

FILED FEB 13 '03

1 SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 12
2 BY HOLVECK, BOLKCOM, CONNOLLY, DVORSKY, HORN,
3 HATCH, and SENG
4 A Resolution regarding preemptive, unilateral military
5 action against Iraq.
6 WHEREAS, there is an urgent need for genuine,
7 multilateral action to eliminate weapons of mass
8 destruction worldwide; and
9 WHEREAS, a preemptive, unilateral strike by the
10 United States against a sovereign nation without a
11 direct threat to the national security of the United
12 States violates a basic principle of American foreign
13 policy enunciated in George Washington's farewell
14 address and historically adhered to by our nation; and
15 WHEREAS, most other governments in the
16 international community oppose preemptive, unilateral
17 action against Iraq and support the full pursuit of
18 diplomatic resolutions and weapons inspections before
19 any further military action is taken against Iraq; and
20 WHEREAS, a preemptive, unilateral military strike
21 by the United States against Iraq will undermine
22 efforts to bring to justice those who helped carry out
23 the attacks of September 11, 2001, and hinder efforts
24 to reduce acts of international terror; and
25 WHEREAS, a preemptive attack against Iraq will set
26 a dangerous precedent which other countries may
27 follow; and
28 WHEREAS, a United States military attack on Iraq
29 threatens the stability of the Middle East region; and
30 WHEREAS, conflict in the area may result in the

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1 widespread destruction of the environment and the
2 civilian infrastructure of Iraq; and

3 WHEREAS, war in Iraq will likely be a humanitarian
4 disaster, jeopardizing the lives of American soldiers,
5 potentially exposing American soldiers to biological
6 and chemical forms of warfare almost too horrible to
7 imagine, and resulting in the killing of many innocent
8 Iraqi civilians who have already suffered enormously
9 under Saddam Hussein's rule and sanctions of the
10 United Nations; and

11 WHEREAS, military action will likely result in a
12 long-term United States military presence in Iraq with
13 no guarantee that the next regime in Iraq will achieve
14 a better record on democracy, human rights, and
15 disarmament issues, or in maintaining peaceful
16 relations with its neighbors; and

17 WHEREAS, it has been estimated that a war with Iraq
18 would likely cost between \$100 billion and \$1 trillion
19 and the American occupation of Iraq would cost another
20 \$15 to \$20 billion per year; and

21 WHEREAS, unlike the 1991 war with Iraq, a
22 preemptive, unilateral strike against Iraq will result
23 in the United States bearing most of the financial
24 cost of the war; and

25 WHEREAS, the costs of a war with Iraq will cause
26 further federal budget deficits, further weakening of
27 an already sluggish economy, and further undermining
28 of the long-term prospects for solvency of the Social
29 Security and Medicare systems, and will ensure
30 reductions in federal aid to the State of Iowa; and

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1 WHEREAS, such reductions in state aid at the
2 federal level would hinder the likelihood of
3 increasing reimbursement rates for Medicare and
4 Medicaid and make financial assistance to seniors for
5 prescription drugs even less likely; and

6 WHEREAS, the State of Iowa is already suffering
7 from a financial crisis, which has severely impacted
8 many of the programs that assist working people and
9 families; NOW THEREFORE,

10 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the Iowa Senate
11 supports the efforts of American troops to protect and
12 defend the nation against those who seek to harm it,
13 but, out of concern for the safety of those who would
14 risk their lives, respectfully urges and requests the
15 President of the United States not to initiate a
16 preemptive, unilateral military strike against Iraq;
17 and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Iowa Senate
19 respectfully urges that if the United States does take
20 military action against the sovereign nation of Iraq
21 that it only be done with the official approval of the
22 United Nations Security Council as required under
23 international law; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That suitable copies of
25 this resolution, duly authenticated by the Iowa
26 Secretary of the Senate, be transmitted to the
27 Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United
28 States, to each member of the Iowa congressional
29 delegation, and to the Governor of the State of Iowa.

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