

The proposed Agreement to extend the Agreement for Cooperation (the "Extension Agreement") was originally approved and its execution authorized by President Bush based on his written determination that the performance of the Agreement for Cooperation for an additional period of 20 years would promote, and would not constitute an unreasonable risk to, the common defense and security. A copy of President Bush's written approval, authorization, and determination is enclosed. Also enclosed is a copy of the unclassified Nuclear Proliferation Assessment Statement (NPAS) prepared at that time by the Director, United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

The proposed Extension Agreement was effected by an exchange of diplomatic notes at Dhaka on January 5, 1993, and February 6, 1993. The terms of the Extension Agreement condition its entry into force on each State notifying the other of the completion of its respective legal requirements for entry into force. However, before the proposed Extension Agreement could be submitted to the Congress in 1993 for review pursuant to section 123 of the Act, the Government of Bangladesh asked to consult with the United States regarding a possible modification of the term of extension. These discussions proved to be very protracted, but both Governments have now agreed that their original intention to extend the Agreement for Cooperation for an additional period of 20 years from the date of the original Agreement's expiration (i.e., to extend its until June 24, 2012) should stand, and that the Extension Agreement should be brought into force as soon as each Party has notified the other in writing that it has completed its legal requirements for doing so.

Section 123 of the Act, as amended by Title XII of the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-277) now also provides that each Nuclear Proliferation Assessment Statement prepared pursuant to the Act shall be accompanied by a classified annex prepared by the Secretary of State in consultation with the Director of Central Intelligence, summarizing relevant classified information. The Secretary of State is submitting to the Congress under separate cover such a classified annex. It contains, *inter alia*, the Secretary of State's reaffirmation of the conclusions reached in the original unclassified Nuclear Proliferation Assessment Statement (a) that continued implementation of the Agreement for Cooperation is consistent with all requirements of the Act, and (b) that the safeguards and other control mechanisms and the peaceful-use assurances contained in the Agreement for Cooperation are adequate to ensure that any assistance furnished under it will not be used to further any military or nuclear explosive purpose.

I am pleased to reconfirm President Bush's approval of the Extension Agreement and authorization of its execution and implementation. Bangladesh is a party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and is fully in compliance with its nuclear nonproliferation commitments under that Treaty. In my judgment, continued performance of the Agreement for Cooperation between the United States of America and the People's Republic of Bangladesh Concerning Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy will promote, and not constitute an unreasonable risk to, the common defense and security. Apart from the proposed extension, the Agreement for Cooperation will remain in all other respects the same as that which was favorably reviewed by the Congress in 1982. The Department of State, the Department of Energy, and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission have reconfirmed their favorable views regarding the original NPAS as well as the conclusions contained herein.

This transmission shall constitute a submittal for purposes of both sections 123 b. and 123 d. of the Act. My Administration is prepared to begin immediately the consultations with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the House International Relations Committee as provided in section 123 b. Upon completion of the period of 30 days of continuous session provided for in section 123 b., the period of 60 days of continuous session provided for in section 123 d. shall commence.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 20, 2000.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to in under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken after debate is concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 7 p.m. today.

RECOGNIZING IMPORTANCE OF FAMILIES AND CHILDREN IN UNITED STATES AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR GOALS AND IDEAS OF NATIONAL FAMILY DAY

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 288) recognizing the importance of families and children in the United States and expressing support for the goals and ideas of National Family Day.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 288

Whereas national evidence indicates that America's kids are faced with oppressive issues such as violence, drugs, abuse, and even family stress, causing the future of the children of the United States, and therefore the future of the Nation, to be at risk;

Whereas families in the United States, regardless of their economic status, ethnic or cultural heritage, or geographic location, are experiencing the pressures caused by contemporary society while trying to raise and nurture emotionally healthy and physically safe children;

Whereas Americans realize the challenges of spending quality family time together amidst today's busy lifestyles and balancing work schedules and kids' activities to regularly share a family meal;

Whereas it is imperative that the people of the United States act willfully and purposely to secure a positive future for the Nation by devoting time to family bonding, sharing traditions, and communicating values to children in an effort to sustain the importance of family;

Whereas KidsPeace, one of the Nation's oldest, most comprehensive not-for-profit organizations dedicated to helping children attain the confidence and courage needed to face and overcome crises, has established National FamilyDay to focus unified attention on nurturing family relationships and improving family communications thereby helping to build strong families which give kids peace;

