

and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 60—RELATIVE TO MONGOLIA

Mr. MCCAIN (for himself and Mr. THOMAS) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 60

Whereas in 1990, Mongolia renounced the Communist form of government and peacefully adopted a series of changes that linked economic development with democratic political reforms;

Whereas the Mongolian people have held 2 presidential elections and 3 parliamentary elections since 1990, all featuring vigorous campaigns by candidates from multiple political parties;

Whereas these elections have been free from violence, voter intimidation, and ballot irregularities, and the peaceful transfer of power from one Mongolian government to another has been successfully completed, demonstrating Mongolia's commitment to peace, stability, and the rule of law;

Whereas every Mongolian government since the end of communism has dedicated itself to promoting and protecting individual freedoms, the rule of law, respect for human rights, freedom of the press, and the principle of self-government, thereby demonstrating that Mongolia is consolidating democratic gains and moving to institutionalize democratic processes;

Whereas Mongolia stands apart as one of the few countries in central and southeast Asia that is truly a fully functioning democracy;

Whereas the efforts of Mongolia to promote economic development through free market economic policies, while also promoting human rights and individual liberties, building democratic institutions, and protecting the environment, serve as a beacon to freethinking people throughout the region and the world;

Whereas the commitment of Mongolia to democracy makes it a critical element in efforts to foster and maintain regional stability throughout central and southeast Asia;

Whereas Mongolia has some of the most pristine environments in the world, which provide habitats to plant and animal species that have been lost elsewhere, and has shown a strong desire to protect its environment through the Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan while moving forward with economic development, thus service as a model for developing nations in the region and throughout the world;

Whereas Mongolia has demonstrated a strong commitment to the same ideals that the United States stands for as a nation, and has indicated a strong desire to deepen and strengthen its relationship with the United States;

Whereas the Mongolia Government has established civilian control of the military—a hallmark of democratic nations—and is now working with parliamentary and military leaders in Mongolia, through the United States International Military Education and Training program, to further develop oversight of the Mongolia military; and

Whereas Mongolia is seeking to develop political and military relationships with neighboring countries as a means of enhancing regional stability: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That—

(1) Congress—

(A) strongly supports efforts by the United States and Mongolia to use the resources of their respective countries to strengthen political, economic, educational, and cultural ties between the two countries;

(B) confirms the commitment of the United States to an independent, sovereign, secure, and democratic Mongolia;

(C) applauds and encourages Mongolia's simultaneous efforts to develop its democratic and free market institutions;

(D) supports future contacts between the United States and Mongolia in such a manner as will benefit the parliamentary, judicial, and political institutions of Mongolia, particularly through the creation of an interparliamentary exchange between Congress of the United States and the Mongolian parliament;

(E) supports the efforts of the Mongolia parliament to establish United States-Mongolia Friendship Day;

(F) encourages the efforts of Mongolia toward economic development that is compatible with environmental protection and supports an exchange of ideas and information with respect to such efforts between Mongolia and United States scientists;

(G) commends Mongolia for its foresight in environmental protection through the Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan and encourages Mongolia to obtain the goals illustrated in the plan; and

(H) commends the efforts of Mongolia to strengthen civilian control over the Mongolia military through parliamentary oversight and recommends that Mongolia be admitted into the Partnership for Peace initiative at the earliest opportunity; and

(2) it is the sense of Congress that the President—

(A) should, both through the vote of the United States in international financial institutions and in the administration of the bilateral assistance programs of the United States, support Mongolia in its efforts to expand economic opportunity through free market structures and policies;

(B) should assist Mongolia in its efforts to integrate itself into international economic structures, such as the World Trade Organization; and

(C) should promote efforts to increase commercial investment in Mongolia by United States businesses and should promote policies which will increase economic cooperation and development between the United States and Mongolia.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, today I am submitting a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress in support of efforts to foster friendship and cooperation between the United States and Mongolia. Passage of this resolution will signal American support of Mongolia's peaceful transition to a stable democracy and market economy. Senator THOMAS is an original cosponsor to this resolution.

There has been a stunning political transformation in Mongolia since it broke away from Communist rule in 1990. In the past 7 years, there have been two Presidential elections and three parliamentary elections. All of these have been open and democratic, and have not suffered from violence or fraud.

The most important aspect of these elections is that they have showed the triumph of democracy and democratic forces. In 1996, the Mongolian Social Democratic Party [MSDP] and Mongo-

lian National Democratic Party [MNDP] formed a coalition with two smaller parties to promote a unified democratic front. The fruits of this decision soon came to bear when the unified coalition campaigned on a "Contract with the Mongolian Voter" and won 50 of the 76 seats in the 1996 Parliamentary elections. I am happy to say that the International Republican Institute played a major role in this victory by showing these parties how to mobilize their supporters and work toward victory. The Mongolian Peoples Revolutionary Party, the former Mongolian Communist Party, won a Presidential election this year, and the President-elect has made assurances, including to me personally in August, that he supports democracy.

This democratic transformation has established a firm human rights regime. The Mongolian Constitution allows freedom of speech, the press, and expression. Separation of church and state is recognized in this predominantly Buddhist nation as well as the right to worship or not worship. Full freedom of emigration is allowed, and Mongolia now is in full compliance with sections 402 and 409 of the Trade Act of 1974, also known as the Jackson-Vanik amendment. An independent judiciary has been established to protect these rights from any future violation.

