

(2) the interests of the United States as a supplier of food to the People's Republic of China.

SEC. 205. MULTILATERAL STRATEGIC RELATIONS.

The President shall take steps to establish a multilateral risk reduction protocol with the People's Republic of China and other governments in East Asia. The protocol shall provide policies and procedures that include—

(1) establishing a line of direct communication between Washington and the People's Republic of China; and

(2) developing a protocol for naval encounters in international waters.

SEC. 206. ENFORCEMENT OF THE IRAN-IRAQ NON-PROLIFERATION ACT.

It is the sense of the Senate that the security and stability of the Near East is threatened by any augmentation of weapons inventories by Iran and Iraq and the President should vigilantly enforce the provisions of the Iran-Iraq Arms Non-Proliferation Act of 1992.

TITLE III—HUMAN RIGHTS

Subtitle A—General Provisions

SEC. 301. CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Congress concurs in the following conclusions of the Department of State regarding human rights in the People's Republic of China:

(A) The Government of the People's Republic of China has "continued to commit widespread and well documented human rights abuses, in violation of internationally accepted norms, stemming from the authorities intolerance of dissent, fear of unrest, and the absence and inadequacy of laws protecting basic freedoms."

(B) Nonapproved religious groups, including Protestant and Catholic groups, experienced intensified repression.

(C) Overall in 1996, the authorities stepped up efforts to cut off expressions of protest or criticism. No dissidents were known to be active at year's end.

(2) Despite public assurances by the People's Republic of China that it would abide by the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and despite the United Nations charter requirements that all members promote respect for and observe basic human rights, the Government of the People's Republic of China continues to place severe restrictions on religious expression and practice.

SEC. 302. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States—

(1) to encourage the People's Republic of China to adhere to internationally accepted norms for the rule of law, human rights, and worker rights; and

(2) to develop a consistent multilateral response to the record of the People's Republic of China on human rights and worker rights.

SEC. 303. RADIO FREE ASIA; NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY.

(a) RADIO FREE ASIA.—The President shall direct the Director of the United States Information Agency and the Board of Broadcasting Governors to increase the broadcast hours of the Voice of America and Radio Free Asia to the People's Republic of China and to broadcast to the People's Republic of China in multiple Chinese dialects.

(b) NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY.—In addition to such sums as are otherwise authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 1998 for grants to the National Endowment for Democracy, there is authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 1998, \$1,000,000 for grants to the National Endowment for Democracy which shall be available only for purposes of programs relating to the People's Republic of China.

SEC. 304. MULTILATERAL HUMAN RIGHTS.

In the absence of significant progress in improving human rights in the People's Republic of China, the President shall direct the United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations to develop and implement a strategy to ensure that there is a debate and discussion every year on the human rights record of the People's Republic of China before the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

Subtitle B—Human Relations Commission

SEC. 311. HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the President, in consultation with the majority and minority leaders of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the minority leader of the House of Representatives, and appropriate representatives from the private sector, shall appoint a 12-member Human Relations Commission (referred to in this subtitle as the "Commission").

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) COMPOSITION.—The Commission shall be composed of—

(A) 4 individuals appointed from the executive branch of the government;

(B) 4 individuals appointed from the legislative branch of the government; and

(C) 4 individuals from the private sector.

(c) CHAIRPERSON.—The Commission shall select a Chairperson from among its members.

(d) TERM OF OFFICE.—Members shall be appointed for the life of the Commission.

(e) VACANCIES.—Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the Commission shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment for the position being vacated. The vacancy shall not affect the power of the remaining members to execute the duties of the Commission.

(f) COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES.—

(1) COMPENSATION.—Each member of the Commission who is not an employee of the Federal Government shall receive compensation at the daily equivalent of the rate specified for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of title 5, United States Code, for each day the member is engaged in the performance of duties for the Commission, including attendance at meetings and conferences of the Commission, and travel to conduct the duties of the Commission.

(2) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Each member of the Commission shall receive travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for employees of agencies under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, for each day the member is engaged in the performance of duties away from the home or regular place of business of the member.

