

to end the recession of the early 1990's, and with the right programs and assistance, will be a major factor in sustaining our current economy.

To help them achieve success, small businesses rely on a range of programs administered and monitored by the Small Business Administration (SBA), such as the Small Business Innovation Research Program (SBIR), the 7(a) Guaranteed Loan Program, the 8(a) Business Development Program, the Small Business Development Center and Women's Business Center Programs, and the New Markets Venture Capital Program. And these are just a few of the many initiatives that continue to receive widespread support from the Senate and House Committees on Small Business, as well as the Congress as a whole. Our resolution commends the SBA for their activities, and calls on the President to make every effort to strengthen and expand assistance to small business concerns through Federal programs.

SBA programs are relied upon to help restore economically depressed communities, spur technological innovation, provide access to capital, train entrepreneurs, monitor the procurement practices of Federal agencies, and ensure small businesses are heard when new regulations are being developed. Unfortunately, the SBA has received increasing responsibilities without the necessary increase in resources to do the job as effectively as possible.

To make the situation worse, the Bush administration's budget request for fiscal year 2002 is woefully inadequate and goes in the wrong direction. President Bush has consistently stated that the economy is in a period of economic decline, yet he has proposed limiting the resources available to our small businesses by cutting funding and charging additional fees for programs that create businesses and jobs, and help generate revenue for the American people.

Mr. President, I would like to commend Chairman BOND for working with me to pass an amendment to the budget resolution restoring many of the cuts initiated by the Bush administration. I am hopeful that our joint effort will be retained in the final budget. I also hope that by continuing to work in a bipartisan fashion on this critical issue, we can further increase SBA resources for the next fiscal year. The SBA deserves our continued support for its important work, and I urge my colleagues to support this resolution as well as sufficient resources for the SBA and America's small businesses.

Mr. ENSIGN. 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 relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 86) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The text of the resolution is located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Submitted Resolutions.")

COMMENDING MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES MISSION IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Mr. ENSIGN. I ask unanimous consent that the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 81 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 81), commending the members of the United States mission in the People's Republic of China for their persistence, devotion to duty, sacrifice, and success in obtaining the safe repatriation to the United States of the crew of the Navy EP-3E ARIES II aircraft who had been detained in China.

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

Mr. ENSIGN. 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, finally, any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 81) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

Whereas, on March 31, 2001, two fighter aircraft of the People's Republic of China intercepted a United States Navy EP-3E ARIES II maritime patrol aircraft on a routine reconnaissance mission in international airspace over the China Sea;

Whereas one of the two Chinese aircraft collided with the United States aircraft, jeopardizing the lives of its 24 crewmembers, causing serious damage, and forcing the United States aircraft commander, Navy Lieutenant Shane Osborn, to issue a "MAYDAY" distress call and perform an emergency landing at a Chinese airfield on Hainan Island;

Whereas, in violation of international norms, the Government of the People's Republic of China detained the United States aircrew for 11 days, initially refusing the requests of United States consular and military officials for access to the crew; and

Whereas the persistence and devotion to duty of the members of the United States mission in the People's Republic of China resulted in the release of all members of the United States aircrew on April 12, 2001: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate hereby commends the members of the United States mission in the People's Republic of China, and other responsible officials of the Departments of State and Defense, for their outstanding performance in obtaining the safe repatriation to the United States of the crew of the Navy EP-3E ARIES II aircraft.

PARTICIPATION OF TAIWAN IN THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Mr. ENSIGN. I ask unanimous consent that the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 428 and that the Senate then proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows: A bill (H.R. 428) concerning participation of Taiwan in the World Health Organization.

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

AMENDMENT NO. 647

Mr. ENSIGN. Senator HATCH has an amendment at the desk. I ask for its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. ENSIGN], for Mr. HATCH, proposes an amendment numbered 647.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. CONCERNING THE PARTICIPATION OF TAIWAN IN THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO).

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Good health is important to every citizen of the world and access to the highest standards of health information and services is necessary to improve the public health.

(2) Direct and unobstructed participation in international health cooperation forums and programs is beneficial for all parts of the world, especially with today's greater potential for the cross-border spread of various infectious diseases such as the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), tuberculosis, and malaria.

(3) Taiwan's population of 23,500,000 people is larger than that of ¾ of the member states already in the World Health Organization (WHO).

(4) Taiwan's achievements in the field of health are substantial, including one of the highest life expectancy levels in Asia, maternal and infant mortality rates comparable to those of western countries, the eradication of such infectious diseases as cholera, smallpox, and the plague, and the first to eradicate polio and provide children with hepatitis B vaccinations.

(5) The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and its Taiwan counterpart agencies have enjoyed close collaboration on a wide range of public health issues.

(6) In recent years Taiwan has expressed a willingness to assist financially and technically in international aid and health activities supported by the WHO.

(7) On January 14, 2001, an earthquake, registering between 7.6 and 7.9 on the Richter scale, struck El Salvador. In response, the Taiwanese government sent 2 rescue teams, consisting of 90 individuals specializing in firefighting, medicine, and civil engineering. The Taiwanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs also donated \$200,000 in relief aid to the Salvadoran Government.

(8) The World Health Assembly has allowed observers to participate in the activities of