

103^D CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 284

Expressing the sense of the Congress with respect to funding for the Uruguay Round of GATT negotiations.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 17, 1994

Mr. DREIER (for himself, Mr. GINGRICH, Mr. ARMEY, Mr. ARCHER, Mr. CRANE, Mr. KOLBE, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. SAXTON, Mr. EWING, Ms. DUNN, and Mr. KNOLLENBERG) submitted the following concurrent resolution which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress with respect to funding for the Uruguay Round of GATT negotiations.

Whereas reducing trade barriers that block exports and imports results in more trade, greater economic efficiency, increased wealth, and higher living standards;

Whereas the trade agreements resulting from the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (hereafter referred to as “GATT”), signed on April 15, 1994, in Marrakesh, Morocco by over 100 nations, are the most comprehensive trade agreements in history;

Whereas GATT will reduce tariff levels globally by one-third and reduce or eliminate many other nontariff barriers and distortions to world trade in goods and services;

Whereas GATT, when fully implemented, should add as much as \$100,000,000,000 to \$200,000,000,000 to the United States gross domestic product annually; raise total United States employment by hundreds of thousands of jobs; save the average United States consumer hundreds of dollars annually in lower costs of products; and boost average labor productivity, real wages, and living standards in the United States and around the world;

Whereas the existence and importance of the dynamic gains to the United States economy are widely accepted by economists;

Whereas the implementation of GATT is estimated over 10 years to reduce United States tariff revenues by \$40,000,000,000, to reduce international tariff revenues by an additional \$704,000,000,000, to increase the United States gross domestic product by \$500,000,000,000 to \$1,100,000,000,000, and to increase general revenues to the United States Treasury by \$108,000,000,000 to \$216,000,000,000; and

Whereas the deficit control rules adopted by the Congress in 1990 require that Federal tariff revenue reductions which are the result of lower tariff rates must be offset by revenue increases or spending cuts in Federal programs, without fully considering the positive revenue effect of the growth caused by the agreement reducing the tariff levels: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
- 2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of the Congress that—

1 (1) trade agreements which promote free trade
2 by reducing trade barriers are free in that they do
3 not exact a cost on United States taxpayers by re-
4 ducing net Federal revenues; and

5 (2) budget rules which inaccurately calculate
6 the revenue impact of trade agreements by ignoring
7 the United States growth caused by tariff changes in
8 other countries should not be applied to the GATT
9 implementing legislation in a way that requires in-
10 creased taxes or program reductions to “offset” ex-
11 pected tariff revenue reductions.

