

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 53

Expressing the sense of Congress concerning the opportunity to reform financing of congressional campaigns.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 24, 1993

Mr. GUTIERREZ submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress concerning the opportunity to reform financing of congressional campaigns.

Whereas a civic-minded spirit has taken hold across the country that advocates substantive change in the conduct of our Government;

Whereas this enthusiasm, as evidenced by last November's election and by the electorate's heightened attention to public policy issues, is widespread;

Whereas our President has called on all Americans to be "architects of the future" and "agents of change"—a call which should be taken up first and foremost by those who are the elected leaders of America;

Whereas the American people, representing every political affiliation as well as those with no such affiliation, seek and deserve fuller participation in the issues of the day;

Whereas the problems that confront our Nation—including budget concerns, the health care system, gun- and drug-related crime—demand that lawmakers spend more time listening to the concerns of our constituents;

Whereas urgent issues confront the entire community of our Nation, and should therefore be viewed in an atmosphere undistorted by those who present a limited perspective on these concerns;

Whereas officeholders have felt compelled to spend increasing amounts of time and energy securing the funds they need to remain politically viable;

Whereas the cost of campaigning for election to the House and Senate has risen to such levels that, if allowed to continue, could belie our own arguments that Government and American families must become more frugal; and

Whereas the House is designed to be a people's house, a status which would be best achieved when its membership is made more accessible to and reflective of citizen-legislators of all economic backgrounds: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*

2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that—

3 (1) campaign finance reform corresponds to the
4 current national spirit,

5 (2) we have a unique—but fleeting opportunity
6 to capitalize on this spirit of reform,

1 (3) this issue should be taken up with full,
2 speedy, and serious consideration,

3 (4) a meaningful campaign finance reform bill
4 will provide for voluntary spending limits, will limit
5 contributions by political action committees, and will
6 encourage increased debate among candidates,

7 (5) an effective campaign finance reform bill
8 will enable the true work of Congress to proceed
9 with more efficiency as Members will be free to
10 spend more time on the issues vital to the public,
11 and

12 (6) a true campaign finance reform bill will re-
13 flect a commitment to no special interest group but
14 one—the American people.

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