



The
UNIVERSITY
of **VERMONT**

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION SENATE

THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

RESOLUTION

Senate Resolution No.:RF09-011

Date Submitted: 11/10/2009

Date Introduced: 11/10/2009

Introduced By: Senator Julia Michel
Student Action Committee

Date Action Taken: 11/10/09

Sponsored: Julia Michel
Senator Michel

Certified: Andrew Ellis
Speaker of the Senate Ellis

Sponsored: Michael Glynn
Chair Glynn

Signed: [Signature]
President Jones

Bring Them Back Act

WHEREAS, three Americans, Sarah Shourd, Shane Bauer, and Josh Fattal have been detained in Iran since July 31, 2009 after mistakenly crossing the border from Iraq into Iran on a hiking trip,

WHEREAS, Tehran's prosecutor general, Abbas Ja'afari Dolatabadi, announced yesterday that the Iranian government would be charging them with espionage in an official interview with the Iranian news agency, IRNA,

WHEREAS, there is no evidence that the three hikers crossed the border knowingly; nor is there any evidence that any of the three were engaged in any covert, intelligence-gathering activities,

WHEREAS, the United States currently has no diplomatic relations with Iran and has so been forced to rely on a Swiss NGO both to verify the hikers' health and to appeal directly for the hikers' release,

WHEREAS, Ms. Sasha Fisher, '10, has worked almost exclusively on her own to orchestrate candlelight vigils and other events in order to raise awareness both on Campus and in the Burlington



community about the plight of the three innocent American hikers,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Student Government Association of the University of Vermont is shocked with the lack of deference the United States government has shown to three of its citizens and calls on the Vermont Congressional delegation—Senators Sanders and Leahy, and Representative Welch—to take this issue up in their respective chambers of Congress,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Student Government Association of the University of Vermont wishes to recognize the real initiative shown by Ms. Fisher and would invite her to contact either Chair Glynne of the Committee on Legislative Action or Senator Michel of the Student Action Committee with any ways that they could better support her efforts to bring three innocent Americans back to their families.