

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. CON. RES. 10

Expressing the sense of the Congress that the United States should take steps to improve economic relations between the United States and the countries of Eastern and Central Europe.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 4 (legislative day, MARCH 27), 1995

Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. SIMON) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Finance

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress that the United States should take steps to improve economic relations between the United States and the countries of Eastern and Central Europe.

Whereas the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, including Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Slovenia, Bulgaria, and Romania, are important to the long-term stability and economic success of a future Europe freed from the shackles of communism;

Whereas the Central and Eastern European countries, particularly Hungary, Poland, the Czech Republic, and Slovakia, are in the midst of dramatic reforms to transform

their centrally planned economies into free market economies and to join the Western community;

Whereas it is in the long-term interest of the United States to encourage and assist the transformation of Central and Eastern Europe into a free market economy, which is the solid foundation of democracy, and will contribute to regional stability and greatly increased opportunities for commerce with the United States;

Whereas trade with these countries accounts for less than one percent of total United States trade;

Whereas the presence of a market with more than 140,000,000 people, with a growing appetite for consumer goods and services and badly in need of modern technology and management, should be an important market for United States exports and investments; and

Whereas the United States has concluded agreements granting most-favored-nation status to most of the countries of Central and Eastern Europe: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*
- 2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of the Congress that the
- 3 President should take steps to negotiate international
- 4 agreements for free trade between the United States and
- 5 the countries of Central Europe, including Poland, Hun-
- 6 gary, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Lithuania, Latvia, Es-
- 7 tonia, and Slovenia, and should take vigorous actions to
- 8 lay the groundwork for such an agreement, including—
- 9 (1) developing closer commercial contacts;

1 (2) eliminating tariff and nontariff discrimina-
2 tory barriers in United States trade with these
3 countries;

4 (3) developing framework agreements that
5 chart a course toward a free trade agreement;

6 (4) establishing bilateral investment treaties;

7 (5) stimulating increased United States exports
8 and investments to the region;

9 (6) obtaining further liberalization of invest-
10 ment regulations and protection against nationaliza-
11 tion in these foreign countries; and

12 (7) establishing fair and expeditious dispute
13 settlement procedures.

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