Public Law 98-198
98th Congress

Joint Resolution

Expressing the sense of the Congress with respect to international efforts to further a revolution in child health.

Dec. 1, 1983
[S.J. Res. 111]

Whereas the report entitled "State of the World's Children, 1982-83" of the United Nations Children's Fund (hereafter in this joint resolution referred to as "UNICEF") offers unprecedented hope for a "revolution in child health" which could save the lives of up to twenty thousand of the forty thousand children who perish daily around the world from malnutrition and disease;

Whereas the techniques involved in this health revolution, including oral rehydration home treatment, low-cost vaccines which do not require refrigeration, promotion of breast-feeding, and use of child growth charts to detect malnutrition, are estimated to cost only a few dollars per child;

Whereas this UNICEF report and the activities of UNICEF have been widely acclaimed by the Secretary General of the United Nations and the heads of the governments of such countries as the United Kingdom, France, Sweden, India, and Pakistan; and

Whereas the President of the United States on April 18, 1983, has issued a statement endorsing this health revolution for children and calling on the cooperation of United States Government agencies with international organizations and agencies associated in this effort: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That it is the sense of the Congress that—

International health efforts for children.

(1) the techniques articulated by UNICEF in its report entitled "The State of the World's Children, 1982-1983" represent an unprecedented low-cost opportunity to significantly reduce child mortality and morbidity throughout the world, and have the full support and encouragement of the Congress at a time of economic difficulty and constriction for all countries;

(2) the President be commended for taking steps to promote, encourage, and undertake activities to further the objectives of the child health revolution and for directing all appropriate United States Government agencies, including the Department of State, the Agency for International Development, and the Department of Health and Human Services, to support and cooperate with UNICEF, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Development Program, and other international financial and assistance agencies participating in fostering this child health revolution; and

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(3) other public and private organizations involved in health, education, finance, labor, communications, and humanitarian assistance should cooperate with and support the efforts of the United States to further the objectives of the child health revolution.

Approved December 1, 1983.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S.J. Res. 111:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 129 (1983):
July 13, considered and passed Senate,
Nov. 17, considered and passed House.