

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 133

Expressing the sense of the Senate that the primary safeguard for the well-being and protection of children is the family, and that, because the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child could undermine the rights of the family, the President should not sign and transmit it to the Senate.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 14 (legislative day, JUNE 5), 1995

Mr. HELMS (for himself, Mr. LOTT, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. COATS, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. FAIRCLOTH, Mr. FRIST, Mr. GRAMM, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. HATCH, Mr. KEMPTHORNE, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. SMITH, and Mr. THURMOND) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate that the primary safeguard for the well-being and protection of children is the family, and that, because the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child could undermine the rights of the family, the President should not sign and transmit it to the Senate.

Whereas the Senate affirms the commitment of the United States to work with other nations to enhance the protection of children, the advancement of education, the eradication of disease, and the protection of human rights;

Whereas the Constitution and laws of the United States are the best guarantees against mistreatment of children in our country;

Whereas the laws and traditions of the United States affirm the right of parents to raise their children and to transmit to them their values and religious beliefs;

Whereas the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, if ratified, would become the supreme law of the land, taking precedence over State and Federal laws regarding family life;

Whereas that Convention establishes a “universal standard” which must be met by all parties to the Convention, thereby inhibiting the rights of the States and the Federal Government to enact child protection and support laws inconsistent with that standard; and

Whereas the Convention’s intrusion into national sovereignty was manifested by the Convention’s 1995 committee report faulting the United Kingdom for permitting parents to make decisions for their children without consulting those children: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

2 (1) the United Nations Convention on the
3 Rights of the Child is incompatible with the God-
4 given right and responsibility of parents to raise
5 their children;

6 (2) the Convention has the potential to severely
7 restrict States and the Federal Government in their
8 efforts to protect children and to enhance family life;

1 (3) the United States Constitution is the ulti-
2 mate guarantor of rights and privileges to every
3 American, including children; and

4 (4) the President should not sign and transmit
5 to the Senate that fundamentally flawed Convention.

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