

found ways to contain such threats without starting what could become another world war.

Mr. President, unite our country and the world to eliminate weapons of mass destruction; do not divide us by making war the first instrument of your foreign policy.

CONGRESS SHOULD THINK TWICE BEFORE THRUSTING U.S. INTO WAR

(Mr. PAUL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to urge the Congress to think twice before thrusting this Nation into a war without merit, one fraught with danger of escalating into something no American will be pleased with.

Thomas Jefferson advised, "Never was so much false arithmetic employed on any subject as that which has been employed to persuade nations that it is in their interests to go to war." We have for months now heard plenty of false arithmetic and lame excuses on which we must pursue a preemptive war of aggression against an impoverished, third-world nation 6,000 miles from our shores that does not even possess a navy or air force, with the pretense that it must be done for national security interests.

For some reason, such an attack makes me feel much less secure while our country is made more vulnerable.

Congress must consider the fact that those with military experience advise a go-slow policy, and those without military experience are the ones demanding this war.

We cannot ignore the fact that all Iraq's Arab neighbors are opposed to this attack and our European allies object as well. If the military and diplomatic reasons for policy restraint make no sense, I advise they consider the \$100 billion it will cost and that will surely compound our serious budgetary and economic problems we face here at home. We need no more false arithmetic on our budget or false reasons for pursuing this new adventure into preemptive war and worldwide nation-building.

THE CASE AGAINST SADDAM HUSSEIN HAS BEEN MADE

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am a newcomer to Congress. I have been here only 8 months. I also have the distinction of being the only Member who is a member of the National Guard still drilling. At this time I have had, of course, my first August recess.

During the August recess, the issue that came up the most was the issue already discussed, and that is the dan-

ger of Iraq. We now have a bloodthirsty dictator who has access to chemical, nuclear, and biological weapons; he has the ability with ballistic missiles to send them against American allies and against American troops that are stationed throughout the Middle East.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that we should put our faith in the President, the intelligence agencies that we have, the wonderful military that we have, and the civilian military officials that we have before us. We need to understand there was a vote on September 14, 2001, right here in Congress, almost unanimously, to provide for military action against those who harbor or support terrorists, and the intent of that was to stop future terrorist attacks on the United States.

America has been attacked, and we are under threat. This is not a speculation as to the future; it has occurred. It will occur again if we do not take action to defend our civilian citizens.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 6:30 p.m. today.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESSIONAL PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 183) expressing the sense of Congress regarding the United States Congressional Philharmonic Society and its mission of promoting musical excellence throughout the educational system and encouraging people of all ages to commit to the love and expression of musical performance.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 183

Whereas in February 1996, several Senators and members of the House of Representatives participated in a performance of the Broadway musical "1776", a story depicting the signing of the Declaration of Independence;

Whereas in April 1996 several Senators and members of the House of Representatives met with Maestro Martin Piecuch, the music director of the musical "1776", and formed the United States Congressional Choral Society;

Whereas on May 20, 1998, the United States Congressional Choral Society debuted at St. Joseph's Church on Capitol Hill, with standing ovations following its rendition of the "Song of Democracy" and the "Battle Hymn of the Republic";

Whereas on March 13, 1999, the United States Congressional Philharmonic Orchestra String Quartet played before the Ambassador to the United States from Canada at the Embassy of Canada in the District of Columbia;

Whereas on March 19, 1999, the United States Congressional Choral Society appeared in performance at the Washington National Cathedral;

Whereas on May 13, 1999, the United States Congressional Philharmonic Orchestra String Quartet played before a gathering of Ambassadors at the Benjamin Franklin Diplomatic Reception Room of the United States Department of State;

Whereas the United States Congressional Philharmonic Society is approved as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization under the Internal Revenue Code and is a corporation in good standing under the laws of the State of Delaware;

Whereas the United States Congressional Philharmonic Society will offer free concerts to the public in the Washington metropolitan area;

Whereas the United States Congressional Philharmonic Society will encourage the development of young musical talent across the United States by providing educational programs for schools across the nation and establishing internships and scholarships; and

Whereas the United States Congressional Philharmonic Society envisions holding a series of concerts focusing on themes such as Celebrations of America, Salutes to the States, a Great Americans series, and an International Congressional Concert series: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that the United States Congressional Philharmonic Society should be applauded—

(1) for organizing two musical groups, the United States Congressional Choral Society and the United States Congressional Philharmonic Orchestra;

(2) for having as its mission the promotion of patriotism, freedom, democracy, and understanding of American culture through sponsorship, management, and support of these groups and their derivative ensembles as they communicate through the international language of music in concerts and other multimedia performances in the District of Columbia and throughout the United States and the world; and

(3) for promoting musical excellence throughout the educational system, from pre-school through post-graduate, and encouraging people of all ages to commit to the love and expression of musical performance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE) and the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE).

