

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 172

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 3, 2003

Received and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Supporting the 20th Annual National Tourism Week.

Whereas travel and tourism has a major impact on the economy of the United States as the 3rd largest retail sales industry in the Nation;

Whereas 1 out of every 7 people employed in the United States civilian labor force is directly or indirectly employed in the travel and tourism industry;

Whereas international travel to the United States is the largest service export, having generated a trade surplus for 14 consecutive years;

Whereas domestic and international travel generated an estimated \$537.2 billion in expenditures in 2002, supporting more than 7.9 million jobs, and creating more than \$98.7 billion in tax revenue for Federal, State, and local governments;

Whereas the slowing of the United States economy and international conflicts have had a tremendous negative effect on the tourism industry;

Whereas the Department of Commerce has released the 2002 international year-end arrivals data, revealing that the level of international travel to the United States declined an additional 7 percent between 2001 and 2002;

Whereas tourism contributes substantially to personal growth, education, appreciation of intercultural differences, and the enhancement of international understanding and good will;

Whereas the abundant natural and man-made attractions of the United States and the hospitality of the American people establish the United States as the preeminent destination for both foreign and domestic travelers;

Whereas National Tourism Week was established by Congress in 1983, and first celebrated in May 1984, when President Ronald Reagan signed a proclamation urging citizens to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies and activities;

Whereas, since 1984, National Tourism Week has been celebrated each May by the travel and tourism community,

travel industry associations, as well as many States, cities, and localities throughout the Nation; and

Whereas May 10 through 18, 2003, is the 20th Annual National Tourism Week: Now, therefore, be it

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

3 (1) supports National Tourism Week; and

4 (2) requests that the President issue a procla-
 5 mation calling upon the people of the United States
 6 and interested groups to observe National Tourism
 7 Week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

Passed the House of Representatives June 2, 2003.

Attest:

JEFF TRANDAHL,

Clerk.