

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 39

Supporting the commitments of the United States announced at the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing, China, in September 1995.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 6, 1997

Mrs. MALONEY of New York (for herself, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. FROST, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. YATES, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. STARK, and Mr. OLVER) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Supporting the commitments of the United States announced at the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing, China, in September 1995.

Whereas the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women, convened in Beijing, China, in September 1995, was attended by representatives from 188 countries, including the United States;

Whereas global consensus on a platform for action was achieved at the conference;

Whereas the participating nations have agreed to use their resources from the private and public sector to further economic and social progress for all people;

Whereas First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, Honorary Chair of the United States delegation, addressed the Fourth World Conference on Women, re-stating the commitment of the United States to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and proclaiming that “human rights are women’s rights . . . and women’s rights are human rights”;

Whereas former Ambassador Madeleine K. Albright, United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations and Chair of the United States delegation, announced the commitments the United States Government will undertake to “make equal rights a fundamental principle of law; to enforce those rights and to remove barriers to exercise these rights”;

Whereas the people and Government of the United States support the promotion and protection of human rights and the status of women’s rights as neither separable nor different from those of men;

Whereas President Clinton has made ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women a top priority;

Whereas the United States seeks a continuing dialogue with all governments concerning human rights;

Whereas comprehensive plans for human rights action have been proposed in the platform for action of the conference which acknowledge that global property, peace, and democratization are closely linked with the fortunes and freedoms of the world’s women; and

Whereas the United States has stated its intent to undertake commitments in areas of critical concern to all Americans: (1) empowering women and strengthening families;

(2) improving the economic security of women, including access to credit and balancing work and family responsibilities; (3) ensuring the human rights of all women with particular emphasis on freedom from violence; and (4) enhancing the health of women throughout their life-span: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
 2 *concurring), That the Congress—*

3 (1) reaffirms the universal nature of human
 4 rights and the principle that women’s rights are
 5 human rights;

6 (2) supports the inter-agency council on women,
 7 established by the Clinton Administration, which is
 8 working to implement United States Government
 9 commitments made at the United Nations Fourth
 10 World Conference on Women, in partnership with
 11 the nongovernmental organization community, and
 12 to develop a long-term plan to promote the
 13 empowerment of women and advancement of their
 14 status;

15 (3) expresses its support for action on the Con-
 16 vention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimi-
 17 nation Against Women;

18 (4) considers that dedication to enacting the
 19 United States commitments to promote—

1 (A) economic security, including access to
2 credit and balancing work and family respon-
3 sibilities;

4 (B) the human rights of women with par-
5 ticular emphasis on the elimination of violence
6 against women;

7 (C) the health of women and children;

8 (D) the empowerment of women and the
9 strengthening of families; and

10 (E) women's legal status and political par-
11 ticipation;

12 would benefit not only all of the citizens of the
13 United States but also citizens around the world by
14 contributing to a freer, more stable, and more equi-
15 table world based on law and respect for the dignity
16 of every human being;

17 (5) encourages the United States Government
18 to build on the strong partnership of nongovern-
19 mental organizations and governments that devel-
20 oped during the United Nations Fourth World Con-
21 ference on Women; and

22 (6) urges governmental actions that uphold and
23 enact the tenets of the platform for action and the

- 1 commitments of the United States made at the con-
- 2 ference.

