

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas throughout history, physics has contributed to knowledge, civilization, and culture around the world;

Whereas physics research has been and continues to be a driving force for scientific, technological, and economic development;

Whereas many emerging fields in science and technology, such as nanoscience, information technology, and biotechnology, are substantially based on, and derive many tools from, fundamental discoveries in physics and physics applications;

Whereas physics will continue to play a vital role in addressing many 21st-century challenges relating to sustainable development, including environmental conservation, clean sources of energy, public health, and security;

Whereas Albert Einstein is a widely recognized scientific figure who contributed enormously to the development of physics, beginning in 1905 with Einstein's groundbreaking papers on the photoelectric effect, the size of molecules, Brownian motion, and the theory of relativity that led to Einstein's most famous equation, $E = mc^2$;

Whereas 2005 will be the 100th anniversary of the publication of those groundbreaking papers;

Whereas the General Assembly of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics unanimously approved the proposition designating 2005 as the World Year of Physics; and

Whereas the Department of Energy is the leading source of Federal support for academic physics research, accounting for a majority of Federal funding for physics: Now, therefore, be it

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

3 (1) supports the goals and ideals of the World
4 Year of Physics, as designated by the General As-
5 sembly of the International Union of Pure and Ap-
6 plied Physics;

7 (2) encourages the people of the United States
8 to observe the World Year of Physics as a special oc-
9 casion for giving impetus to—

10 (A) education and research in physics; and

11 (B) the public's understanding of physics;

12 (3) calls on the Secretary of Energy to lead and
13 coordinate Federal activities to commemorate the
14 World Year of Physics;

15 (4) encourages the Secretary, all science-related
16 organizations, the private sector, and the media to
17 highlight and give enhanced recognition to—

18 (A) the role of physics in social, cultural,
19 and economic development; and

1 (B) the positive impact and contributions
2 of physics to society; and

3 (5) encourages the Secretary and all people in-
4 volved in physics education and research to take ad-
5 ditional steps (including strengthening existing and
6 emerging fields of physics research and promoting
7 the understanding of physics) to ensure that—

8 (A) support for physics continues; and

9 (B) physics studies at all levels continue to
10 attract an adequate number of students.

Passed the Senate October 10, 2004.

Attest:

Secretary.

108TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. CON. RES. 121

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Supporting the goals and ideals of the World Year
of Physics.