

ensure a stable Bosnia, we must be committed, publicly and resolutely, to the I-For mission, and most importantly to our United States troops.

**SUPPORTING THE INDEPENDENCE
AND SOVEREIGNTY OF UKRAINE
AND ITS POLITICAL AND ECO-
NOMIC REFORMS**

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 18, 1995

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am today introducing House Concurrent Resolution 120, expressing the support of the United States Congress for the independence and sovereignty of Ukraine and for political and economic reforms in that important country. In laying out a number of areas that both Ukraine and the United States should focus upon, House Concurrent Resolution 120 should serve as a contribution to the evolving relationship between our two countries. I am pleased that I am joined in sponsoring this resolution by my colleagues, Mr. GOODLING, Mr. SOLOMON, and Mr. HOKE.

The challenges Ukraine faces in ensuring its independence and in successfully implementing political and economic reforms should not be minimized. In the area of economic reforms, in particular, the Ukrainian people face many difficult struggles. The United States is providing vitally needed assistance intended to focus on those economic reforms that are key to Ukraine's economic transformation and, ultimately, to its continued independence. The international community has also begun to provide substantial assistance and loans to Ukraine in support of economic reforms there. As this resolution clearly points out, however, the ultimate responsibility for the success of those reforms lies with the President and Parliament of that country. It is, quite simply, a question of Ukraine's future independence. If Ukraine's leadership cannot overcome the political and economic legacy of the failed Soviet Union, that legacy will drag Ukraine's people backward. The burdens of that Soviet legacy are the greatest challenge to Ukraine's assumption of its proper place in Europe and in the trans-Atlantic community, and those burdens must be overcome.

Mr. Speaker, House Concurrent Resolution 120 has a number of very positive things to say about Ukraine. Ukraine must be commended for the success of its political reforms to date. Ukraine has yet to adopt a new constitution that, by clearly defining the separation of powers among the branches of government, would lay a strong foundation upon which to consolidate Ukrainian democracy. Despite that, Ukraine has managed to carry out—in a free and fair manner—its first Presidential and Parliamentary elections as an independent State. Ukraine was also the first of those States that arose from the collapse of the Soviet Union to carry out a peaceful, democratic transfer of executive power. It is the first of those States to place its Ministry of Defense under civilian control. Finally, in June of this year, Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma and the Ukrainian Parliament agreed to an interim political arrangement, pending the adoption of a new constitution. That arrangement should allow the President to move forward with pri-

vatzation of State-owned enterprises and other important reforms.

In closing, let me say that the future peace and prosperity of Ukraine also depends greatly on the behavior of its neighbors. The Russian Federation, in particular, should redouble its efforts to achieve a bilateral treaty with Ukraine that clearly accepts and respects Ukraine's independence. Russia should also move quickly to achieve a final and fair agreement with Ukraine on the disposition and basing of the Black Sea fleet. Ukraine has sought to work with Russia on various issues. Most important, Ukraine has agreed to become a nonnuclear State, relinquishing its Soviet-era nuclear weapons to Russia. It is appropriate for Russia to respond in a cooperative spirit by fairly dividing the fleet with Ukraine, paying appropriate compensation for the use of Ukrainian ports or facilities, and recognizing Ukrainian sovereignty. This would be no less than Russia itself would expect with regard to its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Mr. Speaker, Ukraine is the second largest State in all of Europe, with the sixth largest population. House Concurrent Resolution 120 makes clear just how important Ukraine is to the peace, stability, and prosperity of Europe and therefore to the trans-Atlantic community of nations. American can and should play a vital role in helping Ukraine through these difficult times.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the full text of the resolution be inserted in the RECORD at this point.

H. CON. RES. 120

Supporting the independence and sovereignty of Ukraine and the progress of its political and economic reforms.

Whereas August 24, 1995, marked the fourth anniversary of the independence of Ukraine;

Whereas the independent State of Ukraine is a member State of the United Nations and the United Nations has established in Ukraine an office to assist Ukraine in building relations with the international community and in coordinating international assistance for Ukraine;

Whereas the independent State of Ukraine is a member State of the Council of Europe, the Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe, and the North Atlantic Cooperation Council of the North Atlantic Alliance, is a participant in the Partnership for Peace program of the North Atlantic Alliance, and has entered into a Partnership and Cooperation Agreement with the European Union and has been accepted for membership in the Central European Initiative in 1996;

Whereas the United States recognized Ukraine as an independent State on December 25, 1991, and established diplomatic relations with Ukraine on January 2, 1992;

Whereas Ukraine is a major European nation, having the second largest territory and sixth largest population of all the States of Europe;

