

NEWS



from
**Paul
Tsongas**

U.S. SENATOR FROM MASSACHUSETTS

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TSONGAS TO CALL FOR U.S. AID TO AFGHAN FREEDOM FIGHTERS

Senator Paul Tsongas will hold a press conference tomorrow morning, September 30, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 154 Russell Senate Office Building to announce the introduction of a resolution to aid Afghan freedom fighters against Soviet aggression.

Tsongas will be joined by leaders of the Afghanistan resistance and American supporters of the resistance. Several of the 40 Senate co-sponsors are also expected to attend (list attached).

According to Tsongas, the purpose of the resolution is to communicate the support in Congress for a meaningful program of assistance.

"For almost three years now, the Afghan resistance has fought the Soviet forces occupying their country with little, if any, official American support for the freedom fighters," Tsongas stated in a letter to colleagues. "I view the Afghan resistance as a genuine expression of the independence and dignity of the Afghan people in the face of a brutal foreign invasion and occupation. I have examined the arguments for American non-involvement and find them wanting and believe that it is time for the Congress express itself clearly on the question of material American assistance to the freedom fighters of Afghanistan."

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