

Whereas it is carefully documented that the Government of Cuba propagates and encourages the routine harassment, intimidation, arbitrary arrest, detention, imprisonment, and defamation of those who voice their opposition against the government;

Whereas the Government of Cuba engages in torture and other cruel, inhumane, and degrading treatment or punishment against political prisoners including the use of electroshock, intense beatings, and extended periods of solitary confinement without nutrition or medical attention, to force them into submission;

Whereas the Government of Cuba suppresses the right to freedom of expression and freedom of association and recently enacted legislation which carries penalties of up to 30 years for dissidents and independent journalists;

Whereas religious freedom in Cuba is severely circumscribed and clergy and lay people suffer sustained persecution by the Cuban State Security apparatus;

Whereas the Government of Cuba routinely restricts workers' rights including the right to form independent unions;

Whereas the Government of Cuba denies its people equal protection under the law, enforcing a judicial system which infringes upon fundamental rights while denying recourse against the violation of human rights and civil liberties;

Whereas in recent weeks the Government of Cuba has carried out a brutal crackdown of the brave internal opposition and independent press, arresting scores of peaceful opponents without cause or justification;

Whereas the internal opposition in Cuba is working intensely and valiantly to draw international attention to Cuba's deplorable human rights situation and continues to strengthen and grow in its opposition to the Government of Cuba;

Whereas at this time of great repression, the internal opposition requires and deserves the firm and unwavering support and solidarity of the international community;

Whereas the Congress of the United States has stood, consistently, on the side of the Cuban people and supported their right to be free: Now therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) condemns in the strongest possible terms the repressive crackdown by the Government of Cuba against the brave internal opposition and the independent press;

(2) expresses its profound admiration and firm solidarity with the internal opposition and independent press of Cuba;

(3) demands that the Government of Cuba release all political prisoners, legalize all political parties, labor unions, and the press, and schedule free and fair elections;

(4) urges the Administration, at the 55th Session of the United Nations Human Rights Commission in Geneva, Switzerland, to take all steps necessary to secure international support for, and passage of, a resolution which condemns the Cuban Government for its gross abuses of the rights of the Cuban people and for continued violations of all international human rights standards and legal principles, and calls for the reinstatement of the United Nations Special Rapporteur for Human Rights in Cuba;

(5) declares the acts of the Government of Cuba, including its widespread and systematic violation of human rights, to be in violation of the charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

(6) urges the President to nominate a special envoy to advocate, internationally, for the establishment of the rule of law for the Cuban people; and

(7) urges the President to continue to actively seek support from individual nations,

as well as the United Nations, the Organization of American States, the European Union, and all other international organizations to call for the establishment of the rule of law for the Cuban people.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. BASS, recognized Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN and Mr. GEJDENSON, 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. BASS, 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, as amended, 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.

¶27.21 TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT 20TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. GILMAN moved to suspend the rules and agree to the following concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 56):

Whereas April 10, 1999, will mark the 20th anniversary of the enactment of the Taiwan Relations Act, codifying in public law the basis for continued commercial, cultural, and other relations between the United States and Taiwan;

Whereas the Taiwan Relations Act was advanced by Congress and supported by the executive branch as a critical tool to preserve and promote ties the American people have enjoyed with the people of Taiwan;

Whereas the Taiwan Relations Act has been instrumental in maintaining peace, security, and stability in the Taiwan Strait since its enactment in 1979;

Whereas when the Taiwan Relations Act was enacted in 1979, it affirmed that the United States decision to establish diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China was based on the expectation that the future of Taiwan would be determined by peaceful means;

Whereas officials of the People's Republic of China refuse to renounce the use of force against democratic Taiwan;

Whereas the defense modernization and weapons procurement efforts by the People's Republic of China, as documented in the February 1, 1999, report by the Secretary of Defense on "The Security Situation in the Taiwan Strait", could threaten cross-Strait stability and United States interests in the Asia-Pacific region;

Whereas the Taiwan Relations Act provides explicit guarantees that the United States will make available defense articles and services necessary in such quantity as may be necessary to enable Taiwan to maintain a sufficient self-defense capability;

Whereas section 3(b) of the Taiwan Relations Act requires timely reviews by United States military authorities of Taiwan's defense needs in connection with recommendations to the President and the Congress;

Whereas Congress and the President are committed by Article 3(b) of the Taiwan Relations Act to determine the nature and quantity of Taiwan's legitimate self-defense needs;

