

proved Catholic and Protestant churches" including the use of detention, arrest, and "reform-through-education" sentences;

Whereas, although the 1997 Country Reports note several "positive steps" by the Chinese Government such as signing the United Nations Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and allowing the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention to visit China, Assistant Secretary of State John Shattuck has testified regarding those reports that "We do not see major changes [in the human rights situation in China]. We have not characterized China as having demonstrated major changes in the period over the course of the last year";

Whereas, in 1990, 1992, and each year since then, the United States has participated in an unsuccessful multilateral effort to gain passage of a United Nations Commission on Human Rights resolution addressing the human rights situation in China;

Whereas the Government of China has mounted a diplomatic campaign each year to defeat the resolution and has succeeded in blocking commission consideration of such a resolution each year except 1995, when the United States engaged in a more aggressive effort to promote the resolution;

Whereas China's opposition to the resolution has featured an attack on the principle of the universality of human rights, which the United States, China, and 169 other governments reaffirmed at the 1993 United Nations World Conference on Human Rights;

Whereas on February 23, 1998, the European Union (EU) agreed that neither the EU nor its member states would table or cosponsor a resolution on the human rights situation in China at the 54th Session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights;

Whereas on March 13, 1998, the Administration announced that it would not seek passage of a resolution at the United Nations Commission on Human Rights addressing the human rights situation in China;

Whereas without United States leadership there is little possibility of success for that resolution;

Whereas, in 1994, when the President announced his decision to delink Most Favored Nation (MFN) status for China from previously announced human rights conditions, the Administration pledged that the United States would "step up its efforts, in cooperation with other states, to insist that the United Nations Human Rights Commission pass a resolution dealing with the serious human rights abuses in China" as part of the Administration's "new human rights strategy";

Whereas a failure vigorously to pursue the adoption of such a resolution would constitute an abandonment of an important component of the "expanded multilateral agenda" that the Administration promised as part of its "new human rights strategy" toward China; and

Whereas Chinese democracy advocate and former political prisoner Wei Jingsheng has stated that "[t]his [United Nations Commission on Human Rights] resolution is a matter of life and death for democratic reform in China"; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) urges the President to reconsider his decision not to press for passage of a resolution on human rights violations in China at the 54th Session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights;

(2) expresses its profound regret that the European Union will not table or cosponsor a resolution on human rights violations in China at the 54th Session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights; and

(3) urges all members of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights to sup-

port passage of a resolution on human rights violations in China at the 54th Session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska, recognized Mr. SMITH of New Jersey and Mr. DAVIS of Florida, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,

The question being put, *viva voce*,

Will the House suspend the rules and agree to said resolution, as amended?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska, announced that two-thirds of the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey demanded that the vote be taken by the yeas and nays, which demand was supported by one-fifth of the Members present, so the yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska, pursuant to clause 5, rule I, announced that further proceedings on the motion were postponed.

¶20.11 PROVIDING FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2870

Mr. SOLOMON, by direction of the Committee on Rules, reported (Rept. No. 105-449) the resolution (H. Res. 388) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2870) to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to facilitate protection of tropical forests through debt reduction with developing countries with tropical forests.

When said resolution and report were referred to the House Calendar and ordered printed.

¶20.12 DEMOCRACY IN BOTSWANA

Mr. ROYCE moved to suspend the rules and agree to the following resolution (H. Res. 373):

Whereas Sir Ketumile Masire has been involved in politics in his country since he co-founded the Bechuanaland Democratic Party (later the Botswana Democratic Party) with Seretse Khama in 1962;

Whereas Sir Ketumile Masire was elected to Botswana's first Parliament in 1965, later became Vice President under President Seretse Khama, and succeeded President Khama as President upon his death in 1980;

Whereas under President Masire's administration Botswana has maintained a successful multiparty constitutional democracy with regular free and fair elections;

Whereas President Masire plans to retire from the presidency on March 31, 1998;

Whereas the Government of Botswana has worked constructively with the Organization of African Unity, the Southern African Development Community, and other organizations to promote democracy in Africa;

Whereas Botswana is a long standing friend of the United States and was selected as the site of a major Voice of America radio relay station because of its stability; and

Whereas President Clinton plans to enhance United States relations with Botswana through an upcoming official visit to Botswana: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) commends the people of Botswana for their commitment to democracy;

(2) commends Sir Ketumile Masire for his long and distinguished service to his country and the cause of democracy in Africa;

(3) calls on President Masire's successor to pursue the course set by President Masire by maintaining a democratic Botswana;

(4) calls on the Government of Botswana to continue playing a positive role in African and world affairs; and

(5) encourages the Government of Botswana to continue promoting peace, democracy, respect for human rights, and economic reform in Africa.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska, recognized Mr. ROYCE and Mr. DAVIS of Florida, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,

The question being put, *viva voce*,

Will the House suspend the rules and agree to said resolution?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska, announced that two-thirds of the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

So, two-thirds of the Members present having voted in favor thereof, the rules were suspended and said resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider the vote whereby the rules were suspended and said resolution, as amended, was agreed to was, by unanimous consent, laid on the table.

Ordered, That the Clerk request the concurrence of the Senate in said resolution.

¶20.13 FREE ELECTIONS IN CAMBODIA

Mr. BEREUTER moved to suspend the rules and agree to the following resolution (H. Res. 361); as amended:

Whereas Cambodia continues to recover from years of political conflict, civil war, the era of Khmer Rouge genocide, and subsequent foreign invasion;

Whereas the 1991 Paris Peace Accords contributed significantly to a process of political accommodation, national conciliation, and the establishment of a state based on democratic ideals;

Whereas the people of Cambodia overwhelmingly demonstrated their support for the democratic process through the participation of over 93 percent of eligible voters in the United Nations-sponsored 1993 elections;

Whereas the commitment of the Cambodian people to democracy and stability is reflected in the national constitution guaranteeing fundamental human rights;

Whereas the international donor community has supported the democratic process in Cambodia by contributing over \$3,000,000,000 to peacekeeping and national reconstruction efforts;

Whereas notwithstanding the notable societal and economic reforms made subsequent to the 1993 elections, tensions within the Cambodian Government continued to mount, culminating in the July 5, 1997, military coup by which Second Prime Minister Hun Sen deposed the duly elected First Prime Minister Prince Ranariddh;

Whereas the Hun Sen government has yet to adequately investigate the killings and human rights abuses which occurred at the time of the July 5, 1997, coup and which were detailed in the August 21, 1997, Hammarberg report;

Whereas Second Prime Minister Hun Sen made a commitment to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNCHR) to extend the mandate of UNCHR;

Whereas an ongoing atmosphere of intimidation has prevented many of the political exiles who have returned to Cambodia from carrying out their activities in preparation