Whereas Ukraine has an important geopolitical and economic role to play within Central and Eastern Europe and a strong, stable, and secure Ukraine serves the interests of peace and stability in all of Europe, which is also an important national security interest of the United States;

Whereas Ukraine conducted its first presidential and parliamentary elections as an independent State in 1994, carrying such elections out in a free and fair manner and moving further away from the former communist model of one-party, centralized, totalitarian rule;

Whereas Ukraine's presidential elections of July 1994 resulted in the first peaceful trans-

fer of executive power in any of the independent States of the former Soviet Union;

Whereas in June 1995, through peaceful cooperation and compromise, the President and Parliament of Ukraine reached a political accord meant to better define the balance of powers between the executive and legislative branches of government, pending the adoption of a new constitution for Ukraine;

Whereas Ukraine is the first of the independent states of the former Soviet Union to appoint a civilian to the office of Minister of Defense;

Whereas Ukraine is pursuing political and economic reforms intended to ensure its future strength, stability, and security and to ensure that it will assume its rightful place among the international community of democratic States and in European and trans-Atlantic institutions;

Whereas through the agreement by the Government of Ukraine to the establishment of a mission from the Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe in the region of Crimea, Ukraine has shown its interest in avoiding the use of force in resolving ethnic and regional disputes within Ukraine;

Whereas Ukraine has taken very positive steps in supporting efforts to stem proliferation of nuclear weapons by ratifying the START I Treaty on nuclear disarmament and the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, thereby relinquishing nuclear weapons it possessed after the dissolution of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics;

Whereas in December 1994, the Presidents of the United States and the Russian Federation and the Prime Minister of Great Britain signed a Memorandum on National Security Assurances for Ukraine as depository States under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;

Whereas the Secretary of Defense of the United States and the Minister of Defense of Ukraine signed a Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in the field of defense and military relations on July 27, 1993;

Whereas Ukraine has sought to promote constructive cooperation with its neighbors through humanitarian assistance and through mediation of disputes;

Whereas Ukraine has provided Ukrainian troops as part of the international peacekeeping force meant to prevent the spread of conflict in the states of the former Yugoslavia; and

Whereas Ukraine has played a vital role in preventing the emergence of a coercive military bloc on the territory of the former Soviet Union by representing the interests of the smaller states that are members of the organization known as the Commonwealth of Independent States; Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) Ukraine has made significant progress in political reform in its first 4 years of independence and that it is to be congratulated for the successful conduct of free and fair elections for the presidency and parliament;

(2) the territorial integrity of Ukraine in its existing borders is an important element of European peace and stability;

(3) the President and Parliament of Ukraine should continue their strong efforts to agree upon and submit to the Ukrainian people for their approval a new democratic constitution providing for a proper balance of power between the branches of government;

(4) the Government of Ukraine should continue its efforts to ensure the rights of all citizens of Ukraine regardless of their ethnic or religious background;

(5) the Government of Ukraine should continue and accelerate its efforts to transform

its economy, abandoning the failed economic policies of the former communist regime and ensuring that programs meant to ensure the success of economic reform receive strong support at all levels of government;

(6) the Government of Ukraine should, in particular, proceed with the privatization of state-owned enterprises in a very expeditious manner;

(7) the Government of Ukraine should, in particular, place a high priority on the adoption of those laws necessary to ensure the continued growth of an economy based on market mechanisms, private enterprise, and the right to private property;

(8) the Government of Ukraine should continue its effort to arrive at an agreement with the "G-7" group of States whereby the nuclear reactors at Chernobyl, Ukraine, might be shut down in a safe and expeditious manner;

(9) the President of the United States should support continued United States assistance to Ukraine for its political and economic reforms, for the safe and secure dismantlement of its weapons of mass destruction, and for the increased safety of operation of its civilian nuclear reactors, and assistance for the establishment of rule of law, for criminal justice and law enforcement training, and for the promotion of trade and investment;

(10) the President of the United States should insist that the Government of the Russian Federation, in line with the assurances for the security of Ukraine made by the President of the Russian Federation in the January 1994 Trilateral Statement on Nuclear Disarmament in Ukraine, fully and finally recognize Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity and refrain from any economic coercion of Ukraine;

(11) the Government of Ukraine should continue to act in defense of its sovereignty and that of the other independent states of the former Soviet Union by opposing the emergence of any collective military bloc on the territory of the former Soviet Union whose primary purpose would be the re-creation of that failed state or the reintegration into one political entity of those nations once held captive by it;

(12) the President of the United States should express the support of the United States for Ukraine's insistence that it be provided with appropriate rent or compensation for the use of its bases, ports or other facilities on its territory under appropriately negotiated and ratified agreements and treaties;