SEC. 312. FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall perform the following functions:

(1) Assess the status of human rights and worker rights in the People's Republic of China based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and internationally recognized worker rights as defined in section 507(4) of the Trade Act of 1974.

(2) Work to develop a bilateral commission between the United States and the People's Republic of China on human rights and worker rights.

(3) Expand opportunities for the exchange between the United States and the People's Republic of China of judges, attorneys, religious leaders, customs officials, and members and staff of the executive and legislative branches of government.

(4) Encourage overseas development assistance programs that support the establishment of rule of law and civil society in the People's Republic of China.

(5) Identify opportunities for multilateral action on human rights and worker rights, and rejuvenate initiatives in the International Labor Organization relating to human rights and worker rights.

(b) ASSESSMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND WORKER RIGHTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In assessing the status of human rights and worker rights required by subsection (a), the Commission shall establish a Prisoner Information Registry that contains the information described in paragraph (2) with respect to people detained in the People's Republic of China as political prisoners, religious prisoners, and prisoners of conscience.

(2) REGISTRY INFORMATION.—The Prisoner Information Registry shall contain the following information with respect to the prisoners described in paragraph (1):

(A) The charges against each prisoner.

(B) A description of the judicial process or administrative action taken with respect to each prisoner.

(C) The length of incarceration, incidents of torture, and use of forced labor with respect to each prisoner.

(D) The physical condition and general health of each prisoner.

(E) Any other information relating to the general condition of each prisoner that the Commission considers to be relevant.

(3) REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the first meeting of the Commission, and annually thereafter, the Commission shall report to Congress and the President the results of the assessment conducted under this subsection.

(B) RECOMMENDATION.—If the Commission determines that the People's Republic of China is not making progress in improving the status of human rights and worker rights within 2 years after the date of the first meeting of the Commission, the Commission shall recommend to the President that the President strengthen United States policies intended to improve the status of human rights and worker rights with respect to the People's Republic of China as the Commission determines to be appropriate.

SEC. 313. STAFF.

(a) DETAIL OF FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—On the request of the Chairperson of the Commission, the head of any Federal agency shall detail, without reimbursement, any of the personnel of the agency to the Commission to assist the Commission in carrying out its duties. Any detail shall not interrupt or otherwise affect the civil service status or privileges of the Federal employee.

(b) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—On the request of the Chairperson of the Commission, the head of a Federal agency shall provide such technical assistance to the Commission as the Commission determines to be necessary to carry out its duties.

SEC. 314. TERMINATION.

The Commission shall terminate on the day that is 3 years after the date of the Commission's first meeting.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 219

At the request of Mr. GORTON, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 219, a bill to amend the Trade Act of 1974 to establish procedures for identifying countries that deny market access for value-added agricultural products of the United States.

S. 597

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota [Mr. DASCHLE] was added as a cosponsor of S. 597, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under part B of the medicare program of medical nutrition therapy services furnished by registered dietitians and nutrition professionals.

S. 839

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the names of the Senator from Mississippi [Mr. COCHRAN] and the Senator from Missouri [Mr. BOND] were added as cosponsors of S. 839, a bill to improve teacher mastery and use of educational technology.

S. 887

At the request of Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN, the name of the Senator from Delaware [Mr. BIDEN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 887, a bill to establish in the National Service the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom program, and for other purposes.

S. 943

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Texas [Mrs. HUTCHISON] was added as a cosponsor of S. 943, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to clarify the application of the Act popularly known as the "Death on the High Seas Act" to aviation accidents.

S. 995

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Illinois [Mr. DURBIN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 995, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit certain interstate conduct relating to exotic animals.

S. 1008

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from North Dakota [Mr. CONRAD] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1008, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that the tax incentives for alcohol used as a fuel shall be extended as part of any extension of fuel tax rates.

S. 1037

At the request of Mr. JEFFORDS, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island [Mr. CHAFEE] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1037, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish incentives to increase the demand for and supply of quality child care, to provide incentives to States that improve the quality of child care, to expand clearing-house and electronic networks for the distribution of child care information, to improve the quality of child care provided through Federal facilities and programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1105

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, the name of the Senator from Kansas [Mr. BROWNBACK] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1105, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a

sound budgetary mechanism for financing health and death benefits of retired coal miners while ensuring the long-term fiscal health and solvency of such benefits, and for other purposes.

