

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. CON. RES. 9

Expressing the sense of Congress regarding cooperation between the United States and Mexico on counter-drug activities.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 13, 1997

Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. DODD, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. BIDEN, and Mr. LUGAR) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress regarding cooperation between the United States and Mexico on counter-drug activities.

Whereas the international drug trade poses a direct threat to the United States and to international efforts to promote democracy, economic stability, human rights, and the rule of law;

Whereas approximately 12,800,000 Americans use illegal drugs, including 1,500,000 cocaine users, 600,000 heroin addicts, and 9,800,000 smokers of marijuana;

Whereas illegal drug use occurs among members of every ethnic and socioeconomic group in the United States;

Whereas 10.9 percent of all children between 12 years and 17 years of age use illegal drugs, and one child in four claims to have been offered illegal drugs in the last year;

Whereas drug-related illness, death, and crime cost the United States approximately \$66,900,000,000 in 1996, including costs for lost productivity, premature death, and incarceration;

Whereas effective treatment and prevention is required to break the cycle that links illegal drugs to violent crime in the United States and to reduce the social and economic costs to the United States of illegal drug use;

Whereas such treatment and prevention depend on our ability to prevent the flow of illegal drugs through our borders through effective cooperation with other nations;

Whereas according to the Department of State, Mexico is the source of between 20 and 30 percent of the heroin and 70 percent of the marijuana shipped into the United States and is a transit point for between 50 and 70 percent of the cocaine shipped into the United States;

Whereas drug traffickers along the United States border with Mexico smuggle approximately \$10,000,000,000 worth of narcotics into the United States annually, and the drug trade generates approximately \$30,000,000,000 annually for the Mexican economy;

Whereas there has been a failure to take effective action against drug cartels and other significant narcotics traffickers in Mexico, including the Juarez and Tijuana drug cartels;

Whereas Mexico has failed to honor requests by the United States for extradition of Mexican nationals indicted in our courts on drug-related charges;

Whereas the number of drug seizures in Mexico in 1996 was only half the number of seizures in 1993, and the number of drug-related arrests in Mexico in 1996 was only half the number of such arrests in 1992;

Whereas there is evidence of official corruption in the counter-drug forces of Mexico, including the recent arrest of General Jesus Gutierrez Rebollo, the highest-ranking counter-drug official of the Government of Mexico;

Whereas the Government of Mexico has refused to permit United States agents to carry their weapons on the Mexican side of the United States border with Mexico;

Whereas the banking and financial sectors in Mexico lack mechanisms to prevent money laundering; and

Whereas the Department of the Treasury estimates the amount of drug-related money-laundering in Mexico in 1996 at nearly \$10,000,000,000: Now, therefore, be it

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

3 (1) to express concern about ineffective and in-
4 sufficient progress by Mexico in halting the produc-
5 tion in and transit through Mexico of illegal drugs;
6 and

7 (2) to urge the President of the United States
8 and the President of Mexico to expand and strength-
9 en their cooperative relationship in order to make
10 additional progress in halting the production in and
11 transit through Mexico of illegal drugs, including
12 meaningful progress in—

1 (A) the dismantlement of major drug car-
2 tels in Mexico and the arrest of their leaders;

3 (B) the implementation by Mexico of effec-
4 tive money-laundering legislation;

5 (C) the compliance of Mexico with out-
6 standing extradition requests by the United
7 States, particularly those requested for extra-
8 dition of Mexican nationals indicted in our
9 courts on drug-related charges;

10 (D) the interdiction of the flow of narcotics
11 and other controlled substances across the land
12 and sea border between the United States and
13 Mexico;

14 (E) the cooperation of Mexico with United
15 States law enforcement officials engaged in
16 counter-drug activities, including permission for
17 United States agents to carry weapons on the
18 Mexico side of the United States border; and

19 (F) the implementation by Mexico of a
20 wide-ranging program to identify, eliminate,
21 and prosecute officials in Mexico, including gov-
22 ernment, police, and military officials, who are
23 engaged in or corrupted by drug-related activi-
24 ties.

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