Rep. Peter Welch issued the following statement after the announcement by President Obama that Osama bin Laden has been killed in Pakistan in an American military operation:

"At long last, the mastermind of the September 11th attack on America has been brought to justice. Tonight's announcement by President Obama is welcome news to all Vermonters and all Americans, especially to the families and loved ones of those murdered by Osama bin Laden on September 11, 2001. I know I join all Vermonters in the hope that this news will in some way ease the heavy burden still weighing on these families. And I am especially mindful tonight of the Vermont soldiers who have sacrificed their lives in support of America's response to this senseless act of terrorism. While we anxiously await the details of the operation that sealed bin Laden's fate, it is clear that its success is a testament to the bravery, persistence and dedication of the men and women of America's armed services."