Whereas National FamilyDay will be celebrated annually on a Sunday in March; and

Whereas National FamilyDay will provide opportunities for families to reclaim the family mealtime which fosters trust and builds better communication, and will encourage parents, grandparents, and caregivers to recognize the importance of being involved in the physical and emotional lives of their children: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) recognizes the importance of children and families to the future of the United States;

(2) expresses support for the goals and ideas of National FamilyDay as established by KidsPeace;

(3) encourages the people of the United States to participate in local and national activities honoring National FamilyDay; and

(4) believes that families who communicate and spend time together create stronger families which give kids peace.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GEKAS). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING) and the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. ROEMER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING).

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Concurrent Resolution 288, to recognize the importance of families and children in the United States and to express support for the goals and ideas of National Family Day.

Let us not underestimate the importance of families. Today's families provide the foundation for America's future. The family is the most fundamental of society's institutions, for it

is within the family setting that character, morality, responsibility, and wisdom are nurtured best in children.

Families that have committed and dedicated parents raise children who prefer commitment rather than self-indulgence, become law-abiding rather than law-avoiding, and become productive members of society.

On the other hand, when the family structure is not strong, the results for individuals and society in general are not nearly as bright.

Research on the effects of the out-of-wedlock birth and divorce show that children in broken families drop out of school more frequently, become sexually active at younger ages, have higher rates of crime and drug abuse, and earn lower incomes as adults. And I want to point out that I have an exception up there, a young man who is now at West Point, who does not fit into that category.

Statistics regarding the collapse of the American family are disheartening. According to the National Center for Health Statistics, 32.8 percent of all children born in 1997 were born out of wedlock. These percentages were not unique with regard to race. The number of children born out of wedlock was disturbingly high among whites, blacks, and Hispanics.

A total of 20 million children now live with single parents in the United States. Of these children, 12.6 million live in the poorest families.

The ramifications of these high divorce rates are discouraging. More and more Americans are members of the second, third, and even fourth generation of broken families in which fathers and mothers are alienated from one another, leaving their children to bear the consequences.

The American Journal of Sociology and the Journal of Marriage and the Family report that divorce weakens a child's relationship with his or her parents, creates emotional problems that reinforces destructive ways of handling conflicts, and diminishes social competence.

Apart from the physical dilapidation of families, research has also demonstrated the devastating consequences of dysfunctional families.

The amount of conversation and the level of interaction between parents and children have an enormous impact on children's development. The reduction of interaction between parents and their children should, therefore, be a grave cause for concern to all of us.

According to the University of Maryland, by 1990 parents on average were available to their children 10 hours less per week than they were in 1980 and 40 percent less than in 1965.

H. Con. Res. 288 recognizes and supports National Family Day to help focus attention on nurturing family relationships and improving family communication. H. Con. Res. 288 recognizes

the importance of children and families to the future of the United States, encourages citizens to participate in local and national activities honoring National Family Day, and encourages families to communicate and spend more time together to create stronger families.

National Family Day is a relatively new annual event held every year in March to honor and celebrate the importance of the American family. National Family Day was established by Kids Peace, a nonprofit organization that is dedicated to helping children obtain the confidence and courage needed to face and overcome crises. Kids Peace helps over 2,000 children in crisis each day at 25 centers across the Nation.

Once again, I would like to thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) and Kids Peace for their efforts to improve America's families. I urge my colleagues and people across the country to join with them in supporting efforts to help our families.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would like to thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING), the chairman of the Committee on Education and the Workforce that I serve on, for managing the time. I would also like to thank my friend, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY), who has joined together with me to introduce this resolution and cosponsor it and talk about it on the floor; and I look forward to his comments, as well.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 288, which recognizes the importance, the vital importance, of children and families in the United States and expresses the support of some of the following goals of a National Family Day.

One of the things that this concurrent resolution expresses, and I think this is important for our colleagues to hear, it is the second "whereas" clause. "Whereas national evidence indicates that America's kids are faced with oppressive issues such as violence, drugs, abuse, and even family stress, causing the future of the children of the United States, and therefore the future of the Nation, to be at risk."

Now, we had a report several years ago, about 16 years ago, in 1984, which was a report on the status of American education which firmly and boldly stated that, if education was at risk, America was at risk.

Our families are the foundation of everything in this country.

