

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 152

Concerning human rights and democracy in Vietnam.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 23, 1993

Mr. SKAGGS (for himself, Mr. PETERSON of Florida, and Mr. GILCHREST) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Concerning human rights and democracy in Vietnam.

Whereas the ending of the Cold War provides an unprecedented opportunity for democratic reform and improvements in human rights throughout the world;

Whereas the government and citizens of the United States view positively recent improvements in resolving POW/MIA cases by the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and wish to promote even greater openness in that country;

Whereas recent economic reforms and initiatives undertaken by the Vietnamese Government can best be encouraged and built upon through political liberalization;

Whereas the interests of the United States and the people of Vietnam, and the international community would best be

served by having a friendly and democratic government in Vietnam;

Whereas the United States currently has no program to support political reform in Vietnam; and

Whereas greater respect for internationally recognized human rights and a peaceful transition to democracy in Vietnam would greatly reduce the threat to the stability of Southeast Asia, allow for the rapid resolution of the POW/MIA issue, and enable the creation of a free-market economy in Vietnam: Now, therefore, be it

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

3 (1) the United States should support the proc-
4 ess of nonviolent democratic reform in Vietnam;

5 (2) the Secretary of State should declare Unit-
6 ed States support for the democratization of Viet-
7 nam and reaffirm that measurable progress on the
8 MIA/POW issue is critical to normalizing economic
9 and diplomatic relations with the United States;

10 (3) the Administration should take the lead in
11 mobilizing the United Nations, ASEAN members,
12 human rights organizations, and the various other
13 interest groups to work toward the common goal of
14 promoting basic human rights, the rule of law, and
15 free and democratic elections in Vietnam; and

16 (4) the United States should increase its sup-
17 port for Voice of America programming in Vietnam.

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