Mongolia is also in the middle of an economic transformation. As part of the "Contract with the Mongolian Voter," the democratic coalition of the MNDP and MSDP ran on promises to establish private property rights and encourage foreign investment. The Mongolian Government is now steadily creating a market economy. A program has been set up to allow residents of Government-owned high rise apartments to acquire ownership of their residences. Mongolia joined the World Trade Organization in January this year, and in May the Parliament eliminated all tariffs, except on personal automobiles, alcoholic beverages, and tobacco. In September 1996, the Government removed price controls and Mongolians were able to finally survive a winter without a major breakdown of heat or electricity. The Mongolian Government is now boldly moving to set the nation on a course to privatize large-scale enterprise and reform the state pension system.

When I was in Mongolia, I saw the effects of this economic transformation firsthand. At a town hall meeting in Kharakhorum, the ancient capital of the Mongol Empire, I met a herdsman and asked him about the economic liberalization. First, I asked him how many sheep he had under communism. He said none, because the Communists didn't allow private property. Then I asked him how many sheep he owned after privatization. He answered that he had 3 sheep then, which is not much in a country with 25 million sheep. So I asked him how many sheep he has now. He answered that he now has 90 goats, 60 sheep, 20 cows, and 6 horses. I

asked him if that was considered successful. He replied that he was successful as were many herdsmen in this new economy. He then told me that he would never want to change the system back to what it was, because "now Mongols have control over their own life and destiny." That is the new culture of a market Mongolian economy.

There are many benefits to supporting Mongolian democracy and economic liberalization. In 1991, Secretary of State James Baker promised Mongolia that the United States would be Mongolia's "third neighbor." We remain committed to that course of action to encourage Mongolia in its endeavors and promote it as an example of how nations can successfully convert from a Communist totalitarian state to a market democracy. Finally, a democratic Mongolia will promote peace and stability in northern Asia.

Finally, there are important economic benefits to the United States. Mongolia would like to make the United States a major trading partner. Total two-way trade between the United States and Mongolia has almost tripled in value from \$13 million in 1991 to \$35 million in 1996. Total U.S. exports have more than doubled from over \$2 million in 1992 to \$4.2 million in 1996. As Mongolia continues to liberalize its economy, the United States will be able to count on it to become an important market for American goods and services.

I hope that my colleagues here in the Senate will join me in recognizing Mongolia as an example of successful democratic transformation and supporting the Mongol transition to a market economy.

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry will meet on Thursday, November 13, 1997 at 9:00 a.m. in SR-328A. The hearing will examine ways renewable fuels could aid in decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing U.S. energy security.

NOTICES OF FIELD HEARINGS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION, AND RECREATION

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that an oversight field hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The hearing will take place Saturday, November 15, 1997 at 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Cooperative Service Building at the University of Florida, 18710 S.W. 288 Street, Homestead, Florida. The purpose of this hearing is to review the National Parks Restoration Plan—"Vision 2020" and to solicit proactive solutions and innovative remedies to build a more efficient and effective National Park Service System.

The Committee will invite witnesses representing a cross-section of views

and organizations to testify at the hearing. Others wishing to testify may, as time permits, make a brief statement of no more than 2 minutes. Those wishing to testify should contact Jim O'Toole or Steve Schackelton of the Subcommittee staff at (202) 224-6969. Every attempt will be made to accommodate as many witnesses as possible, within the time allowed, while ensuring that all views are represented.

Witnesses invited to testify are requested to bring 10 copies of their testimony with them to the hearing, it is not necessary to submit any testimony in advance. Statements may also be submitted for inclusion in the hearing record. Those wishing to submit written testimony should send two copies of their testimony to the attention of Jim O'Toole, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, 354 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510.

For further information, please contact Jim O'Toole of the Committee staff at (202) 224-5161.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION, AND RECREATION

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that an oversight field hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The hearing will take place Monday, November 17, 1997 at 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Rock Mountain Room at the EPA Region 8 Institute & Conference Center, 999 18th Street, Denver, CO. The purpose of this hearing is to review the National Parks Restoration Plan—"Vision 2020" and to solicit proactive solutions and innovative remedies to build a more efficient and effective National Park Service System.

The Committee will invite witnesses representing a cross-section of views and organizations to testify at the hearing. Others wishing to testify may, as time permits, make a brief statement of no more than 2 minutes. Those wishing to testify should contact Jim O'Toole or Steve Schackelton of the Subcommittee staff at (202) 224-6969. Every attempt will be made to accommodate as many witnesses as possible, within the time allowed, while ensuring that all views are represented.

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION, AND RECREATION

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that an

oversight field hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The hearing will take place Wednesday November 19, 1997 at 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Officer's Club in the Presidio of San Francisco in San Francisco, California. The purpose of this hearing is to review the National Parks Restoration Plan—"Vision 2020" and to solicit pro-active solutions and innovative remedies to build a more efficient and effective National Park Service System.

The Committee will invite witnesses representing a cross-section of views and organizations to testify at the hearing. Others wishing to testify may, as time permits, make a brief statement of no more than 2 minutes. Those wishing to testify should contact Jim O'Toole or Steve Schackelton of the Subcommittee staff at (202) 224-6969. Every attempt will be made to accommodate as many witnesses as possible, within the time allowed, while ensuring that all views are represented.

Witnesses invited to testify are requested to bring 10 copies of their testimony with them to the hearing. It is not necessary to submit any testimony in advance. Statements may also be submitted for inclusion in the hearing record. Those wishing to submit written testimony should send two copies of their testimony to the attention of Jim O'Toole, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, 354 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510.

For further information, please contact Jim O'Toole of the Committee staff at (202) 224-5161.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate in executive session on Tuesday, November 4, 1997, to conduct a markup of pending nominations.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Tuesday, November 4, 1997, at 9:30 am on pending committee business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources