

RECOGNITION FOR SLAVE LABORERS WHO WORKED ON CONSTRUCTION OF THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Rules Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Con. Res. 130 and the Senate then proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 130) establishing a special task force to recommend an appropriate recognition for the slave laborers who worked on the construction of the United States Capitol.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements related thereto be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 130) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. CON. RES. 130

Whereas the United States Capitol stands as a symbol of democracy, equality, and freedom to the entire world;

Whereas the year 2000 marks the 200th anniversary of the opening of this historic structure for the first session of Congress to be held in the new Capital City;

Whereas slavery was not prohibited throughout the United States until the ratification of the 13th amendment to the Constitution in 1865;

Whereas previous to that date, African American slave labor was both legal and common in the District of Columbia and the adjoining States of Maryland and Virginia;

Whereas public records attest to the fact that African American slave labor was used in the construction of the United States Capitol;

Whereas public records further attest to the fact that the five-dollar-per-month payment for that African American slave labor was made directly to slave owners and not to the laborer; and

Whereas African Americans made significant contributions and fought bravely for freedom during the American Revolutionary War: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall establish a special task force to study the history and contributions of these slave laborers in the construction of the United States Capitol; and

(2) such special task force shall recommend to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate an appropriate recognition for these slave laborers which could be displayed in a prominent location in the United States Capitol.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE—FIRST READINGS

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order today, notwithstanding an adjournment of the Senate, to read for the first time two bills introduced by Sen-

ator KENNEDY and that objection to a second reading be ordered today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

MR. CRAIG. For the information of all Senators, the Senate will convene on Monday at 12 noon and be in a period of morning business until 2 p.m., with Senators GRAHAM and THOMAS in control of the time. Following morning business, the Senate will resume the final debate on H.R. 4444, the China PNTR legislation. Those Members who have closing remarks are encouraged to come to the floor during Monday's session.

As a reminder, the first votes of next week will be two back-to-back votes on Tuesday, at 2:15 p.m. The first vote will be on final passage of the PNTR bill, and the second vote will be on cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 2045, the H-1B visa bill. The cloture motion was filed during today's session.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 18, 2000

Mr. CRAIG. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 1:24 p.m., adjourned until Monday, September 18, 2000, at 12 noon.