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July 1, 2010

P R E S S                      R E L E A S E

**Eni F.H. Falcomavaega**  
**Chairman**

**The Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific and the Global Environment**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Washington, D.C.

**HOUSE PASSES FALCOMAVAEGA RESOLUTION ON  
THAILAND BY VOTE OF 411 TO 4**

The Chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific and the Global Environment, Rep. Eni F.H. Falcomavaega, announced that the House today overwhelmingly passed H. Res. 1321, a resolution he introduced to help provide a pathway toward peace and reconciliation in Thailand. Rep. Diane Watson (D-CA) managed the resolution on the House floor while Falcomavaega served as a delegate to American Samoa's Constitutional Convention.

"I was very pleased that the House passed H. Res. 1321 today by a vote of 411 to 4. The resolution reaffirms the support of the United States for a strong and vital alliance with Thailand, calls for restoration of peace and stability in Thailand and urges all parties involved in the current political crisis to renounce the use of violence and resolve differences peacefully. I was especially pleased that my good friend, Diane Watson, the Congresswoman from California agreed to manage the bill in my absence, and that Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), the Ranking Member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee; Rep. Charles Djou (R-HI) and Rep. Bobby Rush (D-IL) joined her on the floor to offer speeches of support." Falcomavaega said.

“I also want to thank the bipartisan group of 29 Members of Congress who cosponsored the resolution, all of whom played an important role in getting it passed. The margin of victory and the number of cosponsors reflect the fact that Thailand is one of the United States’ closest friends and most dependable allies. Ours is a partnership steeped in history. Indeed, the first Asian nation with which we concluded a treaty was Thailand in 1833 with the signing of the Treaty of Amity and Commerce. In 1954 we forged a military alliance, and in 2003 the United States designated Thailand as a major non-NATO ally,” Faleomavaega added.

“Thailand also contributed troops and support for U.S. military operations in Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf, Afghanistan and Iraq. The country is a major trading partner of the United States, a regional leader, a force for stability in Southeast Asia and a country with which we share common values and interests. The United States has always appreciated Thailand’s many international contributions, and we respect and admire its unique culture. I believe that in passing this resolution, we have demonstrated America’s commitment to its friends in Thailand. I hope that it contributes in a small way toward peaceful reconciliation,” Faleomavaega concluded.

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