

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:39 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the House:

H.J. Res. 168. Joint resolution waiving certain enrollment requirements with respect to two bills of the One Hundred Fourth Congress.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-2178. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury (Legislative Affairs and Public Liaison), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the tobacco product vending machines; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-2179. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Technology), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Foreign Comparative Testing Program for fiscal year 1995; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2180. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Technology), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the Laboratory Revitalization Demonstration Program for fiscal year 1996; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2181. A communication from the Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Environmental Security), Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the defense environmental restoration program (volume 1 of 2) for fiscal year 1995; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2182. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Command, Control, Communications, and Intelligence), transmitting, pursuant to law, the interim report on the Department of Defense actions relative to section 381 of the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1995; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2183. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, 1995-1996 Joint Military Assessment; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2184. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to Cooperative Threat Reduction (CTR) funding; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2185. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report relative to the Commission's administrative and enforcement actions under the Fair Debt Collections Practices Act; to the Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs.

EC-2186. A communication from the Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Deep Seabed Mining Report; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2187. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, notice of intent to submit a report required under the Energy Policy Act of 1992; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-2188. A communication from Assistant Secretary of the Interior (Land and Minerals

Management), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a notice on leasing systems; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-517. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of California; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

"ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION No. 45

"Whereas, Jimmy Tran valiantly fought for the freedom of his country of seven years as a member of the Army of the Republic of Vietnam; and

"Whereas, after the fall of Saigon, Jimmy Tran escaped from a reeducation camp and continued to fight the totalitarian regime as a member of the democratic movement; and

"Whereas, Jimmy Tran escaped Vietnam in 1978 and came to the United States to start a new life in a free nation; and

"Whereas, Jimmy Tran became a citizen of the United States and continued to work for freedom and democracy through patriotic organizations in his adopted country; and

"Whereas, Jimmy Tran returned to Vietnam in January 1993 to promote the cause of freedom in Vietnam; and

"Whereas, Jimmy Tran was arrested on February 15, 1993, and charged with planning to denigrate symbols of the Hanoi regime; and

"Whereas, Jimmy Tran was denied a lawyer of his choice, tried in secret with a predetermined verdict, and sentenced to 20 years in one of Vietnam's most notorious prisons; and

"Whereas, Jimmy Tran now suffers in prison from severe malnutrition and, at the age of 44, has become nearly blind; and

"Whereas, the United States has formally recognized the communist government of Vietnam in hopes of bringing democratic reforms to that nation; and

"Whereas, Jimmy Tran should be enabled to return home to his wife and four young children: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of California, jointly, That the Legislature of the State of California respectfully memorialize the President of the United States to use our new diplomatic relations with Vietnam to secure the release of Jimmy Tran and his return to his wife and children in the United States; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, the Secretary of State, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States."

POM-518. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of California; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

"ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION No. 34

"Whereas, the memory of those Americans who died in the Korean War to defend liberty and freedom, demands that Americans make every effort to reclaim, identify, and appropriately enshrine their remains; and

"Whereas, the accounting of Americans who were taken as prisoners of war or who were missing in action during the Korean War is incomplete; and

"Whereas, the Government of the United States should demand that the government of North Korea provide the fullest possible

accounting of each and every American P.O.W. or M.I.A.; and

"Whereas, the use of current DNA biotechnology can assist greatly in the identification of the remains of American personnel in the hands of North Korea: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of California, jointly, That the Legislature of the State of California respectfully memorializes the President and the Congress of the United States to demand that the government of North Korea provide the fullest possible accounting of each and every American P.O.W. or M.I.A.; and be it further

Resolved, That the President and the Congress of the United States ensure that the latest DNA biotechnology is used to its fullest potential to identify the remains, and that arrangements be made for the remains to be properly enshrined in a suitable place of honor; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States."

POM-519. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of California; to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

"ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION No. 37

"Whereas, the government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (SRV) is continuing to violate all fundamental and civil rights of its own citizens through arbitrary arrests, detentions without trial, and the censorship of peaceful expression of political or religious beliefs; and

"Whereas, in 1991 and 1992, Amnesty International had reported that there were still thousands of political prisoners detained in hundreds of government-operated reeducation camps, and Amnesty International estimates that at least one reeducation camp exists in each of Vietnam's 40 provinces and continues to receive "persistent reports of torture and ill-treatment of people" within those camps; and

"Whereas, the Asia Watch has raised the issue of political detainees in the SRV having to perform hard labor under conditions of malnutrition, abuse, and lack of medical care, and the periods of detention are indefinitely renewable; and

"Whereas, as a part of the Campaign for the Release of Political Prisoners in Vietnam, the National United Front of the Liberation of Vietnam released a list of political prisoners, including writers, journalists, religious leaders, intellectuals, civil servants, and politicians; this list provides the names of prisoners, their prison location, and the penalty under which they are serving; and there are currently 1,005 prisoners on this list; and

"Whereas, for decades hundreds of religious leaders and followers have been imprisoned and scores of religious leaders have been killed and since summer of 1993, there has been a brutal crackdown on religion by the government of Vietnam; and

"Whereas, in the SRV, the Vietnamese people are constantly subjected to police surveillance and restricted social and political activities; in other words, the Vietnamese people are being denied normal civil rights and entitlements; and

"Whereas, political oppression and human rights violations in Vietnam continue to increase at an alarming rate in contrast to the government's recent publicity maneuvers, such as "economic reforms," a "revised Constitution," or an "open door policy"; and

"Whereas, after two decades, the government of the SRV is still committing the inhumane act of warehousing the remains of