

104TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 189

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 27, 1996

Received

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the importance of United States membership and participation in regional South Pacific organizations.

Whereas the United States and the South Pacific region enjoy a close and historic partnership built on a strong foundation of shared values and an unshakable commitment to democracy, development, and human rights;

Whereas the Pacific Island Nations and Governments, together with New Zealand and Australia, share many of the global objectives of the United States, including the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons, the protection of

unique ecosystems, and sustainable economic development consistent with good resource management practices;

Whereas the United States, through support of the East-West Center in Hawaii, has facilitated establishment of the Pacific Islands Conference, wherein the heads of Pacific Island governments have met triennially to target critical research in furtherance of the region's trade, environment, and development; and

Whereas the United States is a member of the regional economic and social development body, the South Pacific Commission, participates in and plans to become a party to the regional environmental body, the South Pacific Regional Environment Program, as well as being a dialogue partner for the regional political body, the South Pacific Forum: Now, therefore, be it

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

3 (1) recognizes the traditional and close ties be-
4 tween the United States and the South Pacific re-
5 gion and reaffirms the value of these ties;

6 (2)(A) notes the need to continue to support
7 the efforts of the nations and governments of the re-
8 gion to enhance the sustainable development of the
9 more fragile island economies and their integration
10 into the regional economy, while helping to ensure
11 the protection of the unique ecosystems of the re-
12 gion; and

1 (B) recognizes the efforts of the East-West
2 Center and Pacific Islands Conference in further-
3 ance of the efforts described in subparagraph (A);

4 (3) commends the South Pacific Commission
5 for the process of managerial and organizational re-
6 form currently being undertaken, and recognizes the
7 important role the United States financial contribu-
8 tion to, and participation in, the organization makes
9 in assisting it to realize the gradual economic self-
10 sufficiency to all members of the organization; and

11 (4) reaffirms the commitment of the United
12 States as a member of the South Pacific Commis-
13 sion and a participant in the South Pacific Regional
14 Environment Programme, and a member of the
15 post-Forum dialogue partnership of the United
16 States with the South Pacific Forum.

Passed the House of Representatives September 26,
1996.

Attest:

ROBIN H. CARLE,
Clerk.