

local, national, and international efforts of the National Committee on the United Nations to promote the universal adoption of the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, and urges the United States Senate to ratify CEDAW; and be it further

Resolved, That the Assembly and the Senate of the State of California shall work to ensure the elimination of discrimination against women and girls in the State of California, as they pursue the enjoyment of all civil, political, economic, and cultural rights, as expressed in the CEDAW treaty; 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 House of Representatives, and to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States.

POM-294. A resolution adopted by the House of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

RESOLUTION

Whereas, The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the province of Taiwan of the Republic of China enjoy a close and long standing relationship;

Whereas, Dr. Sun Yat-Sen, founder of the Republic of China, has been recognized as a national patriot by all the governments of modern China and in harmony with his principles, the government of the Republic of China in Taiwan has consistently shown its commitment towards world peace and stability, economic and social-regional development, international mutual assistance, democratization processes and political and economic freedom;

Whereas, the economy of the Republic of China in Taiwan makes it, at present, the fourteenth largest commercial country, the twentieth in gross national product and the twenty-fifth in gross per capita income;

Whereas, the population of the Republic of China in Taiwan is greater than the population of two-thirds of the present members of the United Nations Organizations;

Whereas, the people of the Republic of China in Taiwan deserve appropriate recognition and credit for their dynamic role in the international community;

Whereas, the creation of an ad hoc committee for the study of the exceptional situation of the people of the Republic of China in Taiwan in the international community, has been proposed before the United Nations Organization in order to advance fair and viable solutions which will allow its participation in the international bodies under the aegis of the United Nations Organization;

Whereas, there is a precedent for the full participation of the Republic of China in Taiwan in the United Nations Organization and its affiliated bodies, such as the participation formerly granted to nations divided between two governments such as Korea, and as were Germany and Yemen for many years before their unification;

Whereas, since the People of Puerto Rico lack the power to directly influence the President and the United States Congressmen who direct the foreign and diplomatic policy which applies to Puerto Rico by vote, it is essential for this High Body to state its feelings on this matter to them. Now therefore: be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives of Puerto Rico:

Section 1.—To hereby request the President and the Congress of the United States to give their utmost attention and action support to the Republic of China in Taiwan

as an important participant in international commerce and trade, and as a former ally, and in support of its efforts to attain its full participation in the international community bodies.

Section 2.—To have this Resolution translated into the English language, and remit copies thereof to the President and to the Congress of the United States, and to the Representatives of the Republic of China in Taiwan.

POM-295. A resolution adopted by the House of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

RESOLUTION

STATEMENT OF MOTIVES

Information published in the United States indicates that in recent months a controversy has arisen regarding the manner in which the Federal Census for the year 2000 shall be conducted. The controversy is basically about proposed methodology.

The Bureau of the Census plans to use the statistical sampling technique, alleging that it is necessary in order to correct the situation of the previous census which failed to count some one point six (1.6) percent of the population of the United States or around four million (4,000,000) persons, according to its own estimates. It is estimated that if the sample is not used, one point nine (1.9) percent of the population shall not be counted and that six hundred seventy-five (675) to eight hundred (800) million dollars would be necessary in addition to the four billion it expects to spend.

From the above, it can be inferred that a census with statistical sampling is more reliable and less costly than that which does not use the sample. It is also important to indicate that experience has shown that the endemic problem of the population that is uncounted mainly affects the minorities, and among them, Hispanics.

We wish to join our efforts to those of Martha Farnsworth Richie, Director of the Bureau of the Census, Barbara E. Bryant, former Director of the Bureau of the Census under former President Bush, the two panels of the National Research Council, one of which is directed by Charles L. Schulze, who worked for Brookings Institution, to the American Statistics Association, the United States Conference of Mayors, organizations of legal counsel for minority groups such as the Civil Rights Leadership Council, the majority of the members of Congress affiliated to the Democratic Party, Republican Congressmen such as Senator John McCain from Arizona and Congressman Christopher Shays from Connecticut, as well as state governments such as New York and Los Angeles, all these who favor the use of statistical sampling in the Census.

It seems to us that the arguments set forth by those who oppose the use of samples based on considerations of public order, lack validity. The Chairman of the National Republican Party, Jim Nicholson, has been quoted as saying that based on an undisclosed internal report, that Republicans could lose up to twenty-five (25) seats in the House of Representatives if statistic sampling is used in the Census for the year 2000. This has been denied by other sectors. A study conducted by the Congressional Investigation Service based on the projections of the Census of 1996, reflects that eleven (11) seats would change hands and that states such as Texas, Arizona and Georgia would gain two (2) seats, while New York and Pennsylvania would lose two (2) seats.

The argument that a Census with sampling would be unconstitutional and that additional costs would be avoided if the Supreme

Court annuls a census with the sample do not convince us either.

Department of Justice Opinions under the administrations of Clinton, Carter and Bush conclude that the Constitution does not exclude the use of the sample. We firmly believe that the constitutional right of equal protection under laws of the United States of the persons omitted in the past by the Census were violated, and that those mainly affected are members of minority groups that are not counted for reasons such as higher rates of multiple families living together, changes of residence and cases of homeless people, which mostly affect minority groups than the rest of the population.

In the spirit that justice be done from the economic point of view, as well as from the political point of view through equal treatment to all the residents of the United States, we urge the President and the Congress of the United States to support a Federal Census using the methodology proposed by the Bureau of the Census so that the five (5) million persons who would be omitted from the statistics of the Census if the statistical sampling is not used, can be counted, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives of Puerto Rico:

Section 1.—To urge President William Jefferson Clinton and the Congress of the United States to support the methodology proposed by the United States Bureau of the Census to conduct the Federal Census of the year 2000.

Section 2.—A copy of this Resolution shall be remitted to the President of the United States, as well as to the Speaker of the House and President of the Senate of the United States of America, to the Floor leaders of the various parliamentary delegations, and to the Black Caucus and Hispanic Caucus of the Congress, the Governor of Puerto Rico and the Resident Commissioner of Puerto Rico in the United States, in English and in Spanish.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

H.R. 960. A bill to validate certain conveyances in the City of Tulare, Tulare County, California, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 105-127).

By Mr. CHAFEE, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title:

S. 1180. A bill to reauthorize the Endangered Species Act (Rept. No. 105-128).

By Mr. D'AMATO, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title:

S. 318. A bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to require automatic cancellation and notice of cancellation rights with respect to private mortgage insurance which is required by a creditor as a condition for entering into a residential mortgage transaction, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 105-129).

By Mr. D'AMATO, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, with an amendment:

S. 1228. A bill to provide for a 10-year circulating commemorative coin program to commemorate each of the 50 States, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 105-130).