

104TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 350

Relating to a question of the privileges of the House.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 30, 1996

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii (for herself, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. UNDERWOOD, and Mrs. SCHROEDER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules

RESOLUTION

Relating to a question of the privileges of the House.

Whereas virtually every nation in the world has adhered to a moratorium on nuclear tests since September 1992;

Whereas, on June 13, 1995, President Jacques Chirac of France ended his nation's adherence to the moratorium by ordering a series of nuclear tests in the South Pacific;

Whereas France has since conducted six nuclear tests on the Pacific atolls of Moruroa and Fangataufa in French Polynesia;

Whereas France has acknowledged that radioactive materials from some of the tests have leaked into the ocean;

Whereas, as a result of the tests, the people of the Pacific are extremely concerned about the health and safety of

those who live near the test sites, as well as the adverse environmental effects of the tests on the region;

Whereas, in conducting the tests, France has callously ignored world-wide protests and global concern;

Whereas the United States is one of 167 nations that have objected to the tests;

Whereas the tests are inconsistent with the “Principles and Objectives for Disarmament”, as adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;

Whereas, in proceeding with the tests, France has acted contrary to the commitment of the international community to the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and the moratorium on nuclear testing;

Whereas the President of France, Jacques Chirac, is scheduled to appear before a joint meeting of the Congress on February 1, 1996; and

Whereas, in light of the tests, the appearance of the President of France before the Congress violates the dignity and integrity of the proceedings of the House: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That, by reason of the recent nuclear tests
2 conducted by France in the South Pacific, the Speaker
3 of the House shall take such action as may be necessary
4 to withdraw the invitation to the President of France,
5 Jacques Chirac, to address a joint meeting of the Con-
6 gress, as scheduled to occur on February 1, 1996.

7 SEC. 2. On and after the date on which this resolu-
8 tion is agreed to, the Speaker of the House may not agree

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- 1 to the appearance before a joint meeting of the Congress
- 2 by any head of state or head of government whose nation
- 3 conducts nuclear tests.

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