

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:39 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the House:

H.J. Res. 168. Joint resolution waiving certain enrollment requirements with respect to two bills of the One Hundred Fourth Congress.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-2178. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury (Legislative Affairs and Public Liaison), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the tobacco product vending machines; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-2179. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Technology), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Foreign Comparative Testing Program for fiscal year 1995; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2180. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Technology), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the Laboratory Revitalization Demonstration Program for fiscal year 1996; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2181. A communication from the Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Environmental Security), Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the defense environmental restoration program (volume 1 of 2) for fiscal year 1995; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2182. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Command, Control, Communications, and Intelligence), transmitting, pursuant to law, the interim report on the Department of Defense actions relative to section 381 of the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1995; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2183. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, 1995-1996 Joint Military Assessment; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2184. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to Cooperative Threat Reduction (CTR) funding; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2185. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report relative to the Commission's administrative and enforcement actions under the Fair Debt Collections Practices Act; to the Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs.

EC-2186. A communication from the Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Deep Seabed Mining Report; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2187. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, notice of intent to submit a report required under the Energy Policy Act of 1992; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-2188. A communication from Assistant Secretary of the Interior (Land and Minerals

Management), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a notice on leasing systems; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-517. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of California; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

"ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION No. 45

"Whereas, Jimmy Tran valiantly fought for the freedom of his country of seven years as a member of the Army of the Republic of Vietnam; and

"Whereas, after the fall of Saigon, Jimmy Tran escaped from a reeducation camp and continued to fight the totalitarian regime as a member of the democratic movement; and

"Whereas, Jimmy Tran escaped Vietnam in 1978 and came to the United States to start a new life in a free nation; and

"Whereas, Jimmy Tran became a citizen of the United States and continued to work for freedom and democracy through patriotic organizations in his adopted country; and

"Whereas, Jimmy Tran returned to Vietnam in January 1993 to promote the cause of freedom in Vietnam; and

"Whereas, Jimmy Tran was arrested on February 15, 1993, and charged with planning to denigrate symbols of the Hanoi regime; and

"Whereas, Jimmy Tran was denied a lawyer of his choice, tried in secret with a predetermined verdict, and sentenced to 20 years in one of Vietnam's most notorious prisons; and

"Whereas, Jimmy Tran now suffers in prison from severe malnutrition and, at the age of 44, has become nearly blind; and

"Whereas, the United States has formally recognized the communist government of Vietnam in hopes of bringing democratic reforms to that nation; and

"Whereas, Jimmy Tran should be enabled to return home to his wife and four young children: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of California, jointly, That the Legislature of the State of California respectfully memorialize the President of the United States to use our new diplomatic relations with Vietnam to secure the release of Jimmy Tran and his return to his wife and children in the United States; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, the Secretary of State, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States."

POM-518. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of California; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

"ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION No. 34

"Whereas, the memory of those Americans who died in the Korean War to defend liberty and freedom, demands that Americans make every effort to reclaim, identify, and appropriately enshrine their remains; and

"Whereas, the accounting of Americans who were taken as prisoners of war or who were missing in action during the Korean War is incomplete; and

"Whereas, the Government of the United States should demand that the government of North Korea provide the fullest possible

accounting of each and every American P.O.W. or M.I.A.; and

"Whereas, the use of current DNA biotechnology can assist greatly in the identification of the remains of American personnel in the hands of North Korea: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of California, jointly, That the Legislature of the State of California respectfully memorializes the President and the Congress of the United States to demand that the government of North Korea provide the fullest possible accounting of each and every American P.O.W. or M.I.A.; and be it further

Resolved, That the President and the Congress of the United States ensure that the latest DNA biotechnology is used to its fullest potential to identify the remains, and that arrangements be made for the remains to be properly enshrined in a suitable place of honor; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States."