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Today I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 183, which expresses the sense of Congress regarding the United States Congressional Philharmonic Society and its dual mission of promoting musical excellence throughout the educational system and encouraging people of all ages to appreciate musical performances.

In 1996, several Senators and Members of the House participated in a performance of the award-winning Broadway musical "1776," a story depicting

the signing of the Declaration of Independence. A few months later, the United States Congressional Choral Society was formed. By all accounts, Members, staff, and friends of the United States Congress enjoyed their experience; and as a result, they also created the United States Congressional Orchestra, which debuted in 1999.

Today, both the Choral Society and the orchestra operate under a privately funded umbrella organization, the United States Congressional Philharmonic Society. Its vision is to become the artistic voice of America, encouraging Members, staff, and friends to use their musical talents and present musical programs that will enrich the lives of all Americans with patriotic and classical presentations.

□ 1415

These free concerts, which are available to the public in the Washington Metropolitan Area, often play to standing ovations. More important, they also encourage and support the development of young talent through internships, scholarships, and educational programs through schools.

I applaud the Congressional Philharmonic Society for successfully promoting patriotism, freedom, democracy, and understanding of American culture through music.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. DAVIS) for introducing this important resolution. I would urge my colleagues to support House Concurrent Resolution 183 and the Congressional Philharmonic Society.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 183. This resolution applauds the work of the U.S. Congressional Philharmonic Society and its promotion of musical excellence, patriotism, freedom, and democracy.

The U.S. Congressional Philharmonic Society is actually made up of two groups, the United States Congressional Choral Society, which has performed at St. Joseph's Church on Capitol Hill and the Washington National cathedral, and the United States Congressional Philharmonic Orchestra, which has performed before foreign heads of state.

Both of these organizations provide a valuable benefit to the people of Washington, D.C. and around the Nation in extolling the virtue of democracy and patriotism through music and song. Song and music have played an important role in many of our Nation's most historic moments, and the Society continues this tradition through its work.

The House does a great service today by recognizing this organization. I urge Members to support this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS), the sponsor of the legislation.

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a proud sponsor of House Concurrent Resolution 183, commending the United States Philharmonic Society for their commitment to promote musical excellence throughout the educational system, and to encourage people of all ages to commit to the joy and expression of musical performance.

I believe that Americans should be encouraged to participate in music and art programs. Arts education programs, and specifically music education programs, have a positive impact on the lives of our children. Music education is a valuable lesson that serves to enrich our Society.

The United States Congressional Philharmonic Society plays an important role in accomplishing these goals. The United States Congressional Philharmonic Society has created its own unique mission, which promotes patriotism, freedom, democracy, and the understanding of American culture through sponsorship, management, and education. It has gained support through the international language of music in concerts and performances in the United States and throughout the world.

Under the organization of Maestro Martin Piecuch, the Congressional Philharmonic has quickly established itself as a voice of freedom and democracy through the art of music.

As the Music Director and Conductor of the Washington Symphony Orchestra, he has played a great role in the world of music for the citizens of Northern Virginia. He has served as resident conductor, orchestra manager, and chorus manager at Wolf Trap Farm Park for the Performing Arts, and has held the position of Music Conductor and Director for the Alexandria Choral Society.

Maestro Piecuch can be credited with planting the seed when he directed the Broadway musical 1776 at DAR Constitution Hall in March of 1995, in which 12 Members of Congress played roles as Founding Fathers of our great Nation.

With this the U.S. Congressional Choral Society was founded, and in May of 1998 the Congressional Choral Society debuted at St. Joseph's Church right here on Capitol Hill. From this successful base came the idea for the creation of the U.S. Congressional Orchestra, which, together with the Choral Society, operates under the organization of the U.S. Congressional Philharmonic Society.

