

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. CON. RES. 24

Expressing the sense of Congress on the importance of the Eastern Orthodox
Ecumenical Patriarchate.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 5, 1997

Ms. SNOWE submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred
to the Committee on Foreign Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress on the importance of the
Eastern Orthodox Ecumenical Patriarchate.

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

3 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—

4 (1) the Ecumenical Patriarchate is the spiritual
5 center for more than 250,000,000 Orthodox Chris-
6 tians world-wide, including approximately 5,000,000
7 in the United States;

8 (2) in recent years the Ecumenical Patriarchate
9 has experienced a number of security threats in Tur-
10 key;

1 (3) His All Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew
 2 and those associated with the Ecumenical Patriarch-
 3 ate are Turkish citizens and have the full protection
 4 of Turkish law; and

5 (4) the reopening of the Halki School of Theol-
 6 ogy, the only educational institution for Orthodox
 7 Christian leadership in Turkey, would assist the
 8 long-term viability of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

9 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
 10 gress that the United States should—

11 (1) continue to support the Ecumenical Patri-
 12 archate’s non-political, religious mission;

13 (2) encourage the continued maintenance of the
 14 institution’s physical security needs, as provided for
 15 under Turkish and international law; and

16 (3) use its good offices to encourage the reopen-
 17 ing of the Ecumenical Patriarchate’s Halki Patriar-
 18 chal School of Theology.

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