

Lincoln, NE -- Congressman Jeff Fortenberry, the co-founder and co-chairman of the Congressional Nuclear Security Caucus, today released this statement following North Korea's failed long-range missile launch:

"North Korea's long history of broken 'promises' and belligerent action continue under the regime of the new leader Kim Jong-un. Any fledgling hopes that the son of Kim Jong-il would give rise to a more responsible diplomatic relationship have been dashed by North Korea's failed long-range missile launch. Just weeks after assuring the Obama Administration that it would suspend missile tests in return for feeding North Korea's starved masses, the irrational deceptions continue. Fortunately, North Korea has a near perfect failure record in advanced missile technology."

"As North Korea continues toward nuclear weapons delivery capability, its gross human rights violations are on display. At least 150,000 North Koreans are imprisoned under unspeakable conditions in hidden gulags. North Korea must choose: isolation and despair, or a new openness toward the responsible community of nations."

Fortenberry is a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

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