

104TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 182

Expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the need for the President to seek the Senate's advice and consent for ratification of the 1994 Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence Against Women.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 6, 1996

Mr. TORRES (for himself, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. ESHOO, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. BECERRA, Mrs. CLAYTON, Mr. PORTER, Mrs. ROUKEMA, and Mr. HORN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the need for the President to seek the Senate's advice and consent for ratification of the 1994 Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence Against Women.

Whereas the 1994 Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence Against Women (hereinafter referred to as the "Convention") was adopted by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States in June, 1994, in Belem do Para, Brazil;

Whereas the United States was a participant in the discussions and present at the General Assembly when the Convention was adopted;

Whereas violence against women constitutes a violation of their human rights and fundamental freedoms;

Whereas violence against women refers to any act or conduct, based on gender, that causes death or physical, sexual, or psychological harm or suffering to women;

Whereas violence against women is an offense against human dignity and a manifestation of the historically unequal power relations between women and men;

Whereas violence against women pervades every sector of society regardless of class, race, ethnic group, income, culture, level of education,

Whereas elimination of violence against women is essential to ensure the full and equal participation of women in society;

Whereas adoption of the Convention within the framework of the Organization of American States is a positive contribution in protecting the rights of women and eliminating violence against them; and

Whereas by ratifying and acceding to the Convention the United States will become a more credible proponent of the rights of women and a more effective advocate in encouraging other countries to protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of women: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
- 2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of the Congress that the
- 3 President should promptly seek the advice and consent of

1 the Senate to ratification of the 1994 Inter-American Con-
2 vention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication
3 of Violence Against Women.

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