Whereas Edmond Pope has been unjustly arrested and detained for more than 5 months, preventing him from celebrating his 30th wedding anniversary and the marriage of his son, and during which time his mother-in-law passed away;

Whereas recent events have shown that trials in the Russian Federation involving alleged violations in the area of national security can take several years;

Whereas it is unlikely that Edmond Pope would survive a lengthy trial; and

Whereas United States business and academic interests with the Russian Federation are beginning to be detrimentally impacted by this event: Now, therefore, be it

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

That—

(1) the Congress calls on the Russian Federation, under the leadership of President Vladimir Putin, to immediately release Mr. Edmond Pope of State College, Pennsylvania, and to ensure that proper and qualified medical attention is provided to him in order to ensure that another loss of life does not occur in a prison in the Russian Federation;

(2) it is the sense of the Congress that if Edmond Pope is not released immediately the President should continue all efforts afforded to the administration to secure his release, including the consideration of—

(A) terminating all assistance to the Government of the Russian Federation under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and the annual Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act for purposes of preparing the Russian Federation's entrance or accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO); and

(B) opposing any further debt relief of obligations owed to the United States Government from the Government of the Russian Federation; and

(3) the President should increase efforts to secure appropriate medical attention for Edmond Pope.

Agreed to October 18, 2000.

ENROLLMENT CORRECTION—H.R. 2348

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That in the enrollment of the bill (H.R. 2348) entitled “An Act to authorize the Bureau of Reclamation to provide cost sharing for the endangered fish recovery implementation programs for the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins.”, the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall make the following correction:

Strike section 4 and insert:

"SEC. 4. EFFECT ON RECLAMATION LAW.

"Specifically with regard to the acreage limitation provisions of Federal reclamation law, any action taken pursuant to or in furtherance of this title will not—

"(1) be considered in determining whether a district as defined in section 202(2) of the Reclamation Reform Act of
1982 (43 U.S.C. 390bb) has discharged its obligation to repay the construction cost of project facilities used to make irrigation water available for delivery to land in the district;

(2) serve as the basis for reinstating acreage limitation provisions in a district that has completed payment of its construction obligations; or

(3) serve as the basis for increasing the construction repayment obligation of the district and thereby extending the period during which the acreage limitation provisions will apply.

Agreed to October 18, 2000.

UNITED STATES CITIZENS INJURED IN MEXICO—SAFETY PROCEDURES

Whereas hundreds of United States citizens travel by automobile to Mexico every day;

Whereas United States automobile insurance is not valid in Mexico and travellers may purchase additional insurance to cover potential liability or injury while in Mexico;

Whereas in cases where additional insurance is not purchased and a United States citizen is involved in an automobile accident, the American will be subject to a bond requirement before being permitted to return to the United States; and

Whereas in a recent incident, a United States citizen injured in an automobile accident in Mexico was not transferred to a United States hospital for 18 hours, even after medical personnel in Mexico recommended his immediate transfer to the United States for emergency treatment, until the family posted the bond set by Mexican authorities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that, in order to protect the safety and well-being of United States citizens travelling in Mexico, the President should continue to negotiate with the Government of Mexico to establish procedures, including a humanitarian exemption to Mexican bond requirements, to ensure the expedited return of United States citizens injured in Mexico to the United States for medical treatment, if necessary.

Agreed to October 19, 2000.

LIBERTY DAY—OBSERVANCE

Whereas our rights and liberties are rooted in the cherished documents that gave birth to our nation, those being the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution with its Bill of Rights;

Whereas the patriot James Madison, fourth President of the United States, was the major author of the Virginia Plan, the model and the basis for that United States Constitution that emerged from the Constitutional Convention in 1787;