

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 416

Expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the International Criminal Court.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 9, 2002

Mr. PAUL (for himself, Mr. BARR of Georgia, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. CANNON, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. GOODE, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. NORWOOD, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. SCHAFER, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mr. WELDON of Florida) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the International Criminal Court.

Whereas on May 6, 2002, President George W. Bush renounced the signature of the United States from the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, declaring that the United States has no legal obligations arising from its signature on December 31, 2000, and proclaiming that the United States has no intention of becoming a party to the Rome Statute;

Whereas in taking action to withdraw the United States from the jurisdictional reach of the International Criminal Court, President Bush has given notice to the international community that the United States will defend

her sovereignty and her citizens from a court that undermines the checks and balances of the Constitution of the United States and even departs from the system that the drafters of the United Nations Charter envisioned; and

Whereas Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld has acknowledged the International Criminal Court will not respect the decision of the United States to stay out of the treaty, because the provisions of the Rome Statute claim authority to detain and try American citizens, including members of the armed services and other governmental officials, even though the United States has not consented to the terms of the Rome Statute and even though the law of nations provides that no nation may be bound to a treaty except by that nation's expressed consent: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of Congress that—

2 (1) President George W. Bush be commended
3 for taking this bold first step to protect American
4 servicemembers and citizens from the possibility of
5 unwarranted and politically-motivated prosecutions;

6 (2) President Bush be encouraged to remain
7 steadfast in his intention of protecting American
8 servicemembers and citizens from the unchecked
9 power of the International Criminal Court; and

10 (3) Congress should forthwith take all steps
11 necessary to grant appropriate authority to the
12 President to defend the American people from the

- 1 threat of arrest, prosecution, and conviction by the
- 2 International Criminal Court.