Today, the U.S. Congressional Philharmonic, composed of Members, executives, and staffers on Capitol Hill, acts as an artistic voice for Congress. Created to honor the U.S. Congress, its Members, and constituents, the U.S.

Congressional Philharmonic performs concerts all year round to salute our Nation's States, to salute American heritage, our great American statesmen, and appropriate cultural programs at various holiday periods throughout the year.

In addition to these commitments, it has developed many projects of its own to promote its premier causes, that include a concert series to promote democracy and peace throughout the world.

Mr. Speaker, the United States Congressional Philharmonic Society is a living example of how our country's principles of freedom and liberty can be showcased for the entire world through music. I urge all Members to join me in supporting and commending the United States Congressional Philharmonic Society.

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the distinguished gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA).

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be able to speak in support of the United States Congressional Philharmonic Society, which will serve as the artistic voice of Congress and highlight works of American composers.

I want to thank my colleague, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS), for introducing it, and I am proud to be one of the original cosponsors with him.

The United States Congressional Philharmonic Society is composed of two groups: the United States Congressional Choral Society, whose Members are Capitol Hill staffers, and a professional symphonic orchestra, the United States Congressional Philharmonic.

The organization is led by the wonderful maestro, Maestro Martin Piecuch, who was the Conductor and Musical Director of the Washington Symphony for 9 years.

As many of us remember, the genesis of the Congressional Philharmonic Society was a 1996 production of the Broadway musical 1776, which featured Members of Congress portraying some of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Since then, the Choral Society and the Philharmonic Orchestra have performed in various functions in Washington, both together and individually, to rave reviews. The orchestra's string quartet has played for numerous ambassadors, while the chorus' appearances include a performance at the National Cathedral.

We are here today to give the Philharmonic Society the official imprimatur of Congress, and we do so enthusiastically. The performing arts are so vitally important. They entertain us, inspire us, and give us a sense of wonder. I am honored to be here to support this wonderful endeavor.

The Philharmonic Society plans to perform free concerts in the Washington Metropolitan Area, and explore

such themes as celebrations of America and salutes to the States, as well as encourage the development of young musical talent by providing educational programs for schools across the Nation.

The Society is a private group, but with our blessing it can raise money to fulfill its mission. As Shakespeare once wrote, if music is the food of love, play on. I give my support to this organization, and look forward to hearing their performances for years to come.

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am just delighted to be here today to speak on behalf of this sense of Congress, which looks at the United States Philharmonic Society and applauds them, and tells them that we are very proud of the great work that they are doing.

I am delighted to be here to join with my colleagues, the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA) and the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE), and I want to thank the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS) for introducing this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to echo the words of the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. DAVIS), and thank her for her participation in support of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 183.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof), the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER PLAZA AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2002

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5012) to amend the John F. Kennedy Center Act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to carry out a project for construction of a plaza adjacent to the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 5012

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "John F. Kennedy Center Plaza Authorization Act of 2002".

SEC. 2. JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER PLAZA.

The John F. Kennedy Center Act (20 U.S.C. 76h et seq.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating sections 12 and 13 as sections 13 and 14, respectively; and

(2) by inserting after section 11 the following:

"SEC. 12. JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER PLAZA.

"(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following definitions apply:

"(1) AIR RIGHTS.—The term 'air rights' means real property interests conveyed by deed, lease, or permit for the use of space between streets and alleys within the boundaries of the Project.

"(2) CENTER.—The term 'Center' means the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

"(3) GREEN SPACES.—The term 'green spaces' means areas within the boundaries of the Project or affected by the Project that are covered by grass, trees, or other vegetation.

"(4) PLAZA.—The term 'Plaza' means improvements to the area surrounding the John F. Kennedy Center building carried out under the Project and comprised of transportation elements (including roadways, sidewalks, and bicycle lanes) and non-transportation elements (including landscaping, green space, open public space, water, sewer, and utility connections).

"(5) PROJECT.—The term 'Project' means the Plaza project, as described in the TEA-21 report, providing for construction of a Plaza adjacent to the Center and for improved bicycle, pedestrian, and vehicular access to and around the Center. The term includes planning, design, engineering, and construction of the Plaza, buildings to be constructed on the Plaza, and related transportation improvements and may include any other elements of the Project identified in the TEA-21 report.

"(6) SECRETARY.—The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of Transportation.

