

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. J. RES. 135

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER, 1, 1993

Referred to the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service

JOINT RESOLUTION

Designating the week beginning October 25, 1993, as “World Population Awareness Week”.

Whereas the population of the world today exceeds 5.5 billion and increases at the rate of some 100 million per year;

Whereas more than 90 percent of world population growth occurs in developing countries, those least able to provide even basic services for their citizens;

Whereas rapid population growth and overconsumption are major deterrents to sustainable development;

Whereas 40 countries with 40 percent of the population of the developing world are currently unable to provide enough food for their inhabitants to meet average nutritional requirements;

Whereas the global community has for more than 25 years recognized the basic right of individuals to voluntarily and responsibly determine the number and spacing of their children;

Whereas expanded accessibility to family planning has led to a world with 400 million fewer people than there might have been;

Whereas at least one-half of the women of reproductive age in developing countries want to limit the number of their children, but lack the means or ability to gain access to modern family planning methods;

Whereas numerous studies provide compelling evidence of a strong correlation between a smaller desired family size and the elevation of the status of women, especially through opening educational and employment opportunities; and

Whereas preparations are underway for the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in Cairo, Egypt, focusing world attention on the integral linkage between population, sustained economic growth and sustainable development—more specifically, the importance of family planning, the role of women, the effects of migration, the need for increased resources, and the devastation caused by AIDS: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That the week beginning October 25, 1993, is designated
4 as “World Population Awareness Week,” and the Presi-
5 dent is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation
6 calling upon the people of the United States to observe

1 such a week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and
2 activities.

Passed the Senate October 29 (legislative day, October 13), 1993.

Attest: WALTER J. STEWART,
Secretary.