

FILED APR 14 1999

1 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 21

2 BY LUNDBY and DRAKE

3 A Senate Concurrent Resolution relating to the funding
4 of the United Nations.

5 WHEREAS, during the past decade, the Congress of
6 the United States, in an effort to improve the
7 functioning of the United Nations and to provide a
8 more effective United Nations for the coming
9 millennium, has urged the United Nations to take
10 meaningful steps toward reform by reducing
11 inefficiencies, streamlining the organization,
12 eliminating budgetary growth, reducing staff of the
13 Secretariat, reducing United Nations' costs borne by
14 the United States, refocusing development efforts in
15 support of open trade and free markets, and taking on
16 new and emerging global-scale challenges such as drug
17 trafficking, crime, terrorism, and environmental
18 protection; and

19 WHEREAS, according to the Council on Foreign
20 Relations, a strong and effective United Nations has
21 been, since its founding in 1945, and continues to be
22 an important part of a strong and effective American
23 foreign policy; and

24 WHEREAS, the United Nations has made demonstrable
25 progress and has shown good faith in moving to comply
26 with American requests by reducing staff by more than
27 20 percent in the past decade and eliminating more
28 than 3,000 positions in the Secretariat; adopting a
29 no-growth budget since 1994 and reducing the regular
30 budget by \$123 million in the most recent budget

SCR 21
RULES & ADMINISTRATION

SCR 21

1 cycle; appointing an inspector general to expose
2 waste, fraud, and abuse and saving more than \$80
3 million and numerous improvements in organizational
4 operations; consolidating a variety of functions
5 including consolidation of more than 12 secretariat
6 departments' executive units; appointing an efficiency
7 board similar to the United States Reinventing
8 Government Initiative that has resulted in hundreds of
9 efficiency improvements and millions of dollars in
10 savings; and attracting dynamic new leaders to head
11 key United Nations agencies and to improve overall
12 management of the United Nations; and

13 WHEREAS, with the end of the Cold War and the rapid
14 growth of economic globalization, the United Nations
15 is more important than ever as a forum for peace,
16 progress, and prosperity, particularly as the
17 international institution capable of bringing all
18 nations together to accomplish such efforts as setting
19 basic standards that are prerequisites to trade
20 including standards for telecommunications,
21 transportation, and mail; working together on common
22 global challenges such as terrorism and the drug
23 trade; promoting the health and well-being of the
24 world's children; upholding basic human rights;
25 feeding the hungry; responding to natural disasters;
26 developing peacekeeping operations and mediating
27 conflicts; and addressing global health challenges
28 such as polio, malaria, and malnutrition; and

29 WHEREAS, the executive and legislative branches of
30 the United States government have suggested that

1 reform of the United Nations would effectuate payment
2 of past dues by the United States which the United
3 States is legally bound to honor and which now total
4 more than \$1 billion; NOW THEREFORE,

5 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, THE HOUSE OF
6 REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That in recognition of the
7 rapidly increasing importance of the United Nations to
8 the future stability of the world and to the future
9 security and prosperity of the United States and other
10 nations, and in recognition of the United Nations'
11 marked progress and good faith efforts to comply with
12 United States' reform requests, the Iowa General
13 Assembly hereby commends the Congress of the United
14 States for its role in assisting in the reform of the
15 United Nations and commends the United Nations for its
16 successful implementation of these reforms; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Iowa General
18 Assembly requests that the Congress of the United
19 States authorize and appropriate sufficient funding to
20 pay amounts owed by the United States to the United
21 Nations, now in arrears, and, in addition, that the
22 transfer of these funds to the United Nations be
23 authorized by the Congress of the United States in the
24 current budget cycle.

25

26

27

28

29

30