

Mr. Speaker, this legislation has the support of the local prosecution team, the local government, the Attorney General of the United States, the State Department, and the White House. Mr. Speaker, it is essential that justice be served. I urge passage of this bill and yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 132, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The title of the concurrent resolution was amended so as to read: "Concurrent resolution relating to the trial of Martin Pang for arson and felony murder."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the subject of H. Con. Res. 132, the measure just considered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

#### REGARDING TAIWAN'S EFFORTS TO JOIN THE COMMUNITY OF NATIONS

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 212) endorsing the adoption by the European Parliament of a resolution supporting the Republic of China on Taiwan's efforts at joining the community of nations, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 212

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),* That the Congress endorses the adoption by the European Parliament on July 18, 1996, of resolution supporting the Republic of China on Taiwan's efforts at joining the community of nations, which is substantially as follows:

"The European Parliament,

—having regard to Article J.7 of the Treaty on European Union,

"(A) satisfied with the current state of Taiwan's democracy and Taiwan's respect for the principles of justice, human rights and fundamental freedom;

"(B) welcoming the fact that the elections in Taiwan were conducted democratically and peacefully despite the overt aggression and provocation by the People's Republic of China;

"(C) having regard to Taiwan's wish to participate in international aid to developing countries;

"(D) having regard to the significance of developments in the political situation in Taiwan for the whole of East Asia at a geopolitical and economic level and in terms of a policy of stability, security and peace in the Western Pacific region;

"(E) welcoming the attitude of reconciliation displayed by President Lee Tang-hui towards the People's Republic of China and looking forward to a dialogue spanning both sides of the Taiwan Straits;

"(F) convinced that the people of Taiwan ought to be better represented in international organizations than they are at present, which would benefit both Taiwan and the whole of the international community;

"(G) whereas neither the European Union nor any of its Member States have diplomatic relations with the Government of Taiwan, recognizing only the People's Republic of China;

"(H) whereas Taiwan is very important to the European Union and its Member States as a trade partner;

"(I) whereas it is important for the European Union and its Member States to develop their relations with the governments of both the People's Republic of China and Taiwan in an amicable and constructive spirit.

"(J) urging the governments of the People's Republic of China and Taiwan to intensify their cooperation;

"(K) stressing that participation by Taiwan in certain international organizations can assist with finding common ground between China and Taiwan and facilitate reconciliation between the two sides;

"(L) regretting the fact that Taiwan at present is prevented from making a full contribution to the United Nations and its agencies, and stressing that, for the efficiency of the United Nations, Taiwan's participation would be desirable and valuable;

"1. Urges:

"(a) the Council and Member States to support Taiwan's attempts to secure better representation than it currently enjoys in international organizations in the fields of human and labour rights, economic affairs, the environment and development cooperation . . .

"(b) the Council and Member States to ask the United Nations to investigate the possibility of setting up a United Nations working group to study the scope for Taiwan to participate in the activities of bodies answerable to the United Nations General Assembly;

"(c) the Council and Member States to encourage the governments of the People's Republic of China and Taiwan to intensify their cooperation in a constructive and peaceful spirit;

"(d) the Council to urge the Commission to adopt measures with a view to opening a European Union information office in Taipei;

"(2) Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and to the Commission."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] and the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HAMILTON] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN].

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the chairman of the Asia and Pacific Subcommittee, Congressman BEREUTER, and the ranking minority member, Congressman BERMAN, for their support for House Concurrent Resolution 212. I would also like to commend the chair-

man of the Rules Committee, Mr. SOLOMAN, for drafting the resolution.

On July 18, the European Parliament adopted a resolution that supports Taiwan's efforts at joining the United Nations. House Concurrent Resolution 212 endorses the European Parliament's initiative.

Taiwan is a free democracy, where people can express their thoughts and practice their religious beliefs. Through the long years, it has remained a loyal friend and steadfast ally of the United States.

Taiwan is also one of Asia's economic miracles, featuring a strong and growing economy with less than 1 percent unemployment. It is the type of free and democratic society we need to support in the region and around the world.

It is a stark contrast to the People's Republic of China. The Beijing leadership has repeatedly shown itself over the years to be a brutal dictatorship with little regard for human and religious rights, much less political freedom.

Taiwan's government has repeatedly asked for our help in their quest for their people to have the last word in their own future.

Now it is the time to help our friends on Taiwan. We have been waiting far too long to respond to their aspirations and hope.

House Concurrent Resolution 212 is a good step in that direction. I urge my colleagues to support the resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I support the resolution, but I do have some concerns about it. I do view the resolution as a friendly gesture to Taiwan, and certainly Taiwan deserves to be recognized for the remarkable strides it has made in recent years in transforming itself from an authoritarian system with a decrepit economy into a vibrant and prosperous democracy. I want to simply remind my colleagues that Taiwan has flourished under the status quo in East Asia. I would urge my colleagues to proceed with caution on this measure, on any measure that calls for a change in that status quo.

Having expressed that reservation, Mr. Speaker, I do support the resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1630

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON], the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Rules and the author of this resolution.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding this time to me, and certainly the ranking member of the committee a committee I spent many, many years on, and we have great admiration and respect for the job that both of these gentlemen do.