

103D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. CON. RES. 29

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 17, 1993

Referred jointly to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Ways and Means

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Relating to the Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation
organization.

Whereas the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation organization was formed in 1989 in order to strengthen regional ties among the economies of member countries of the organization by reducing barriers to trade and investment between such members;

Whereas the organization seeks to reduce such barriers through economic cooperation and the coordination of policy among such members;

Whereas the United States is a member of the organization;

Whereas trade between the United States and organization members Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, the People's Republic of China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, and Thailand ac-

counts for more than half of all United States two-way trade;

Whereas the United States exported \$218,000,000,000 of goods and services to members of the organization in 1992, an amount constituting 52 percent of the value of all United States exports in that year;

Whereas the volume of trade between the United States and the Asia Pacific region increased at an average annual rate of 9.1 percent between 1980 and the present;

Whereas that rate of increase exceeds the average annual rate of increase in trade during that period between the United States and any other region;

Whereas it is in the interest of the United States to expand trade between the United States and Asia Pacific countries in order to create more export-oriented jobs for Americans;

Whereas the United States, as an Asian power with significant economic and security interests in the East Asia and Pacific regions, should be engaged actively in shaping institutional arrangements that advance freer trade and strengthen the multilateral trade system;

Whereas the annual ministerial meeting of the organization will be held in Seattle, Washington, on November 17 through November 19, 1993, and will be chaired and hosted by the United States;

Whereas chairing and hosting the ministerial meeting presents the United States with the opportunity to initiate a proactive agenda in order to achieve progress among members of the organization relating to economic competition, civil aviation, energy cooperation, use and exchange of technological data and products, intellectual

property rights, human resources development, and the environment; and

Whereas a strong United States commitment to the organization can deter the formation of a trade bloc that might be counterproductive to United States trade policy in the Asia Pacific region, can promote liberalization of trade among organization members, and can advance interests common to such members in a region undergoing rapid economic and political transformation: Now, therefore, be it

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

3 **SECTION 1. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

4 It is the sense of Congress—

5 (1) to encourage United States leadership in
6 the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation organization;
7 and

8 (2) that the President, the Secretary of State,
9 and other representatives of the United States Government should take the opportunity presented by
10 the scheduled chairing and hosting by the United
11 States of the ministerial meeting of the organization
12 in Seattle, Washington, on November 17 through
13 November 19, 1993, to reaffirm the United States
14 commitment to make Asia Pacific Economic Co-
15 operation an effective regional economic organization
16 that reduces formal and informal barriers to in-
17

4 The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a copy
5 of this resolution to the President and the Secretary of
6 State.

Attest: WALTER J. STEWART,
Secretary.