

H. Res. 459

In the House of Representatives, U.S.,

September 9, 1998.

Whereas the Republic of Korea was established 50 years ago on August 15, 1948;

Whereas the United States and the Republic of Korea have long had a close relationship based on mutual respect, shared security goals, and common interests and values;

Whereas the United States relies on the Republic of Korea as a partner and treaty ally in fostering regional stability, enhancing prosperity, and promoting peace and democracy;

Whereas the American military personnel who are, and have been, stationed on the Korean Peninsula have been key in deterring armed aggression for more than 4 decades;

Whereas South Korean soldiers fought alongside American troops on the battlefields of Korea and Vietnam;

Whereas the Republic of Korea has embraced economic reform and free market principles in response to current economic circumstances;

Whereas the Republic of Korea is an important trading partner of the United States, the recipient of significant direct American investment, and a prominent investor in the United States;

Whereas the large Korean-American community has made significant contributions to American society and culture;

Whereas the people of the Republic of Korea have demonstrated their strong commitment to democratic principles and practices through free and fair elections; and

Whereas the state visit of President Kim Dae-jung to the United States offered the people of the United States and the people of South Korea an opportunity to renew their commitment to international cooperation on issues of mutual interest and concern: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) congratulates the Republic of Korea on the 50th anniversary of its founding;

(2) commends the people of the Republic of Korea on the peaceful democratic transition that has taken place during the most recent Presidential elections;

(3) supports the government of President Kim Dae-jung as it takes appropriate measures to address the problems in the Korean economy;

(4) confirms that the question of peace, security, and reunification on the Korean Peninsula is, first and foremost, a matter for the Korean people to decide and that the Four-Party Peace Talks complement direct North-South dialog; and

(5) looks forward to a broadening and deepening of friendship and cooperation with the Republic of Korea in the years ahead for the mutual benefit of the people of

the United States and the people of the Republic of
Korea.

Attest:

Clerk.