

104TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 452

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Colombian fresh-cut flowers should not receive preferential tariff treatment.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 12, 1996

Mr. CAMPBELL (for himself, Mr. FARR of California, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. POMBO, Mrs. SEASTRAND, Mr. RIGGS, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. BAKER of California, Ms. ESHOO, and Mr. DOOLITTLE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Colombian fresh-cut flowers should not receive preferential tariff treatment.

Whereas the domestic fresh cut flower industry consists of entrepreneurial growers, many of which are family operated businesses, providing an estimated 42,000 production-related jobs;

Whereas the domestic fresh cut flower industry has lost an additional 200 growers of the leading flower types since 1992 when Colombia received duty-free treatment under the Andean Trade Preference Act;

Whereas the Andean Trade Preference Act was intended to encourage 4 Andean countries, including Colombia, to de-

velop legal alternatives to drug production and trafficking by providing preferential tariff treatment for approximately 6,000 products, including fresh cut flowers;

Whereas the Andean Trade Preference Act fully authorizes the President to withdraw, suspend, or limit the application of duty-free treatment to any article of any country, if, after designation, the President determines that as a result of “changed circumstances” such a country should be barred from designation as a beneficiary country and designation is contingent on consideration of whether a country has met the narcotics cooperation certification criteria set forth in the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961;

Whereas the President has the discretion, under title VIII of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2491 and following), to remove preferential tariff treatment of products originating from a country that is not certified with respect to narcotics cooperation; and

Whereas the President determined on March 1, 1996, that Colombia did not meet the narcotics cooperation certification criteria and did not certify Colombia under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 with respect to narcotics cooperation: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-
 2 resentatives that preferential tariff treatment of Colom-
 3 bian fresh cut flowers is not in the Nation’s interest and
 4 should be withdrawn.

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