"(7) TEA-21 REPORT.—The term 'TEA-21 report' means the report of the Secretary submitted to Congress under section 1214 of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (20 U.S.C. 76j note; 112 Stat. 204).

"(b) RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SECRETARY.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall be responsible for the Project and may undertake such activities as may be necessary to construct the Project, other than buildings to be constructed on the Plaza, substantially as described in the TEA-21 report.

"(2) PLANNING, DESIGN, ENGINEERING, AND CONSTRUCTION.—The Secretary shall be responsible for the planning, design, engineering, and construction of the Project, other than buildings to be constructed on the Plaza.

"(3) AGREEMENTS WITH THE BOARD AND OTHER AGENCIES.—The Secretary shall enter into memoranda of agreement with the Board and any appropriate Federal or other governmental agency to facilitate the planning, design, engineering, and construction of the Project.

"(4) CONSULTATION WITH THE BOARD.—The Secretary shall consult with the Board to maximize efficiencies in planning and executing the Project, including the construction of any buildings on the Plaza.

"(5) CONTRACTS.—Subject to the approval of the Board, the Secretary may enter into contracts on behalf of the Center related to the planning, design, engineering, and construction of the Project.

"(c) RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Board may undertake such activities as may be necessary to construct buildings on the Plaza for the Project.

"(2) RECEIPT OF TRANSFERS OF AIR RIGHTS.—The Board may receive from the District of Columbia such transfers of air rights as may be necessary for the planning, design, engineering, and construction of the Project.

"(3) CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS.—The Board may construct, with non-appropriated funds, buildings on the Plaza for the Project and shall be responsible for the planning, design, engineering, and construction of the buildings.

"(4) ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Board may acknowledge private contributions used in the construction of buildings on the Plaza for the Project in the interior of the buildings, but may not acknowledge private contributions on the exterior of the buildings.

"(B) APPLICABILITY OF OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—Any acknowledgment of private contributions under this paragraph shall be consistent with the requirements of section 4(b).

"(d) RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.—

"(1) MODIFICATION OF HIGHWAY SYSTEM.—Notwithstanding any State or local law, the Mayor of the District of Columbia, in consultation with the National Capital Planning Commission and the Secretary, shall have exclusive authority to amend or modify the permanent system of highways of the District of Columbia as may be necessary to meet the requirements and needs of the Project.

"(2) CONVEYANCES.—

"(A) AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding any State or local law, the Mayor of the District of Columbia shall have exclusive authority to convey or dispose of any interests in real estate (including air rights or air space as that term is defined by District of Columbia law) owned or controlled by the District of Columbia, as may be necessary to meet the requirements and needs of the Project.

"(B) CONVEYANCE TO THE BOARD.—Not later than 90 days following the date of receipt of notification from the Secretary of the requirements and needs of the Project, the Mayor of the District of Columbia shall convey or dispose of to the Board without compensation interests in real estate described in subparagraph (A).

"(3) AGREEMENTS WITH THE BOARD.—The Mayor of the District of Columbia shall have the authority to enter into memoranda of agreement with the Board and any Federal or other governmental agency to facilitate the planning, design, engineering, and construction of the Project.

"(e) OWNERSHIP.—

"(1) ROADWAYS AND SIDEWALKS.—Upon completion of the Project, responsibility for maintenance and oversight of roadways and sidewalks modified or improved for the Project shall remain with the owner of the affected roadways and sidewalks.

"(2) MAINTENANCE OF GREEN SPACES.—Subject to paragraph (3), upon completion of the Project, responsibility for maintenance and oversight of any green spaces modified or improved for the Project shall remain with the owner of the affected green spaces.

"(3) BUILDINGS AND GREEN SPACES ON THE PLAZA.—Upon completion of the Project, the Board shall own, operate, and maintain the buildings and green spaces established on the Plaza for the Project.

"(f) NATIONAL HIGHWAY BOUNDARIES.—

"(1) REALIGNMENT OF BOUNDARIES.—The Secretary may realign national highways related to proposed changes to the Northern and Southern Interchanges and the E Street Approach recommended in the TEA-21 report in order to facilitate the flow of traffic in the vicinity of the Center.

"(2) ACCESS TO CENTER FROM I-66.—The Secretary may improve direct access and egress between Interstate Route 66 and the Center, including its garages."