POM-519. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of California; to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

"ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION No. 37

"Whereas, the government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (SRV) is continuing to violate all fundamental and civil rights of its own citizens through arbitrary arrests, detentions without trial, and the censorship of peaceful expression of political or religious beliefs; and

"Whereas, in 1991 and 1992, Amnesty International had reported that there were still thousands of political prisoners detained in hundreds of government-operated reeducation camps, and Amnesty International estimates that at least one reeducation camp exists in each of Vietnam's 40 provinces and continues to receive "persistent reports of torture and ill-treatment of people" within those camps; and

"Whereas, the Asia Watch has raised the issue of political detainees in the SRV having to perform hard labor under conditions of malnutrition, abuse, and lack of medical care, and the periods of detention are indefinitely renewable; and

"Whereas, as a part of the Campaign for the Release of Political Prisoners in Vietnam, the National United Front of the Liberation of Vietnam released a list of political prisoners, including writers, journalists, religious leaders, intellectuals, civil servants, and politicians; this list provides the names of prisoners, their prison location, and the penalty under which they are serving; and there are currently 1,005 prisoners on this list; and

"Whereas, for decades hundreds of religious leaders and followers have been imprisoned and scores of religious leaders have been killed and since summer of 1993, there has been a brutal crackdown on religion by the government of Vietnam; and

"Whereas, in the SRV, the Vietnamese people are constantly subjected to police surveillance and restricted social and political activities; in other words, the Vietnamese people are being denied normal civil rights and entitlements; and

"Whereas, political oppression and human rights violations in Vietnam continue to increase at an alarming rate in contrast to the government's recent publicity maneuvers, such as "economic reforms," a "revised Constitution," or an "open door policy"; and

"Whereas, after two decades, the government of the SRV is still committing the inhumane act of warehousing the remains of

American soldiers to be used as bargaining chips; and

"Whereas, for two decades, the government of the SRV has been and is still less than forthright about the fate of American POWs and MIAs; and

"Whereas, the Government of the United States should require specific improvements of human rights and civil rights by the Vietnamese government as conditions in all business, investment, aid, and diplomatic discussions with Vietnam; and

"Whereas, the government of Vietnam has reacted to the United States decision to normalize diplomatic relations with a refusal to institute democratic reforms and a rejection of calls for an end to human rights violations; and

"Whereas, April 30, 1995, marked the 20th anniversary of the fall of Saigon to the Communist government of North Vietnam: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of California, jointly, That the Legislature hereby declares its support for the struggle of the Vietnamese people for freedom and democracy, calls for an end to political oppression and for respect of human and civil rights in Vietnam, and urges the Government of the United States to use its new diplomatic relations with Vietnam to insist on democratic political reforms, an end to human rights violations, and a full accounting of American POWs and MIAs and to make the extension of Most Favored Nation status, contingent upon (1) the unconditional release of all political and religious prisoners in Vietnam, (2) the immediate cessation of punishment of critics through detention without trial, (3) the abolition of all political prisons and reeducation camps throughout the country, (4) the elimination of all regulations, codes, and constitutional provisions prohibiting organized opposition activity that are commonly used to repress peaceful expression of dissent, (5) a formal commitment by the leaders of the Communist Party of Vietnam to create a pluralistic and democratic environment, with free and open national elections under international supervision, so that the citizens of Vietnam may determine the future leadership and orientation of their government, (6) the immediate and unconditional return of the remains of all United States soldiers still in the possession of the government of the SRV, and (7) full and forthright cooperation in resolving the fate of all American POWs and MIAs in Southeast Asia; and be it further

Resolved, That corporations doing business with Vietnam are encouraged to seek improvement in labor practices, as well as human rights and civil rights in all business negotiations and transactions; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States."

POM-520. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Maine; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.P. 1273

"Whereas, the United States of America has had a long and friendly relationship with the Government of the Republic of China on Taiwan; and

"Whereas, in recent years the Republic of China on Taiwan has established a multiparty, democratic political system dedicated to human rights and the pursuit of freedom; and

"Whereas, commercial interaction with the Republic of China on Taiwan has grown substantially in recent years; and

"Whereas, the Republic of China on Taiwan is a major trading partner of the United States and has a strong, free-market economy with the largest foreign reserves of any nation in the world; and

"Whereas, the role of the Republic of China on Taiwan in international development programs and humanitarian relief operations has significantly expanded during the past decade; and

"Whereas, the return of the Republic of China on Taiwan to the family of nations through membership in the United Nations will help to strengthen mutual cooperation and the bonds of friendship between our nations: Now, therefore be it

Resolved, That We, your Memorialists, respectfully request the President and the Congress of the United States to encourage and support full participation by the Republic of China on Taiwan in the United Nations; and be it further

Resolved, That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Honorable William J. Clinton, President of the United States, to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States and to each Member of the Maine Congressional Delegation."

