Judiciary Committee**

Excerpt:

“You always have such a beautiful display and so much delicious food. But it is especially great to have this celebration in light of the remarkable protests we’ve seen this year across Iran. I want to applaud the bravery and patriotism of those Iranians who courageously took to the streets to fight for democracy in Iran. And they knew full well it could mean imprisonment. Iranians, however, are still speaking out against a government that denies them the opportunity and equality at home and while spreading terror and war elsewhere. “







**Rep. Raul Ruiz (D-CA)**  
**Energy & Commerce Committee Member**

Excerpt:  
I came to celebrate the new year with all of you and to stand in solidarity with the Iranian people in order to promote democracy, in order to protect and pursue human rights and to hold all of those who are in violation of human rights accountable and for a nonnuclear Iran.

**Rep. Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY)**  
**Financial Services Committee Member**

Excerpt:  
“As was indicated by previous speakers, Democrats and Republicans, people across the ideological spectrum, I, too, stand with the Iranian-American community in your desire for a democratic Iran, for a secular Iran, for an Iran that respects gender equality and allows for everyone to have the opportunity to pursue their God given talents and abilities and be the best that they can be.”











Iranian New Year "Nowruz" Celebration

US House of Representatives

Wednesday, March 7, 2018



*Happy Nowruz*  
*Happy New Year*

**Compiled By:**

**Organization of Iranian American Communities - US**

**1717 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Suite 1025 Washington DC 20006**

**Ph: 202 559 9232 [www.oiac.org](http://www.oiac.org)**