

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. CON. RES. 165

Expressing United States policy toward the Slovak Republic.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 29, 1999

Mr. MICA (for himself, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. KNOLLENBURG, and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

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## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing United States policy toward the Slovak Republic.

1        *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*  
2        *concurring),*

3        **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

4        The Congress finds the following:

5            (1) Elections held in May 1999 brought the  
6        first ever popularly elected President of the Slovak  
7        Republic to office and demonstrated the commitment  
8        of the Slovak people to full economic reforms, demo-  
9        cratic government, and western ideals.

10          (2) The parliamentary elections held in Sep-  
11        tember 1998 brought to office a coalition govern-

1       ment in the Slovak Republic which has shown its  
2       commitment to economic reforms through economic  
3       austerity measures approved in May 1999, increased  
4       foreign investments through privatization of markets  
5       that were formerly state controlled, and discipline in  
6       government and currency policies.

7               (3) The Government of the Slovak Republic  
8       formed after the elections of September 1998 has re-  
9       newed efforts to ensure the proper treatment of its  
10      citizens, regardless of ethnic background, including  
11      those of ethnic Hungarian background through the  
12      placement of three ethnic Hungarians in the cabinet  
13      of the Government (including the Deputy Premier  
14      for Human and Minority Rights), and through the  
15      passage of the Minority Language Use Act on July  
16      10, 1999, in accordance with European Union guide-  
17      lines, which will take effect on September 1, 1999,  
18      to protect the rights of all citizens.

19              (4) The Government of the Slovak Republic has  
20      made Slovakia's integration into pan-European and  
21      trans-Atlantic institutions, including the European  
22      Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization  
23      (NATO), the highest foreign policy priority, and  
24      through active participation with the Visegrad Four,

1 the Slovak Republic has undertaken efforts to pro-  
2 mote stability in the region.

3 (5) The Government of the Slovak Republic has  
4 stated its continuing support for the mission of  
5 NATO in supporting democratization and stability  
6 across Europe, and the Government demonstrated  
7 its commitment to these principles by fully cooper-  
8 ating with NATO during the recent conflict in  
9 Kosovo, allowing NATO full access to Slovak air-  
10 space, highways, and railways.

11 (6) The Slovak Republic subsequently provided  
12 military engineers to assist the peacekeeping force of  
13 NATO in Kosovo (KFOR), approved a \$2,000,000  
14 humanitarian aid package for Kosovo, and housed  
15 over 100 refugees from the conflict.

16 (7) The Government of the Slovak Republic has  
17 continually worked to retain civilian control of its  
18 military through participation with NATO forces  
19 and has been an active participant in the Partner-  
20 ship-for-Peace program.

21 (8) The Slovak Republic has provided military  
22 personnel for participation in and support of multi-  
23 national peacekeeping operations such as the United  
24 Nations operations in Rwanda and Liberia.

1 **SEC. 2. POLICY TOWARD THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC.**

2 It is the policy of the United States—

3 (1) to promote the development in the Slovak  
4 Republic of a market-based economy and a demo-  
5 cratic government that respects the rights of all of  
6 its citizens, regardless of ethnic background; and

7 (2) to support the eventual integration of the  
8 Slovak Republic into pan-European and trans-Atlan-  
9 tic economic and security institutions.

10 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.**

11 It is the sense of the Congress that—

12 (1) the Government of the Slovak Republic  
13 formed after the elections of September 1998 is to  
14 be commended—

15 (A) for its efforts to address the issue of  
16 proper treatment of its citizens, regardless of  
17 ethnic background, particularly those of ethnic  
18 Hungarian background;

19 (B) for its efforts to improve the economic  
20 situation in the Slovak Republic and for its ef-  
21 forts to accelerate the privatization of state-  
22 owned enterprises in a fair and transparent  
23 process; and

24 (C) for its support for the North Atlantic  
25 Treaty Organization (NATO) in the recent con-  
26 flict in Kosovo;

1           (2) the Government of the Slovak Republic  
2           should continue to implement programs that may  
3           qualify the Slovak Republic for entrance into the  
4           European Union and NATO and is to be com-  
5           mended for its continued support of the NATO ef-  
6           fort to ensure stability and democratization across  
7           Europe; and

8           (3) the United States should support efforts for  
9           the eventual integration of the Slovak Republic into  
10          pan-European and trans-Atlantic institutions and  
11          should view such integration as an important factor  
12          in consolidating democratic government and eco-  
13          nomic stability in the Slovak Republic.

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