POM-521. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Alaska; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLVE NO. 31

"Whereas there is continuing controversy concerning Americans who were listed as prisoners of war (POW) or missing in action (MIA) while serving in the Southeast Asian nations of Vietnam, Laos, Kampuchea (formerly Cambodia); and

"Whereas the United States government has stated that all of our POW's have been returned; and

"Whereas a top secret Vietnamese report dating from 1972 by General Tran Von Kwang, Deputy Chief of Staff for the North Vietnamese Army, reported that in September of 1972 Hanoi held 1,205 American prisoners; and

"Whereas only 591 American POWs have been released under the 1973 Peace Settlement, which means that, based on General Kwang's own report, at least 614 POWs were not returned or accounted for; and

"Whereas Vietnamese nationals who have moved to the United States have reported the appearance of American prisoners still being held in Southeast Asia; and intelligence agencies, and the governments of Vietnam, Laos, Kampuchea, Russia, North Korea, and China be ordered to turn over all documents concerning Americans listed as POWs or MIAs as a result of the Vietnam War; and be it further

Resolved, That the lawsuit is not intended to solicit a ruling or an opinion definitively declaring the POW/MIA issue moot, but rather it is intended to seek a mandate that all documents and other information concerning POWs and MIAs be released to the public so that the fate or location of all members of the service who were POWs or MIAs may be proven beyond a reasonable doubt; and be it further

Resolved, That the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the other 49 states of the United States to join in this action on behalf of their citizens being held in captivity as a result of the war in Southeast Asia."

POM-522. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Washington; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

"SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 8028

"Whereas, the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988 was passed by Congress to protect

tribal and state interests as they pertain to gambling; and

"Whereas, the primary intent of Congress was to allow for tribal economic development and self-sufficiency consistent with the state's public policy as it pertains to gambling; and

"Whereas, the conduct of Class III gaming within the state's boundaries is subject to the completion of a tribal-state compact; and

"Whereas, only the gambling activities authorized for any person, organization, or entity for any purpose in accordance with state law, should be the subject matter of any negotiation; and

"Whereas, some courts recognize states' interests in limiting the scope of gambling; other courts have failed to give adequate weight to state limitations on gambling within a state's borders; and

"Whereas, the public policy of the state of Washington, as expressed by the Legislature in 1994, is to limit the nature and scope of gambling activities through strict regulation and control; and

"Whereas, Washington state has been unable to carry out its public policy on gambling due to some courts' decisions not allowing the state to set reasonable limitations on gambling; and

"Whereas, because Washington has been limited by court decisions to fulfill its public policy goal an unfair situation and an economic hardship has occurred for operators of non-Indian gambling establishments, which are licensed and regulated by the state;

"Whereas, nationally there has been much disagreement between tribes and states as to the scope of gaming subject to negotiation under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988: Now, therefore, Your Memorialists respectfully request:

"(1) Congress implement sufficient clarification of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988 to ensure that only those specific gambling activities currently authorized under the laws of a particular state are subject to negotiation between a tribal government and a state government and that the clarification ensure that no state is required to negotiate on any specific type of gambling activity that is not either authorized, or played, or both, within a state's particular boundaries;

"(2) Congress additionally clarify the Indian Gaming Act to recognize that non-Indian gambling is important to the economic well-being of states and that a balance needs to be achieved between Indian and non-Indian gambling activities, be it

Resolved, That copies of this Memorial be immediately transmitted to the Honorable William J. Clinton, President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of Washington."

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. DORGAN:

S. 1642. A bill to amend the Social Security Act to deny cash benefits to drug addicts and alcoholics, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GREGG (for himself and Mrs. KASSEBAUM):

S. 1643. A bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to authorize appropriations