

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 201

Expressing the sense of the Congress that the United States should establish an international education policy to further national security, foreign policy, and economic competitiveness, and promote mutual understanding and cooperation among nations.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 26, 2001

Mr. KOLBE (for himself, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. DREIER, Mr. HINCHHEY, Mr. LEACH, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. REGULA, and Mr. UPTON) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress that the United States should establish an international education policy to further national security, foreign policy, and economic competitiveness, and promote mutual understanding and cooperation among nations.

Whereas promoting international education for United States citizens and ensuring access to high-level international experts are important to meet national security, foreign policy, economic, and other global challenges facing the United States;

Whereas international education entails the imparting of effective global competence to United States students and other citizens as an integral part of their education at all levels;

Whereas research indicates that the United States is failing to graduate enough students with expertise in foreign languages, cultures, and policies to meet the demands of business, government, and universities;

Whereas, according to the Institute for International Education, less than 10 percent of United States students graduating from college have studied abroad;

Whereas, according to the American Council on Education, foreign language enrollments in United States higher education fell from 16 percent in 1960 to just 8 percent today, and the number of 4-year colleges with foreign language entrance and graduation requirements also declined;

Whereas educating international students is an important way to impart cross-cultural understanding, to spread United States values and influence, and to create goodwill for the United States throughout the world;

Whereas, based on studies by the College Board, the Institute for International Education, and Indiana University, more than 500,000 international students and their dependents contributed an estimated \$12,300,000,000 to the United States economy in the academic year 1999–2000;

Whereas, according to the Departments of State and Education, the proportion of international students choosing to study in the United States has declined from 40 to 30 percent since 1982;

Whereas international exchange programs, which in the past have done much to extend United States influence in the world by educating the world's leaders, as well as educating United States citizens about other nations and their cultures, are suffering from decline; and

Whereas American educational institutions chartered in the United States but operating abroad are important resources both for deepening the international knowledge of United States citizens and for nurturing United States ideals in other countries: 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 United States should establish an inter-
 4 national education policy to enhance national secu-
 5 rity, significantly further United States foreign pol-
 6 icy and economic competitiveness, and promote mu-
 7 tual understanding and cooperation among nations;
 8 and

9 (2) an international education policy for the
 10 United States should strive to achieve the following:

11 (A) Enhance the educational infrastructure
 12 through which the United States produces citi-
 13 zens with a high level of international expertise,
 14 and build a broad knowledge base that serves
 15 the United States.

16 (B) Promote greater diversity of locations,
 17 languages, and subjects involved in teaching, re-

1 search, and study abroad to ensure that the
2 United States maintains a broad international
3 knowledge base.

4 (C) Significantly increase participation in
5 study and internships abroad by United States
6 students.

7 (D) Invigorate citizen and professional
8 international exchange programs and promote
9 the international exchange of scholars.

10 (E) Support visas and employment policies
11 that promote increased numbers of inter-
12 national students.

13 (F) Ensure that a United States college
14 graduate has knowledge of a second language
15 and of a foreign area, as well as a broader un-
16 derstanding of the world.

17 (G) Encourage programs that begin for-
18 eign language learning in the United States at
19 an early age.

20 (H) Promote educational exchanges and
21 research collaboration with American edu-
22 cational institutions abroad that can strengthen
23 the foreign language skills and a better under-
24 standing of the world by United States citizens.

- 1 (I) Promote partnerships among govern-
- 2 ment, business, and educational institutions and
- 3 organizations to provide adequate resources for
- 4 implementing this policy.

