Congressman Peter Welch issued the following statement upon the successful rescue of Captain Richard Phillips of Underhill, Vermont:

"Like all Vermonters who have been hoping and praying for the safety of Captain Phillips, I am tremendously relieved to learn that he was rescued without harm. He, his crew, and the U.S. Navy deserve our highest praise and gratitude for their brave actions in the face of grave danger. I look forward to Captain Phillips' return home to Underhill."