

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 170

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 11, 2001

Received and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban
Affairs

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Encouraging corporations to contribute to faith-based
organizations.

Whereas America's community of faith has long played a leading role in dealing with difficult societal problems that might otherwise have gone unaddressed;

Whereas President Bush has called upon Americans "to revive the spirit of citizenship . . . to marshal the compassion of our people to meet the continuing needs of our Nation";

Whereas although the work of faith-based organizations should not be used by government as an excuse for backing away from its historic and rightful commitment to help those who are disadvantaged and in need, such organizations can and should be seen as a valuable partner with government in meeting societal challenges;

Whereas every day faith-based organizations in the United States help people recover from drug and alcohol addiction, provide food and shelter for the homeless, rehabilitate prison inmates so that they can break free from the cycle of recidivism, and teach people job skills that will allow them to move from poverty to productivity;

Whereas faith-based organizations are often more successful in dealing with difficult societal problems than government and non-sectarian organizations;

Whereas, as President Bush recently stated, “It is not sufficient to praise charities and community groups; we must support them. And this is both a public obligation and a personal responsibility.”;

Whereas corporate foundations contribute billions of dollars each year to a variety of philanthropic causes;

Whereas according to a recent study produced by the Capital Research Center, the 10 largest corporate foundations in the United States contributed \$1,900,000,000 to such causes;

Whereas according to the same study, faith-based organizations only receive a small fraction of the contributions made by corporations in the United States, and 6 of the 10 corporations that give the most to philanthropic causes explicitly ban or restrict contributions to faith-based organizations: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring), That—*

3 (1) Congress calls on corporations in the United
4 States, in the words of the President, “to give more
5 and to give better” by making greater contributions
6 to faith-based organizations that are on the front
7 lines battling some of the great societal challenges of
8 our day; and

9 (2) it is the sense of Congress that—

10 (A) corporations in the United States are
11 important partners with government in efforts
12 to overcome difficult societal problems; and

13 (B) no corporation in the United States
14 should adopt policies that prohibit the corpora-
15 tion from contributing to an organization that
16 is successfully advancing a philanthropic cause
17 merely because such organization is faith based.

Passed the House of Representatives July 10, 2001.

Attest:

JEFF TRANDAHL,

Clerk.