

103<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. J. RES. 197

Designating the week beginning November 14, 1993, and the week beginning November 13, 1994, each as "Geography Awareness Week".

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 18, 1993

Mr. KILDEE (for himself and Mr. GOODLING) introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service

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## **JOINT RESOLUTION**

Designating the week beginning November 14, 1993, and the week beginning November 13, 1994, each as "Geography Awareness Week".

Whereas geography is the study of people and their planet, offering a framework for understanding ourselves, our interdependence with other peoples, our relationship to the Earth, and world events;

Whereas the United States has both worldwide involvements and influence that demand an understanding of geography, different cultures, and foreign languages;

Whereas the credibility of our Nation's foreign policy largely depends on the support of a geographically informed citizenry, which understands both the locations and the significance of historic changes occurring around the globe and their effect on the United States;

Whereas a thorough knowledge of geography, different cultures, and foreign languages is essential to maintain the Nation's stature in the international community in matters of business, politics, the environment, and global events;

Whereas a geographic perspective is needed to understand the relationship between human activity and the condition of our planet in this time of increasing environmental problems;

Whereas geography is only beginning to return to the curricula of American schools, the subject is a core element of the curricula of schools in the United Kingdom, Canada, Japan, and most other countries;

Whereas our Nation's Governors, in their National Goals for Education, explicitly identified geography along with English, mathematics, science, and history as the 5 core subjects in which American students should demonstrate competency;

Whereas world standards are being developed as benchmarks for student performance in each of the core subjects identified in the National Goals for Education;

Whereas geography is more than the study of map identification, State capitals, and country names, but geography also gives meaning to location and establishes a context for understanding the connections among peoples, places, and events; and

Whereas national attention must be focused on the integral role that a knowledge of world geography plays in preparing citizens of the United States to assume a responsible role in the future of an increasingly interconnected and interdependent world: Now, therefore, be it

1        *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*  
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3 That the week beginning November 14, 1993, and the  
4 week beginning November 13, 1994, each be designated  
5 as “Geography Awareness Week”, and the President is  
6 authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling  
7 upon the people of the United States to observe such a  
8 week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

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