□ 1415

And so if there is something directed or targeted at the stability, the care, the community, the love, the sustainability of our families, it is targeted at

the health, the very fiber and the very soul of our country. So this resolution, I think, simply tries to state that in all the busy things that we do in Congress, at work, in our communities, that nothing is more important in our homes than time spent with our children.

Another whereas clause simply states, on page 2, whereas it is imperative that the people of the United States act willfully and purposely to secure a positive future for the Nation by devoting time to family bonding, sharing traditions, and communicating values to children in an effort to sustain the importance of family.

Mr. Speaker, this is what this resolution is all about. It is simple, straightforward, and bipartisan in its appeal on behalf of our families and our children to refocus attention on the family and on spending time with our children in order to strengthen families and create healthy communication between our children and our parents. National Family Day is a new annual event held on a Sunday in March to honor and celebrate the American family.

Mr. Speaker, our children are our most precious gift. We cannot afford to let even one slip through the cracks. KidsPeace and other organizations throughout the United States are doing good work in reaching out to those children who are most at risk in society and helping them develop the courage and the skills to overcome crises. But no matter how hard they try, these organizations cannot take the place of loving parents, stable homes, and a healthy environment in which kids can feel safe, loved and positive about their lives and their futures.

I want to conclude, Mr. Speaker, as Robert Kennedy once said, and I quote, when one of us prospers, all of us prosper, and when one of us fails, so do we all.

We cannot afford to have one of our children fail in this great Nation. Therefore, let us emphasize the importance of one of the most important institutions that can help save our children, and that is the institution of family. Let us pass this bipartisan day. Let us put emphasis on a simple yet straightforward, yet vitally important concept of family, and let us focus on this as a solution to many problems in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY), the cosponsor on our side of the legislation, a very important member of the Pennsylvania delegation.

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. Speaker, we are here today, and I rise in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 288 authored, as we have heard, by myself and my friend the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. ROEMER). H. Con. Res. 288

supports National Family Day as we have heard which is sponsored by KidsPeace. KidsPeace is a national, nonprofit organization based in the Lehigh Valley in Pennsylvania. They have dozens of facilities across the country, treating over 2,000 children facing crisis.

KidsPeace also has various prevention programs to help children before a crisis arises. It cares for some of our most troubled children and helps all of the children they deal with to develop the confidence and the skills to avoid and to overcome crisis. They help children anticipate and overcome crises from disasters and personal traumas, to family issues and neglect, to severe depression, eating disorders, and the general stresses that any children experience in our modern society.

I am very proud to have such a worthwhile organization based in my community in the 15th District of Pennsylvania. What KidsPeace has done is they have developed a great idea with the National Tabletop and Giftware Association, the folks who make the plates, the silverware, and the cooking utensils we use to prepare our meals.

Their idea is this National Family Day, a day to remind us of the need to reclaim the family mealtime for the family. This year is its first year. National Family Day is this coming Sunday, March 26. It will always be held on a Sunday in March.

KidsPeace is undertaking a variety of activities to support this National Family Day. Perhaps most interesting of these is this brochure that I am holding in my hand. Plate and silverware companies throughout our Nation are distributing millions of these brochures at their stores. As the brochure says, "The family evening meal has been the source of building healthy communication and family bonds for centuries. Yet it is becoming a lost art in modern America."

The brochure goes on to give eight simple steps on how a family can reclaim their mealtime to foster open communication and healthy relationships. KidsPeace and its President, C.T. O'Donnell, are to be commended for developing this brochure. I also want to commend the National Tabletop and Giftware Association and its president, William Simpson of Pfaltzgraff in York, Pennsylvania, I believe that is the chairman's hometown, for distributing this brochure. I want to thank the majority leader, the chairman of the Committee on Education and the Workforce and certainly the gentleman from Indiana for all of their work and help on this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House's indulgence for one last note before I conclude. When I announced these efforts and my introduction of a House resolution at a news conference in my district, we were joined by a family from

the Lehigh Valley. Eric and Toni Hummel with their son Michael who is 9 years old and their daughter Lauren who is 1 talked about the need for a reminder to help make family mealtimes a priority in all of our family lives.

I took their words to heart because my wife and I are expecting our first child in June. We both know that we have very busy lives and we will have to be constantly on guard that we are not letting our child's time slip away from us. I want to thank my colleagues. I want to thank them for all their help in support of this resolution which will serve as the reminder that the Hummel family pointed out to all of us.

