

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. CON. RES. 165

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 17, 1999

Received

NOVEMBER 19, 1999

Referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

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## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing United States policy toward the Slovak Republic.

1        *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*

2   *concurring),*

3   **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

4        The Congress finds the following:

1           (1) Elections held in May 1999 brought the  
2           first ever popularly elected President of the Slovak  
3           Republic to office and demonstrated the commitment  
4           of the Slovak people to full economic reforms, demo-  
5           cratic government, and western ideals.

6           (2) The parliamentary elections held in Sep-  
7           tember 1998 brought to office a coalition govern-  
8           ment in the Slovak Republic which has shown its  
9           commitment to economic reforms through economic  
10          austerity measures approved in May 1999, increased  
11          foreign investments through privatization of markets  
12          that were formerly state controlled, and discipline in  
13          government and currency policies.

14          (3) The Government of the Slovak Republic  
15          formed after the elections of September 1998 has re-  
16          newed efforts to ensure the proper treatment of its  
17          citizens, regardless of ethnic background, including  
18          those of ethnic Hungarian background through the  
19          placement of three ethnic Hungarians in the cabinet  
20          of the Government (including the Deputy Premier  
21          for Human and Minority Rights), and through the  
22          passage of the Minority Language Use Act on July  
23          10, 1999, in accordance with European Union guide-  
24          lines, which will take effect on September 1, 1999,  
25          to protect the rights of all citizens.

1           (4) The Government of the Slovak Republic has  
2           made Slovakia's integration into pan-European and  
3           trans-Atlantic institutions, including the European  
4           Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization  
5           (NATO), the highest foreign policy priority, and  
6           through active participation with the Visegrad Four,  
7           the Slovak Republic has undertaken efforts to pro-  
8           mote stability in the region.

9           (5) The Government of the Slovak Republic has  
10          stated its continuing support for the mission of  
11          NATO in supporting democratization and stability  
12          across Europe, and the Government demonstrated  
13          its commitment to these principles by fully cooper-  
14          ating with NATO during the recent conflict in  
15          Kosovo, allowing NATO full access to Slovak air-  
16          space, highways, and railways.

17          (6) The Slovak Republic subsequently provided  
18          military engineers to assist the peacekeeping force of  
19          NATO in Kosovo (KFOR), approved a \$2,000,000  
20          humanitarian aid package for Kosovo, and housed  
21          over 100 refugees from the conflict.

22          (7) The Government of the Slovak Republic has  
23          continually worked to retain civilian control of its  
24          military through participation with NATO forces

1 and has been an active participant in the Partner-  
2 ship-for-Peace program.

3 (8) The Slovak Republic has provided military  
4 personnel for participation in and support of multi-  
5 national peacekeeping operations such as the United  
6 Nations operations in Rwanda and Liberia.

7 **SEC. 2. POLICY TOWARD THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC.**

8 It is the policy of the United States—

9 (1) to promote the development in the Slovak  
10 Republic of a market-based economy and a demo-  
11 cratic government that respects the rights of all of  
12 its citizens, regardless of ethnic background; and

13 (2) to support the eventual integration of the  
14 Slovak Republic into pan-European and trans-Atlan-  
15 tic economic and security institutions.

16 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.**

17 It is the sense of the Congress that—

18 (1) the Government of the Slovak Republic  
19 formed after the elections of September 1998 is to  
20 be commended—

21 (A) for its efforts to address the issue of  
22 proper treatment of its citizens, regardless of  
23 ethnic background, particularly those of ethnic  
24 Hungarian background;

1 (B) for its efforts to improve the economic  
2 situation in the Slovak Republic and for its ef-  
3 forts to accelerate the privatization of state-  
4 owned enterprises in a fair and transparent  
5 process; and

6 (C) for its support for the North Atlantic  
7 Treaty Organization (NATO) in the recent con-  
8 flict in Kosovo;

9 (2) the Government of the Slovak Republic  
10 should continue to implement programs that may  
11 qualify the Slovak Republic for entrance into the  
12 European Union and NATO and is to be com-  
13 mended for its continued support of the NATO ef-  
14 fort to ensure stability and democratization across  
15 Europe; and

16 (3) the United States should support efforts for  
17 the eventual integration of the Slovak Republic into  
18 pan-European and trans-Atlantic institutions and  
19 should view such integration as an important factor  
20 in consolidating democratic government and eco-  
21 nomic stability in the Slovak Republic.

Passed the House of Representatives November 16,  
1999.

Attest:

JEFF TRANDAHL,

*Clerk.*