

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 283

Recognizing the successful completion of democratic elections in the Republic of Colombia.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 12, 2002

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. MILLER, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. DODD, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. WARNER, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. HELMS, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. REID, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. BAYH, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. LIEBERMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

JUNE 13, 2002

Reported by Mr. BIDEN, without amendment

JUNE 14, 2002

Considered, amended, and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the successful completion of democratic elections in the Republic of Colombia.

Whereas on May 26, 2002, the Republic of Colombia successfully completed democratic multiparty elections for President and Vice President;

Whereas these elections were deemed by international and domestic observers, including the United Nations and the Organization of American States, to be free, fair, and a

legitimate nonviolent expression of the will of the people of the Republic of Colombia;

Whereas the United States has consistently supported the efforts of the people of the Republic of Colombia to strengthen and continue their democracy;

Whereas the Senate notes the courage of the millions of citizens of the Republic of Colombia that turned out to vote in order to freely and directly express their opinion; and

Whereas these open, fair, and democratic elections of the new President and Vice President of the Republic of Colombia, and the speedy posting of election results, should be broadly commended: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) congratulates the government and the peo-
3 ple of the Republic of Colombia for the successful
4 completion of democratic elections held on May 26,
5 2002, for President and Vice President;

6 (2) congratulates President-elect Alvaro Uribe
7 Velez and Vice President-elect Francisco Santos
8 Calderon on their recent victory and encourages
9 their strong commitment to democracy, national rec-
10 onciliation, and reconstruction;

11 (3) congratulates Colombian President Andres
12 Pastrana, who has been a strong ally of the United
13 States, a long-standing supporter of peace process
14 negotiations, and a builder of national unity in the

1 Republic of Colombia, for his personal commitment
2 to democracy;

3 (4) commends all Colombian citizens and polit-
4 ical parties for their efforts to work together to take
5 risks for democracy and to willfully pursue national
6 reconciliation in order to cement a lasting peace and
7 to strengthen democratic traditions in the Republic
8 of Colombia;

9 (5) supports Colombian attempts to—

10 (A) ensure democracy, national reconcili-
11 ation, and economic prosperity;

12 (B) support human rights and rule of law;
13 and

14 (C) abide by all the essential elements of
15 representative democracy as enshrined in the
16 Inter-American Democratic Charter, Organiza-
17 tion of American States, and United Nations
18 principles;

19 (6) encourages the government and people of
20 the Republic of Colombia to continue their struggle
21 against the evils of narcotics and all forms of ter-
22 rorism;

23 (7) encourages the government of the Republic
24 of Colombia to promote—

1 (A) the professionalism of the Colombian
2 Armed Forces and Colombian National Police;
3 and

4 (B) judicial and legal reforms; and

5 (8) reaffirms that the United States is un-
6 equivocally committed to encouraging and sup-
7 porting democracy, human rights, rule of law, and
8 peaceful development in the Republic of Colombia
9 and throughout the Americas.

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