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) the ranking member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Indiana for yielding me this time and thank him for his involvement with this legislation as I do the gentleman from Pennsylvania, apparently everybody from Pennsylvania is involved, and commend them for this resolution.

I would, however, say this, that I would hope that as we count down the number of legislative days remaining in this session that we keep the purpose and the intent of this resolution in mind and that is about strengthening families and giving families the tools by which they can strengthen the relationship among the members of that family, especially with their children, recognizing the complexities and the pressures of contemporary American society. But I would hope also that the Congress would take this resolution to heart and would understand that there is a family agenda that yet needs to be met within this Congress. It deals with the issues of education, it deals with the issue of the safety of our children, it deals with the issue of the health care available to our families, housing available to our families and the kind of child care that is now needed by families as they find the pressures of the workplace encroaching more and more on the time that they used to have for their families and to take care of the mentoring of their children.

And to fix our crumbling schools. We see there is some \$112 to \$115 billion backlog in school facilities, recognizing the need to do this so children can go to a decent facility where they can engage in the learning experience and acquire the tools that will benefit them as they take their place in our society. I am worried that this resolution becomes a substitute for addressing that agenda, because that would not be fair to America's families.

Clearly America's families, those who toil at the minimum wage, need an

increase in the minimum wage. We know that those who toil at the minimum wage continue to toil and at the end of the year if they work all year long, they are below the poverty rate in this country. We now see where the biggest growth in homeless, certainly in my State in California but in many other areas of the Nation, is working families with children.

They simply have been priced out of the market. It does not mean they are not working. It does not mean they are not caring for their children. It does not mean they do not love their children. They simply now are unable to find housing for their children. That is the biggest new growth rate in homeless in the State of California which is having an economic resurgence unparalleled anywhere else in the country.

At a time when we are creating over 100 millionaires a week, we find out that the very same people who are working for many of those millionaires in their factories are unable to live near their work or to find a house at all for them and for their children. In many instances those workers are temporary workers, they work essentially what we would call full time but they are characterized as temporary workers, which means they do not get the benefits. So they do not have health care for them or their children.

In many instances the companies fail to provide it or are unable to provide it. And so clearly there are these kinds of efforts that we can make on behalf of America's families and on behalf of America's children. Because in many instances there is no other place for these families to go to get help while they work and they struggle and they work full time. They do not have the means to provide health insurance. They do not have the means to provide housing. They are going to have to turn for assistance to the other, the great American family, if you will, that sees that plight and understands that struggle.

So hopefully this resolution will not only recognize the needs of families and our commitments to them, it will also provide them some additional empathy by Members of Congress of the plight of many millions of American families who are working very hard and struggling and still not able to make ends meet that we have an obligation to see what we can do to make sure that they can do that so they can provide a healthy environment and a sustainable environment for their children.

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 2 minutes.

The author of the resolution made reference to the brochure, "Reclaim the Family Mealtime". It says on the front cover, "Are you losing contact with the people you love? Is your family time being squeezed out by work pressures, kids' activities, and a hectic,

fast-paced schedule?" Then inside it says, "If so, the solution may be as close as this evening's meal."

I am reminded even though we were a family of eight, six children and dirt poor, we did not realize we were poor because of the closeness of that family relationship. Through my first eight grades in school, as a matter of fact, we sat down together at meals three times a day, because we went home for lunch rather than stay in school. And then when we went on to high school, we still had meals together two times a day. What an important time that was.

Today, we oftentimes hear people say, well, mother and father both have to work. That is not necessarily so. It depends on the lifestyle you want. Yes, I got my first suit of long pants given to me by neighbors. Only one worked away from home.

So oftentimes we find excuses as to why we do as little as we do to keep families together, but I do not think there are any statistics that would prove otherwise than that a family unit is one of the three or four most important things we have going for us in a free society and without it, that society will fall from within.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Concurrent Resolution 288, to recognize the importance of families and children in the United States, and to express support for the goals and ideas of National Family Day.

You know, its no secret that the family is the most fundamental of society's institutions, for it is within the family setting that character, morality, responsibility, ability, and wisdom are nurtured best in children.

Unfortunately, today, the family institution is being steadily dismantled, even held in disdain by many leaders in the political, academic and media elite.