Whereas it is the policy of the United States to reject any attempt to curb the provision by the United States of defense articles and services legitimately needed for Taiwan's self-defense;

Whereas it is the policy set forth in the Taiwan Relations Act to promote extensive commercial relations between the people of the United States and the people of Taiwan and such commercial relations would be further enhanced by Taiwan's membership in the World Trade Organization;

Whereas Taiwan today is a full-fledged multi-party democracy fully respecting human rights and civil liberties and serves as a successful model of democratic reform for the People's Republic of China;

Whereas it is United States policy to promote extensive cultural relations with Taiwan, ties that should be further encouraged and expanded;

Whereas any attempt to determine Taiwan's future by other than peaceful means, including boycotts or embargoes, would be considered a threat to the peace and security of the Western Pacific and of grave concern to the United States;

Whereas in the spirit of the Taiwan Relations Act, which encourages the future of democratic Taiwan to be determined by peaceful means, Taiwan has engaged the People's Republic of China in a cross-Strait dialogue by advocating that peaceful reunification be based on a democratic system of government being implemented on the mainland; and

Whereas the Taiwan Relations Act established the American Institute on Taiwan (AIT) to carry out the programs, transactions, and other relations conducted or carried out by the United States Government with respect to Taiwan and AIT should be recognized for the successful role it has played in sustaining and enhancing United States relations with Taiwan: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

That it is the sense of the Congress that—

(1) the United States should reaffirm its commitment to the Taiwan Relations Act and the specific guarantees for the provision of legitimate defense articles to Taiwan contained therein;

(2) the Congress has grave concerns over China's military modernization and weapons procurement program, especially ballistic missile capability and deployment that seem particularly directed toward threatening Taiwan;

(3) the President should direct all appropriate officials to raise these grave concerns about new Chinese military threats to Taiwan with officials from the People's Republic of China;

(4) the President should seek from leaders of the People's Republic of China a public renunciation of any use of force, or threat to use force, against Taiwan;

(5) the President should provide annually a report detailing the military balance on both sides of the Taiwan Strait, including the impact of procurement and modernization programs;

(6) the executive branch should inform the appropriate committees of Congress when officials from Taiwan seek to purchase defense articles for self-defense;

(7) the United States Government should encourage a regional high-level dialogue on the best means to ensure stability, peace, and freedom of the seas in East Asia;

(8) the President should encourage further dialogue between democratic Taiwan and the People's Republic of China; and

(9) it should be United States policy in conformity with Article 4(d) of the Taiwan Relations Act to publicly support Taiwan's admission to the World Trade Organization as

soon as possible on its own merits and encourage others to adopt similar policies.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. BASS, recognized Mr. GILMAN and Mr. LANTOS, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,
The question being put, viva voce,
Will the House suspend the rules and agree to said concurrent resolution?

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

Mr. LANTOS 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. BASS, pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, announced that further proceedings on the motion were postponed.

¶27.22 ANTI-SEMITIC STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS OF DUMA

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey moved to suspend the rules and agree to the following concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 37); as amended:

Whereas the world has seen in the 20th century the disastrous results of ethnic, religious, and racial intolerance;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation is on record, through obligations freely accepted as a participating state of the Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), as pledging to "clearly and equivocally condemn totalitarianism, racial and ethnic hatred, anti-Semitism, xenophobia and discrimination against anyone . . .";

Whereas at two public rallies in October 1998, Communist Party member of the Duma, Albert Makashov, blamed "the Yids" for Russia's current problems;

Whereas in November 1998, attempts by members of the Russian Duma to formally censure Albert Makashov were blocked by members of the Communist Party;

Whereas in December 1998, the chairman of the Duma Security Committee and Communist Party member, Viktor Ilyukhin, blamed President Yeltsin's "Jewish entourage" for alleged "genocide against the Russian people";

Whereas in response to the public outcry over the above-noted anti-Semitic statements, Communist Party chairman Gennadi Zyuganov claimed in December 1998 that such statements were a result of "confusion" between Zionism and "the Jewish question"; and

Whereas during the Soviet era, the Communist Party leadership regularly used "anti-Zionist campaigns" as an excuse to persecute and discriminate against Jews in the Soviet Union: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

- (1) condemns anti-Semitic statements made by members of the Russian Duma;
- (2) commends actions taken by members of the Russian Duma to condemn anti-Semitic statements made by Duma members;
- (3) commends President Yeltsin and other members of the Russian Government for condemning anti-Semitic statements made by Duma members; and
- (4) reiterates its firm belief that peace and justice cannot be achieved as long as governments and legislatures promote policies based upon anti-Semitism, racism, and xenophobia.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. BASS, recognized Mr. SMITH of New

Jersey and Mr. LANTOS, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,
The question being put, viva voce,
Will the House suspend the rules and agree to said concurrent resolution, as amended?

