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1 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 105

2 BY DRAKE and KIBBIE

3 (COMPANION TO LSB 5911HH BY DAVIS)

4 A Concurrent Resolution requesting the Congress
5 of the United States to appropriate sufficient
6 funding to the United States Naval Fleet and the
7 United States Flag Merchant Marine Fleet.

8 WHEREAS, the continuing reduction of the United
9 States armed forces is dangerously straining the
10 ability of the United States to respond adequately to
11 regional threats, with the United States Naval Fleet
12 shrinking from nearly 600 ships in 1987 to less than
13 325 ships today; and

14 WHEREAS, the United States is currently building
15 military ships at half the rate needed to maintain
16 even a modest fleet, while the demands on the United
17 States sea power forces have increased significantly
18 since the end of the Cold War; and

19 WHEREAS, the United States is presently deploying
20 its Navy and Marines three times as often as the
21 United States did before the fall of the Soviet Union,
22 while procuring fewer ships than at anytime since
23 1932, with the current fleet being the smallest since
24 1917; and

25 WHEREAS, the safety and economic prosperity of the
26 United States are tied to the political stability of
27 every part of the globe, and the United States faces a
28 dangerous and challenging situation where, as the only
29 superpower, it has an obligation to ensure that
30 conflicts do not escalate into major military or

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1 humanitarian disasters; and

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

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

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

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

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

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Iowa General
29 Assembly call upon the Presidential candidates to
30 express their commitment to rebuilding the United

1 States Naval Fleet and the United States Flag Merchant
2 Marine Fleet; and

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

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