

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 172

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress in support of efforts to foster friendship and cooperation between the United States and Mongolia, and for other purposes.

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Whereas in 1990, Mongolia renounced the Communist form of government and peacefully adopted a series of changes that linked economic development with democratic political reforms;

Whereas the Mongolian people have held 2 presidential elections and 3 parliamentary elections since 1990, all fea-

turing vigorous campaigns by candidates from multiple political parties;

Whereas these elections have been free from violence, voter intimidation, and ballot irregularities, and the peaceful transfer of power from one Mongolian government to another has been successfully completed, demonstrating Mongolia's commitment to peace, stability, and the rule of law;

Whereas every Mongolian government since the end of communism has dedicated itself to promoting and protecting individual freedoms, the rule of law, respect for human rights, freedom of the press, and the principle of self-government, demonstrating that Mongolia is consolidating democratic gains and moving to institutionalize democratic processes;

Whereas Mongolia stands apart as one of the few countries in Asia that is truly a fully functioning democracy; its efforts to promote economic development through free market economic policies, while also promoting human rights and individual liberties, building democratic institutions, and protecting the environment, serve as a beacon to freethinking people throughout the region and the world;

Whereas Mongolia's commitment to democracy makes it a critical element in efforts to foster and maintain regional stability throughout central Asia;

Whereas Mongolia has some of the most pristine environments in the world, which provide habitats to plant and animal species that have been lost elsewhere, and has shown a strong desire to protect its environment through the Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan while moving forward with economic development, thus serving as a

model for developing nations in the region and throughout the world;

Whereas Mongolia has established civilian control of the military—a hallmark of democratic nations—and is now working with the Mongolian parliamentary and military leaders, through the United States International Military Education and Training program, to further develop oversight of the military;

Whereas Mongolia is seeking to develop political and military relationships with neighboring countries as a means of enhancing regional stability; and

Whereas Mongolia has demonstrated a strong commitment to the same ideals that the United States stands for as a nation, and has indicated a strong desire to deepen and strengthen its relationship with the United States: Now, therefore, be it

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

3 (1) the Congress—

4 (A) supports the efforts of the Mongolian
5 parliament to establish “United States-Mongolian
6 Friendship Day”;

7 (B) strongly supports efforts by the United
8 States and Mongolia to use the resources of
9 their respective countries to strengthen political,
10 economic, educational, and cultural ties between
11 the 2 countries;

1 (C) confirms the support of the United
2 States for an independent, sovereign, secure,
3 and democratic Mongolia;

4 (D) applauds and encourages Mongolia's
5 simultaneous efforts to develop its democratic
6 and free market institutions;

7 (E) commends Mongolia for its foresight in
8 environmental protection through the Biodiver-
9 sity Conservation Action Plan and encourages
10 Mongolia to obtain the goals illustrated in this
11 plan;

12 (F) encourages Mongolia's efforts toward
13 economic development that is compatible with
14 environmental protection and supports an ex-
15 change of ideas and information between Mon-
16 golian and United States scientists;

17 (G) commends Mongolia's efforts to
18 strengthen civilian control, through parliamen-
19 tary oversight, over the military; and

20 (H) supports future contacts between the
21 United States and Mongolia in such a manner
22 as will benefit the parliamentary, judicial, and
23 political institutions of Mongolia, particularly
24 through the creation of an interparliamentary

1 exchange between the Congress of the United
2 States and the Mongolian parliament; and

3 (2) it is the sense of the Congress that the
4 President—

5 (A) should, both through the vote of the
6 United States in international financial institu-
7 tions and in the administration of the bilateral
8 assistance programs of the United States, such
9 as the Central Asian Enterprise Fund, support
10 Mongolia in its efforts to expand economic op-
11 portunity through free market structures and
12 policies;

13 (B) should assist Mongolia in its efforts to
14 integrate itself into international economic
15 structures, such as the World Trade Organiza-
16 tion; and

17 (C) should promote efforts to increase
18 commercial investment in Mongolia by United
19 States businesses and should promote policies
20 which will increase economic cooperation and

1 development between the United States and
2 Mongolia.

 Passed the House of Representatives November 13,
1997.

Attest:

Clerk.