

106TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 251

Commending the Republic of Croatia for the conduct of its parliamentary and presidential elections.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 15, 2000

Mr. RADANOVICH submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Commending the Republic of Croatia for the conduct of its parliamentary and presidential elections.

Whereas the fourth Croatian parliamentary elections, held on January 3, 2000, marked Croatia's progress toward meeting its commitments as a participating state of the Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and as a member of the Council of Europe;

Whereas Croatia's third presidential elections were conducted smoothly and professionally and concluded on February 7, 2000, with the landslide election of Stipe Mesic as the new President of the Republic of Croatia;

Whereas the free and fair elections in Croatia, and the following peaceful and orderly transfer of power from the old government to the new, is an example of democracy to the people of other nations in the region and a major

contribution to the democratic development of south-eastern Europe; and

Whereas the people of Croatia have made clear that they want Croatia to take its rightful place in the family of European democracies and to develop a closer and more constructive relationship with the Euro-Atlantic community of democratic nations: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of the Congress that—

3 (1) the people of the Republic of Croatia are to
4 be congratulated on the successful elections and the
5 outgoing Government of Croatia is to be commended
6 for the democratic standards with which it managed
7 the elections;

8 (2) the United States should support the efforts
9 of the new Government of Croatia to increase its
10 work on refugee return, privatization reform, media
11 reform, and further cooperation with the Inter-
12 national Criminal Tribunal for Former Yugoslavia
13 (ICTY) to set an example to other countries in the
14 region;

15 (3) the Congress strongly supports Croatia's
16 commitment to western democratic standards and
17 will give its full support to the new Government of
18 Croatia to fully implement democratic reforms;

19 (4) the United States continues to promote
20 Croatian-American economic, political, and military

1 relations and recognizes Croatia as a loyal partner
2 in south central Europe; and

3 (5) taking into consideration Croatia's contribu-
4 tions as a committed partner in the region, the Con-
5 gress recommends establishing strategic partnership
6 with the Republic of Croatia and supports its mem-
7 bership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's
8 Partnership for Peace program and its accession
9 into the World Trade Organization.

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