

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 20

Designating March 25, 2001, as “Greek Independence Day: A National Day of Celebration of Greek and American Democracy”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 14, 2001

Mr. SPECTER (for himself, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. REED, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BYRD, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. INOUE, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. GREGG, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. KERRY, Mr. DODD, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. WARNER, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. KOHL, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. THOMPSON, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. ENZI, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. CORZINE, Mrs. HUTCHISON, and Mr. REID) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

RESOLUTION

Designating March 25, 2001, as “Greek Independence Day: A National Day of Celebration of Greek and American Democracy”.

Whereas the ancient Greeks developed the concept of democracy, in which the supreme power to govern was vested in the people;

Whereas the Founding Fathers of the United States drew heavily on the political experience and philosophy of ancient Greece in forming our representative democracy;

Whereas Greek Commander in Chief Petros Mavromichalis, a founder of the modern Greek state, said to the citizens of the United States in 1821, “it is in your land that liberty has fixed her abode and . . . in imitating you, we shall imitate our ancestors and be thought worthy of them if we succeed in resembling you”;

Whereas Greece is 1 of only 3 nations in the world, beyond the former British Empire, that has been allied with the United States in every major international conflict in the twentieth century;

Whereas Greece played a major role in the World War II struggle to protect freedom and democracy through such bravery as was shown in the historic Battle of Crete and in Greece presenting the Axis land war with its first major setback, which set off a chain of events that significantly affected the outcome of World War II;

Whereas former President Clinton, during his visit to Greece on November 20, 1999, referred to modern-day Greece as “a beacon of democracy, a regional leader for stability, prosperity and freedom”, and President George W. Bush, in a letter to the Prime Minister of Greece, Constantinos Simitis, in January 2001, referred to the “stable foundations and common values” that are the basis of relations between Greece and the United States;

Whereas Greece and the United States are at the forefront of the effort for freedom, democracy, peace, stability, and human rights;

Whereas those and other ideals have forged a close bond between our 2 nations and their peoples;

Whereas March 25, 2001, marks the 180th anniversary of the beginning of the revolution that freed the Greek people from the Ottoman Empire; and

Whereas it is proper and desirable to celebrate with the Greek people and to reaffirm the democratic principles from which our 2 great nations were born: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) designates March 25, 2001, as “Greek
3 Independence Day: A National Day of Celebration of
4 Greek and American Democracy”; and

5 (2) requests that the President issue a procla-
6 mation calling on the people of the United States to
7 observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and ac-
8 tivities.

○