(13) the President of the United States should ensure that Ukraine's national security interests are fully considered in any revision of the Treaty on Conventional Forces in Europe that may be agreed to by the signatories to that agreement;

(14) the President of the United States should work to ensure that Ukraine's interests as an integral part of Central and Eastern Europe are fully considered in any review of European security arrangements and understandings;

(15) the President of the United States should support continued United States security assistance for Ukraine, including assistance for training of military officers, military exercises as part of the North Atlantic Alliance's Partnership for Peace program, and appropriate military equipment to assist Ukraine in maintaining its defensive capabilities as it reduces its military force levels;

(16) the President of the United States should ensure the United States Government's continued efforts to assist Ukraine in its accession to the World Trade Organization; and should ensure, in particular, that the potential for aerospace and space co-op-

eration and commerce between the United States and Ukraine is fully and appropriately exploited; and

(17) as a leader of the democratic nations of the world, the United States should continue to support the people of Ukraine in their struggle to bring peace, prosperity, and democracy to Ukraine and to the other independent states of the former Soviet Union.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 18, 1995

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, earlier today I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall votes 863 and 864. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on both rollcall votes.

I would ask unanimous consent that these votes be placed in the appropriate place in the permanent RECORD.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO MARIE
ELIZABETH ZEMAN ENGBERG

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 18, 1995

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Marie Elizabeth Zeman Engberg, who will celebrate her 100th birthday this Saturday, December 16, 1995. Ms. Engberg is a long-time resident of San Leandro in California's 13th Congressional District. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate Ms. Engberg on reaching this milestone, but also to recognize her for achieving something that may be even more distinguished. At this time, she has accumulated over 23,360 hours of volunteer work in the disabled American veteran medical system in California's bay area.

Ms. Engberg was born on December 16, 1895, in Pittsburgh, PA, to immigrant parents. She spent her early years in Kensington, Canada, and later moved to Crosby, ND, where she married a World War I soldier. She moved on to Lawrence, KS, and then to Tarkio, MO. Ms. Engberg made her living by working in the corn fields. While living in a tent, she volunteered to cook for the other field hands. She believes that this was the beginning of her volunteer spirit. She also worked the carnivals before she traveled to Alameda, CA, where she finally settled. She took a job at Bethlehem Shipyards in a machine shop and made her home in the projects, which, at that time, were at the west end of the island of Alameda. After the war ended, she worked in the insurance industry until she retired at age 65.

After her retirement, Ms. Engberg continued to volunteer at VA hospitals in Oakland and later at the Martinez facility. As late as 1990, at the age of 95, she attended a VAVS meeting in Martinez. She joined the DAV Auxiliary, chapter 7, in Oakland, in 1949, and has been an active member ever since. In 1954, she served as the chapter's commander. She has represented the chapter at national conventions all over the United States.

Ms. Engberg is also a member of Rebekah Lodge No. 19 and has two children. Her

daughter is also an active volunteer and her son has served as California State Commander of the DAV and the AMVETS.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in saluting Ms. Engberg for her great spirit and to wish her a very happy 100th birthday.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR DEBATE AND CONSIDERATION OF THREE MEASURES RELATING TO UNITED STATES TROOP DEPLOYMENTS IN BOSNIA

SPEECH OF

HON. PAT DANNER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Ms. DANNER. Mr. Speaker, I continue to have grave reservations about the United States' mission to Bosnia and this concern is reflected in my votes on this issue. I do not believe we should agree to the placement of American men and women in harm's way without the support of the American people, which I do not believe exists. I fear that the mission could result in a significant loss of American lives without accomplishing the goal of peace in the Balkans.

I have listened closely to the arguments made in support of sending troops. I have not yet been convinced that the parties to the agreement are completely willing to accept the terms of the agreement, nor am I convinced that they have complete control over the people they represent.

One of my chief concerns with the peace agreement continues to be the individual interpretations of the terms by the leaders. For example, Croat authorities released a jailed military commander who was under indictment by the international war crimes tribunal for atrocities. This action knowingly violated one of the major provisions of the Balkan peace agreement. This type of blatant and self-serving disregard for the terms of the agreement certainly does not bode well for the peace agreement and the United States mission. Because of this, I am concerned that a mission intended to keep the peace could quickly become a military engagement similar to what transpired in Somalia.

In closing, however, it is important to note that like the many other Americans opposed to the mission, I will be supportive of our troops as they are committed to Bosnia.

ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST AFRICAN-AMERICAN TO SERVE IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA-ROSE COLLINS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Miss COLLINS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the election to Congress of the first African-American Member. Clearly, the highest honor we could bestow on the Honorable Joseph Hayne Rainey is to assure him that the