S. 1162

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the name of the Senator from Kansas [Mr. ROBERTS] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1162, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act and the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act with respect to penalties for powder cocaine and crack offenses.

S. 1206

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. HUTCHINSON] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1206, a bill to provide for an enumeration of family caregivers as part of the 2000 decennial census of population.

S. 1260

At the request of Mr. GRAMM, the name of the Senator from Alabama [Mr. SESSIONS] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1260, a bill to amend the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to limit the conduct of securities class actions under State law, and for other purposes.

S. 1262

At the request of Mr. FAIRCLOTH, the name of the Senator from North Carolina [Mr. HELMS] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1262, a bill to authorize the conveyance of the Coast Guard Station, Ocracoke, North Carolina.

S. 1285

At the request of Mr. FAIRCLOTH, the name of the Senator from Kansas [Mr. ROBERTS] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1285, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that married couples may file a combined return under which each spouse is taxed using the rates applicable to unmarried individuals.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 48

At the request of Mr. KYL, the names of the Senator from Louisiana [Ms. LANDRIEU], and the Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] were added as cosponsors of Senate Concurrent Resolution 48, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress regarding proliferation of missile technology from Russia to Iran.

SENATE RESOLUTION 124

At the request of Mr. ROTH, the name of the Senator from Florida [Mr. MACK] was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 124, a resolution to state the sense of the Senate that members of the Khmer Rouge who participated in the Cambodian genocide should be brought to justice before an international tribunal for crimes against humanity.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 54—RELATIVE TO THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE

Mr. DEWINE submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Govern-

ment Affairs:

S. RES. 54

Whereas the United States Postal Service has successfully supplied uniforms to its employees for 42 years under the postal uniform allowance program;

Whereas the postal uniform allowance program currently provides business to more than 1,000 American companies throughout the United States which, in turn, employ more than 10,000 American workers;

Whereas the United States Postal Service has proposed a new, centralized uniform procurement system that would result in substantial loss of business to those American companies and turn over control of the procurement system to a single vendor; and

Whereas the United States Postal Service has, in recent years, become more profitable while continuing to use the postal uniform allowance program: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that the United States Postal Service should maintain its current postal uniform allowance program and make necessary changes to improve that program, rather than implement a centralized, single-vendor program.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 55—RELATIVE TO THE EMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL SERVICE

Mr. GREGG (for himself, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROBB) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. CON. RES. 55

Whereas in 1928, Julian Stanley Wise founded the first volunteer rescue squad in Roanoke, Virginia, the Roanoke Life Saving and First Aid Crew, and Virginia has subsequently taken the lead in honoring the thousands of people nationwide who gave their time and energy to community rescue squads through the establishment of To The Rescue, a museum located in Roanoke devoted to emergency medical services (EMS) personnel;

Whereas to further recognize the selfless contributions of EMS personnel nationwide and as the first State in the Nation to establish a volunteer rescue squad, the Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads, Inc. and the Julian Stanley Wise Foundation, in conjunction with To The Rescue, in 1993 organized the First Annual National Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Memorial Service in Roanoke, Virginia, to honor EMS personnel from across the country who have died in the line of duty;

Whereas the National EMS Memorial Service has captured national attention by honoring 119 providers of emergency medical services from 35 States;

Whereas the singular devotion of EMS personnel to the safety and welfare of their fellow citizens is worthy of the highest praise;

Whereas the annual National EMS Memorial Service is a fitting reminder of the bravery and sacrifice of EMS personnel nationwide;

Whereas according to the Department of Health and Human Services, 170,000 Americans require emergency medical services on an average day, a number which projects to over 60,000,000 people annually; and

Whereas the life of every American will be affected, directly or indirectly, by the uniquely skilled and dedicated efforts of the EMS personnel who work bravely and tirelessly to preserve America's greatest resource—people: Now, therefore, be it