

108<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# S. CON. RES. 121

Supporting the goals and ideals of the World Year of Physics.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 8, 2004

Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Mr. DOMENICI) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

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## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Supporting the goals and ideals of the World Year of  
Physics.

Whereas throughout history, physics has contributed to knowledge, civilization, and culture around the world;

Whereas physics research has been and continues to be a driving force for scientific, technological, and economic development;

Whereas many emerging fields in science and technology, such as nanoscience, information technology, and biotechnology, are substantially based on, and derive many tools from, fundamental discoveries in physics and physics applications;

Whereas physics will continue to play a vital role in addressing many 21st-century challenges relating to sustainable

development, including environmental conservation, clean sources of energy, public health, and security;

Whereas Albert Einstein is a widely recognized scientific figure who contributed enormously to the development of physics, beginning in 1905 with Einstein's groundbreaking papers on the photoelectric effect, the size of molecules, Brownian motion, and the theory of relativity that led to Einstein's most famous equation,  $E = mc^2$ ;

Whereas 2005 will be the 100th anniversary of the publication of those groundbreaking papers;

Whereas the General Assembly of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics unanimously approved the proposition designating 2005 as the World Year of Physics; and

Whereas the Department of Energy is the leading source of Federal support for academic physics research, accounting for a majority of Federal funding for physics: Now, therefore, be it

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

3            (1) supports the goals and ideals of the World  
4        Year of Physics, as designated by the General As-  
5        sembly of the International Union of Pure and Ap-  
6        plied Physics;

7            (2) encourages the people of the United States  
8        to observe the World Year of Physics as a special oc-  
9        casion for giving impetus to—

10            (A) education and research in physics; and

1 (B) the public's understanding of physics;

2 (3) calls on the Secretary of Energy to lead and  
3 coordinate Federal activities to commemorate the  
4 World Year of Physics;

5 (4) encourages the Secretary, all science-related  
6 organizations, the private sector, and the media to  
7 highlight and give enhanced recognition to—

8 (A) the role of physics in social, cultural,  
9 and economic development; and

10 (B) the positive impact and contributions  
11 of physics to society; and

12 (5) encourages the Secretary and all people in-  
13 volved in physics education and research to take ad-  
14 ditional steps (including strengthening existing and  
15 emerging fields of physics research and promoting  
16 the understanding of physics) to ensure that—

17 (A) support for physics continues; and

18 (B) physics studies at all levels continue to  
19 attract an adequate number of students.

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