

105<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. RES. 433

Calling upon the President of the United States to urge full cooperation by his former political appointees and friends and their associates with congressional investigations.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 14, 1998

Mr. SOLOMON submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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# RESOLUTION

Calling upon the President of the United States to urge full cooperation by his former political appointees and friends and their associates with congressional investigations.

Whereas approximately 90 witnesses in the campaign finance investigation have either asserted a fifth amendment privilege or fled the country to avoid testifying in congressional investigations;

Whereas prominent among those who have asserted the fifth amendment privilege or fled the country to avoid testifying are former political appointees and friends of the President of the United States, such as former Associate Attorney General Webster Hubbell; former Department of Commerce political appointee John Huang; former

Presidential trade commission appointee Charlie Trie; former senior Presidential aide Mark Middleton; longtime Presidential friends James and Mochtar Riady, as well as family, friends, and associates of some of these individuals;

Whereas when the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation Louis Freeh testified before the House Government Reform and Oversight Committee on December 9, 1997, he had the following exchange with the Chairman of the Committee:

Mr. Burton: Mr. Freeh, over 65 (at that time) people have invoked the Fifth Amendment or fled the country in the course of the committee's investigation. Have you ever experienced so many unavailable witnesses in any matter in which you have prosecuted or in which you have been involved?

Mr. Freeh: Actually, I have.

Mr. Burton: You have. Give me a run-down on that real quickly.

Mr. Freeh: I spent about 16 years doing organized crime cases in New York City, and many people were frequently unavailable.

Whereas never in the recent history of congressional investigations has Congress been faced with so many witnesses who have asserted fifth amendment privileges or fled the country to avoid testifying in a congressional investigation; and

Whereas the unavailability of witnesses has severely limited the public's right to know about campaign finance violations which occurred over the past several years and related matters: Now, therefore, be it

1        *Resolved*, That—

1           (1) the House of Representatives urges the  
2           President of the United States to immediately call  
3           upon his friends, former associates and appointees,  
4           and the associates of those individuals, who have as-  
5           serted fifth amendment privileges or fled the country  
6           to avoid testifying in congressional investigations, to  
7           come forward and testify fully and truthfully before  
8           the relevant committees of Congress; and

9           (2) that the President of the United States  
10          should use all legal means at his disposal to compel  
11          people who have left the country to return and co-  
12          operate with the investigation.

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