

(Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a co-sponsor of S. Res. 218, a resolution designating the week beginning March 17, 2002, as "National Safe Place Week".

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. LUGAR:

S. 2005. A bill to authorize the negotiation of free trade agreement with the Republic of the Philippines, and to provide for expedited congressional consideration of such an agreement; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. LUGAR. Madam President, I rise today to introduce the Philippine Free Trade Act of 2002.

My bill provides President Bush with the authority to engage the Republic of the Philippines in negotiations on a free-trade agreement, and if an accord is forthcoming, to have it considered by Congress under "fast-track" conditions.

The political and economic histories of the United States and the Philippines have long been intertwined. Immediately following the end of World War II, with the help and protection of the United States, the Philippine economy soared. In the mid-1980's when the circumstances surrounding the Marcos regime threatened to destabilize the country and subvert democracy in his election campaign against Corazon Aquino, the United States once again provided strong support. I was a member of a delegation of American election observers who voiced strong concerns over the conduct of the election and provided support for the rightful winner, Mrs. Aquino. Ultimately she was awarded the presidency and her administration brought greater civil liberties and freedom to the Philippine people and an even stronger relationship with the United States.

A free trade agreement with the Republic of the Philippines would hold special economic significance for the United States. United States exports to the Philippines totaled more than \$22.7 billion in the year 2000. The Philippines ranks as the 19th largest export market for American goods. The United States is the largest foreign investor in the Philippines with some \$3 billion in investments and 24 percent of the foreign direct investment stock as of the end of the year 2000. Both nations would benefit greatly from the elimination of tariffs and increased economic transparency that would come with a free-trade agreement.

The Philippine economy has enjoyed a mixed history of growth and development since the end of World War II. Growth immediately after the war was rapid, but slowed over time. The Philippines went from being one of the wealthiest nations in Asia to one of the poorest. Broad economic reforms designed to spur business growth and foreign investment met with success through most of the early and mid-1990s. Under the leadership of President Ramos the Philippines secured ratifica-

tion of the Uruguay Round agreement and membership in the World Trade Organization.

The Philippines was not as severely affected by the Asian financial crisis as most of its neighbors but it continues to face economic challenges. Exports continue to grow but at slower rates. Despite continued slow growth, long-term prospects remain promising. The pace of economic reform is expected to accelerate under President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's leadership. Specifically, it is hoped that progress in electronic commerce, banking reform, and securities regulation will improve the investment and business climate.

President Arroyo was the first foreign head of state to pledge her country's strong support for the United States in the aftermath of September 11. The Philippines, she said, is prepared to "go every step of the way" with the United States. The U.S. was provided with the use of Filipino ports and airfields to support military operations in Afghanistan. President Arroyo defined Philippine national interests by linking the struggle against international terrorism with the struggle against the Abu Sayyaf within the Philippines.

The Philippines has proven to be a strong and steadfast ally in the war on terrorism. I am pleased that American and Filipino troops are working side by side to eliminate the threat posed by terrorists linked to al Qaeda.

I believe a free-trade agreement with the Philippines would make significant contributions to the economies of both countries and strengthen our diplomatic and security relationships. It will ensure the continuance of open dialogue, peace of mind, and security between our two nations.

It is my hope that the United States and the Philippines will soon begin the process of constructing a free-trade agreement. There is much work to do and success will not come easily or quickly. But I believe increased free trade is the next step in this close and vitally important relationship.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 225—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF MARCH 10 THROUGH MARCH 16, 2002, AS "NATIONAL GIRL SCOUT WEEK"

Mr. HUTCHINSON (for himself, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. CLINTON, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CARNAHAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. LANDRIEU, Ms. SNOWE, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. LINCOLN, and Mrs. BOXER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 225

Whereas March 12, 2002, is the 90th anniversary of the founding of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America;

Whereas on March 16, 1950, the Girl Scouts became the first national organization for girls to be granted a Federal charter by Congress;

Whereas through annual reports required to be submitted to Congress by its charter, the Girl Scouts regularly informs Congress of its progress and program initiatives;

Whereas the Girl Scouts is dedicated to inspiring girls and young women with the highest ideals of character, conduct, and service to others so that they may become model citizens in their communities;

Whereas the Girl Scouts offers girls aged 5 through 17 years a variety of opportunities to develop strong values and life skills and provides a wide range of activities to meet girls' interests and needs;

Whereas the Girl Scouts has a membership of nearly 3,000,000 girls and over 900,000 adult volunteers, and is one of the preeminent organizations in the United States committed to assisting girls to grow strong in mind, body, and spirit; and

Whereas by fostering in girls and young women the qualities on which the strength of the United States depends, the Girl Scouts, for 90 years, has significantly contributed to the advancement of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of March 10 through March 16, 2002, as "National Girl Scout Week"; and

(2) requests that the President—

(A) issue a proclamation designating the week of March 10 through March 16, 2002, as "National Girl Scout Week"; and

(B) calls on the people of the United States to observe the 90th anniversary of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2993. Mr. DORGAN proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2917 proposed by Mr. DASCHLE (for himself and Mr. BINGAMAN) to the bill (S. 517) to authorize funding the Department of Energy to enhance its mission areas through technology transfer and partnerships for fiscal years 2002 through 2006, and for other purposes.

SA 2994. Mr. INHOFE (for himself and Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2917 proposed by Mr. DASCHLE (for himself and Mr. BINGAMAN) to the bill (S. 517) supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2993. Mr. DORGAN proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2917 proposed by Mr. DASCHLE (for himself and Mr. BINGAMAN) to the bill (S. 517) to authorize funding the Department of Energy to enhance its mission areas through technology transfer and partnerships for fiscal years 2002 through 2006, and for other purposes; as follows:

In section 1501(a)(1), strike "nuclear power industry" and insert "the electric power generation industry (including the nuclear power industry)".

At the end of title XV, add the following new section:

"SEC. 1506. NATIONAL POWER PLANT OPERATIONS TECHNOLOGY AND EDUCATION CENTER.

"(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish a National Power Plant Operations Technology and Education Center (the "Center"), to address the need for training and