

1999, submitted the case to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights;

Whereas persecution of journalists in Peru is so grave that several Peruvian journalists have sought political asylum in the United States;

Whereas actions related to efforts to authorize President Alberto Fujimori to seek a third term in office have raised questions about the independence of the National Election Board in Peru;

Whereas the independence of Peru's judiciary has been brought into question since the dismissal of 3 Constitutional Tribunal magistrates on May 29, 1997, and by continuing control of judicial matters by the executive branch; and

Whereas the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights has called on the Government of Peru to reinstate the 3 dismissed magistrates, enabling the Constitutional Tribunal to rule on constitutional issues, to fully restore the National Council of the Judiciary's power to nominate and dismiss judges and prosecutors, and to cease the recurring practice of overruling, transferring, or removing judges whose decisions did not coincide with the views of the Government of Peru; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that—

(1) the erosion of the independence of judicial and electoral branches of the Government of Peru, the interference with freedom of the press, and the blatant intimidation of journalists in Peru constitute a threat to democracy in that country and are matters for concern by the United States as a member of the Inter-American community;

(2) the United States Government and other members of the Inter-American community should review the forthcoming report of an independent investigation conducted recently by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of American States on the condition of and threats to democracy, freedom of the press, and judicial independence in Peru; and

(3) representatives of the United States in Peru and to international organizations, including the Organization of American States, the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the International Monetary Fund, should make clear the concern of the United States concerning threats to democracy and violations of the rule of law in Peru.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. MILLER of Florida, recognized Mr. BE-REUTER and Mr. DAVIS of Florida, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,

The question being put, *viva voce*,

Will the House suspend the rules and agree to said resolution, as amended?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. MILLER of Florida, announced that two-thirds of the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

So, two-thirds of the Members present having voted in favor thereof, the rules were suspended and said resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

By unanimous consent, the title was amended so as to read: "A resolution expressing concern over erosion of democracy and the rule of law in Peru, including interference with freedom of the press and independence of judicial and electoral institutions."

A motion to reconsider the votes whereby the rules were suspended and said resolution, as amended, was agreed to and the preamble and the title were amended was, by unanimous consent, laid on the table.

¶107.17 ABRAHAM LINCOLN BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

Mrs. BIGGERT moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1451) to establish the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission; as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. MILLER of Florida, recognized Mrs. BIGGERT and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,

The question being put, *viva voce*,

Will the House suspend the rules and pass said bill, as amended?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. MILLER of Florida, announced that two-thirds of the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

Mr. LAHOOD demanded that the vote be taken by the yeas and nays, which demand was supported by one-fifth of the Members present, so the yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. MILLER of Florida, pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, announced that further proceedings on the motion were postponed.

¶107.18 BROOKLYN MUSEUM EXHIBIT

Mr. DEMINT moved to suspend the rules and agree to the following concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 191); as amended:

Whereas on October 2, 1999, the Brooklyn Museum of Art opened an exhibit entitled "Sensation: Young British Artists from the Saatchi Collection";

Whereas this art exhibit features a desecrated image of the Virgin Mary;

Whereas the venerable John Cardinal O'Connor considers the exhibit an attack on the Catholic faith, and is an affront to more than a billion Catholics worldwide;

Whereas the exhibit includes works which are grotesque, immoral, and sacrilegious, such as one that glorifies criminal behavior with a portrait of a convicted child murderer fashioned from small hand prints;

Whereas the Brooklyn Museum of Art's advertisement acknowledges that the exhibit "may cause shock, vomiting, confusion, panic, euphoria, and anxiety";

Whereas the Brooklyn Museum of Art refuses to close the exhibit, despite strong public opposition to the show from religious leaders, government officials, and the general population;

Whereas the American taxpayer, through the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities, provides funding to the Brooklyn Museum of Art; and

Whereas the American taxpayer should not be required to subsidize art that desecrates religion and religious beliefs: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that the Brooklyn Museum of Art should not receive Federal funds unless it closes its exhibit featuring works of a sacrilegious nature.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. GIBBONS, recognized Mr. DEMINT and Mr. CLAY, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,

The question being put, *viva voce*,

Will the House suspend the rules and agree to said concurrent resolution, as amended?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. GIBBONS, announced that two-thirds of

the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

So, two-thirds of the Members present having voted in favor thereof, the rules were suspended and said concurrent resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

By unanimous consent, the title was amended so as to read: "A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the Brooklyn Museum of Art should not receive Federal funds unless it closes its exhibit featuring works of a sacrilegious nature."

A motion to reconsider the vote whereby the rules were suspended and said concurrent resolution, as amended, was agreed to and the title was amended was, by unanimous consent, laid on the table.

Ordered, That the Clerk request the concurrence of the Senate in said concurrent resolution.

¶107.19 VA-HUD APPROPRIATIONS

On motion of Mr. WALSH, by unanimous consent, the bill (H.R. 2684) making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes; together with the amendment of the Senate thereto, was taken from the Speaker's table.

When on motion of Mr. WALSH, it was,

Resolved, That the House disagree to the amendment of the Senate and agree to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon.

Ordered, That the Clerk notify the Senate thereof.

¶107.20 MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES—H.R. 2684

Mr. MOLLOHAN moved that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on H.R. 2684, be instructed to agree with the higher funding levels recommended in the Senate amendment for the Department of Housing and Urban Development; for the Science, Aeronautics and Technology and Mission Support accounts of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; and for the National Science Foundation.

After debate,

By unanimous consent, the previous question was ordered on the motion to instruct the managers on the part of the House.

The question being put, *viva voce*,

Will the House agree to said motion?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. GIBBONS, announced that the yeas had it.

Mr. MOLLOHAN demanded that the vote be taken by the yeas and nays, which demand was supported by one-fifth of the Members present, so the yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. GIBBONS, pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, announced that further proceedings on the motion were postponed.