

NEWS



from
**Paul
Tsongas**

U.S. SENATOR FROM MASSACHUSETTS

Senator Paul Tsongas sent the following letter today to the Prime Minister of Canada commending Canada's action in planning the escape of 6 American hostages in Iran:

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

Yesterday, the newspapers in the United States told the dramatic story of the escape of six Americans from Tehran. The day before we read of the closing of the Canadian Embassy, an apparently routine event in the turbulence and chaos of the Ayatollah's Iran. Now, the full account of your government's courage and sacrifice is known. A nation of Americans is moved and deeply grateful.

The United States Senate shares these sentiments and late yesterday, unanimously passed a resolution which I have enclosed. The resolution, authored by Senate Lawton Chiles and co-sponsored by myself and several colleagues, expresses the gratitude and appreciation of the U.S. Congress to the Government of Canada for an act of singular selflessness and bravery. The carefully planned escape after nearly three months of sanctuary in the Canadian Embassy involved great risks for your government.

I know that all Americans join me and my colleagues in commending this act of friendship and solidarity between two close allies. In these times of great tension and fragile alliances, the actions taken by you and the Government of Canada are inspiring reminders of what it means to have a truly "good neighbor."

We are grateful.

Yours sincerely,
PAUL TSONGAS