

H. 2/14/00 adopted

S. 2/14/00 Rules + Admin.
S. 2/15/00 Do Pass
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Laid Over Under Rule 25

S. 2/15/00 adopted

108

1 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO.

2 BY DAVIS, LARSON, JAGER, BARRY, DIX, HEATON,

3 ARNOLD, ALONS, JOHNSON, WARNSTADT, and CONNORS

4 (COMPANION TO LSB 5911SS BY DRAKE)

5 A Concurrent Resolution requesting the Congress

6 of the United States to appropriate sufficient

7 funding to the United States Naval Fleet and the

8 United States Flag Merchant Marine Fleet.

9 WHEREAS, the continuing reduction of the United

10 States armed forces is dangerously straining the

11 ability of the United States to respond adequately to

12 regional threats, with the United States Naval Fleet

13 shrinking from nearly 600 ships in 1987 to less than

14 325 ships today; and

15 WHEREAS, the United States is currently building

16 military ships at half the rate needed to maintain

17 even a modest fleet, while the demands on the United

18 States sea power forces have increased significantly

19 since the end of the Cold War; and

20 WHEREAS, the United States is presently deploying

21 its Navy and Marines three times as often as the

22 United States did before the fall of the Soviet Union,

23 while procuring fewer ships than at anytime since

24 1932, with the current fleet being the smallest since

25 1917; and

26 WHEREAS, the safety and economic prosperity of the

27 United States are tied to the political stability of

28 every part of the globe, and the United States faces a

29 dangerous and challenging situation where, as the only

30 superpower, it has an obligation to ensure that

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1 conflicts do not escalate into major military or
2 humanitarian disasters; and

3 WHEREAS, the United States has a different and far
4 more complex duty now than during the Cold War, and
5 must be prepared to deploy air and sea power as well
6 as ground troops, upon short notice; and

7 WHEREAS, because the United States has closed many
8 military bases in the past decade, only the Naval
9 Fleet can transport large numbers of Army and Air
10 Force equipment, troops, and supplies around the world
11 to support military operations that deal with threats
12 to national security of the United States; and

13 WHEREAS, nations engaging in terrorist activities
14 have vast supplies of chemical and biological agents,
15 with several nations developing their own nuclear
16 weapons; and

17 WHEREAS, the health of the economy of the United
18 States depends on international stability, as vast
19 markets for the agricultural and manufactured products
20 of the United States and the world's investment
21 markets are intertwined; NOW THEREFORE,

22 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE
23 SENATE CONCURRING, That the Iowa General Assembly
24 requests that the Congress of the United States,
25 committed to the safety and economic security of the
26 United States, authorize and appropriate sufficient
27 funding to build at least 10 ships per year for the
28 next decade; and

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Iowa General
30 Assembly call upon the Presidential candidates to

1 express their commitment to rebuilding the United
2 States Naval Fleet and the United States Flag Merchant
3 Marine Fleet; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That official copies of
5 this Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
6 United States, the President of the United States
7 Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of
8 Representatives, and the members of Iowa's
9 congressional delegation.

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