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

Mr. LANTOS 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. BASS, pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, announced that further proceedings on the motion were postponed.

¶27.23 CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FY 2000

Mr. SHAYS submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 106-73) on the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 68) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2000 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2001 through 2009.

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

¶27.24 CROP REVENUE COVERAGE

Mr. COMBEST moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1212) to protect producers of agricultural commodities who applied for a Crop Revenue Coverage PLUS supplemental endorsement for the 1999 crop year; as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. BASS, recognized Mr. COMBEST and Mr. STENHOLM, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,
The question being put, viva voce,
Will the House suspend the rules and pass said bill, as amended?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. LAHOOD, 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 bill, as amended, was passed.

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

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

¶27.25 RACISM AND BIGOTRY OPPOSITION

Mr. GEKAS moved to suspend the rules and agree to the following resolution (H. Res. 121):

Whereas the United States of America has been enriched and strengthened by the diversity and mutual respect of its people;

Whereas the injustices and inequities of the past continue to demand our forceful commitment, both as individuals and as an institution, to equal justice under law and full opportunity for every American;

Whereas a racist attack upon any group of Americans is an affront to every one who

cherishes the promise of America and the values that sustain our democracy; and

Whereas every Member of Congress has a responsibility to foster the best traditions and highest values of this nation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) insists that no individual's rights are negotiable or open to compromise; and

(2) reaffirms the determination of all its Members to oppose any individuals or organizations which seek to divide Americans on the grounds of race, religion, or ethnic origin; and

(3) denounces all those who practice or promote racism, anti-Semitism, ethnic prejudice, or religious intolerance; and

(4) calls upon all Americans of good will to reject the forces of hatred and bigotry wherever and in whatever form they may be found.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. LAHOOD, recognized Mr. GEKAS and Mr. CONYERS, 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. LAHOOD, announced that two-thirds of the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

Mr. CONYERS objected to the vote on the ground that a quorum was not present and not voting.

A quorum not being present,
The roll was called under clause 6, rule XX, and the call was taken by electronic device.

It was decided in the negative	Y e a s	254
		N a y s	152
		A n s w e r e d p r e s e n t	24

¶27.26 [Roll No. 60 YEAS—254

Aderholt	Collins	Goodling
Archer	Combest	Gordon
Armey	Cook	Goss
Bachus	Cooksey	Graham
Baker	Costello	Granger
Ballenger	Cox	Green (TX)
Barr	Crane	Green (WI)
Barrett (NE)	Cubin	Greenwood
Bartlett	Cunningham	Gutknecht
Barton	Danner	Hall (OH)
Bass	Davis (VA)	Hall (TX)
Bateman	Deal	Hansen
Bereuter	DeGette	Hastert
Berkley	DeLay	Hastings (WA)
Berry	DeMint	Hayes
Biggert	Diaz-Balart	Hayworth
Bilbray	Dickey	Hefley
Bilirakis	Doolittle	Hergert
Bliley	Dreier	Hill (MT)
Blunt	Duncan	Hilleary
Boehlert	Dunn	Hobson
Boehner	Edwards	Hoekstra
Bonilla	Ehlers	Holden
Bono	Ehrlich	Hooley
Boucher	English	Horn
Brady (TX)	Everett	Hostettler
Bryant	Ewing	Houghton
Burr	Filner	Hoyer
Burton	Fletcher	Hulshof
Buyer	Foley	Hunter
Callahan	Fossella	Hutchinson
Calvert	Fowler	Hyde
Camp	Franks (NJ)	Inslee
Campbell	Frelinghuysen	Isakson
Canady	Galleghy	Istook
Cannon	Ganske	Jenkins
Cardin	Gekas	John
Castle	Gibbons	Johnson (CT)
Chabot	Gilchrest	Johnson, Sam
Chambliss	Gillmor	Jones (NC)
Chenoweth	Gilman	Kasich
Coble	Goode	Kelly
Coburn	Goodlatte	King (NY)