And the erosion has serious consequences: In 1950, for every 100 children born, 12 entered a broken family. Today, for every 100 children born, 60 will enter a broken family. Each year, about one million children experience the divorce of their parents. 1.25 million are born out of wedlock, and another 1.4 million are aborted. Child abuse is growing steadily and alarmingly sexual abuse amongst children is growing fastest of all.

In short, Americans are literally turning against their children. But adults suffer as well from the breakdown of the family institution. Studies clearly show that those who divorce suffer shorter life expectancies, poorer physical and psychological health and lowered standards of living.

In addition, research continues on the correlation between a family founded on a lifelong marriage and low incidences of crime, addiction, abuse, illness, and underachievement.

Our country must focus national attention on problems whose roots lie in the breakdown of the family institution and marriage, as well as public policies that contribute to those problems.

On the national level, over the last few years, Congress has begun to evaluate how

the Federal Government's policies have been hostile to marriage and the family.

Last month, the House overwhelmingly passed the Marriage Penalty Tax Relief Act, which will stop the Government's practice of excessively taxing couples just because they are married. This will keep the IRS off the alter and provide more money for families that may mean a new washing machine, extra tuition money for a child, a three bedroom home or fixing the family car—this is real relief for working families.

In 1997, we passed the \$500-per-child tax credit, the most important policy advance for the family. And we enacted adoption and foster care reforms so that children are given permanent homes quickly and not left revolving in the child welfare system year after year.

And in 1996, we reformed welfare ending the cycle of dependency for many. We ended the practice of having the Government filling the roles of family, church and voluntary associations.

This year, we will take up important legislation establishing education savings accounts permitting parents to put money aside for a child's education.

But, beyond the beltway, beyond this Capitol, is where most of the changes are occurring—as is often the case.

This is where the real change is taking place—and rightly so.

Abstinence education to address the rising rates of out-of-wedlock births, counseling to address the rising rates of divorce and after-school programs to get kids off the street are happening throughout America.

KidsPeace, a 117-year-old non-profit organization that directly helps over 2,000 children in crisis every day at 25 centers across the nation, and millions more through prevention and public education efforts, recognizes all of these facts and has created National Family Day.

National Family Day is a relatively new, annual event held every March to honor and celebrate the importance of the American family.

This year, it will focus attention on the family meal as a time to build healthy communication and lasting bonds with children.

The amount of conversation and the level of interaction between parents and children has an enormous impact on a child's development. Even in intact families, however, children suffer from a lack of intimate time with their parents. One of the sad consequences of the breakdown of society today is that, to pay the bills or fulfill their higher expectations for material comforts, more mothers work outside of the home. This fact coupled with the numbers of single-parent families and the rising rate of divorce, means there has been a tragic reduction in "family time."

Adequate time with parents is critical for the development of every child, especially for self-esteem and confidence. The reduction of time between parents and children is cause for grave concern. It attenuates the most important relationship to a child and correspondingly derives him of the strength he derives from his parents.

As Harvard University child psychiatrist Robert Cole puts it, "The frenzied need of children to have possessions isn't only a function of the ads they see on TV. It's a function of their

hunger for what they aren't getting—their parents time."

By 1990, parents were, on average, available 10 hours less per week to their children than they were in 1980 and 40 percent less than they were in 1965.

In a 1990 Los Angeles Times poll found that 57 percent of all fathers and 55 percent of all mothers felt guilty about spending too little time with their children. The poll also found that 73 percent of all married couples would have one parent stay home full-time with the children if money were not the issue.

I congratulate KidsPeace for their efforts to improve the family structure and call on my colleagues and everyone in our country to join with them in supporting efforts which will create stronger families.

□ 1430

Mr. ROMERO-BARCELÓ. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GEKAS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 288.

The question was taken.

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Con. Res. 288.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

KERN COUNTY CALIFORNIA LAND EXCHANGE ACT OF 2000

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1680) to provide for the conveyance of Forest Service property in Kern County, California, in exchange for county lands suitable for inclusion in Sequoia National Forest, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1680

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Kern County California Land Exchange Act of 2000".

SEC. 2. LAND EXCHANGE, CAMP OWEN AND RELATED PARCELS, KERN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA.

(a) EXCHANGE REQUIRED.—In exchange for the non-Federal lands and the additional consideration described in subsection (b), the Secretary of Agriculture shall convey to Kern