

was receptive to addressing a number of my concerns in the revised version of S. 1795 he brought before the committee.

I am very hopeful that these improvements will be retained, and that additional improvements can be made on the Senate floor and in conference.●

EXECUTIVE SESSION

TREATIES

Mr. MCCAIN. I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following treaties on today's executive calendar, No. 13 through No. 22.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the following treaties:

Treaty Document No. 103-35, treaty Between the United States of America and Jamaica Concerning the Reciprocal Encouragement and Protection of Investment, with Annex and Protocol;

Treaty Document No. 103-36, treaty Between the United States of America and the Republic of Belarus Concerning the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investment with Annex, Protocol, and Related Exchange of Letters;

Treaty Document No. 103-37, treaty Between the United States of America and Ukraine Concerning the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investment, with Annex, and Related Exchange of Letters;

Treaty Document No. 103-38 treaty Between and Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Estonia Concerning the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investment with Annex;

Treaty Document No. 104-10, treaty Between the United States of America and Mongolia Concerning the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investment, with Annex and Protocol;

Treaty Document No. 104-12, Treaty Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Latvia Concerning the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investment, with Annex and Protocol;

Treaty Document No. 104-13, Treaty Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Georgia Concerning the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investment, with Annex;

Treaty Document No. 104-14, Treaty Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago Concerning the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investment, with Annex and Protocol;

Treaty Document No. 104-19, Treaty Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Albania Concerning the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investment, with Annex and Protocol; and

Treaty Document No. 104-24, Agreement for the Implementation of the United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 Relating to Fish Stocks.

STATEMENT ON THE AGREEMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA OF 10 DECEMBER 1982 RELATING TO FISH STOCKS

Mr. PELL. Madam President, I am very pleased that the Senate is proceeding to consider Treaty Document

104-24, commonly known as the Straddling Fish Stocks Agreement. I strongly urge my colleagues to support Senate advice and consent to ratification.

The need for this Agreement—and indeed other appropriate measures to protect fisheries—has become increasingly evident in the past years. World fish production, both marine and aquaculture, peaked in 1989 at roughly 100 million tons. Since then, marine catches have declined significantly due to over-exploitation. By 1992, the world marine catch had declined to 86 million tons and by 1994 to 72.3 million tons. The Food and Agriculture Organization estimates that 70 percent of the world's marine fish stocks are fully to heavily exploited, over-exploited, depleted, or slowly recovering.

Against this backdrop, the Straddling Stocks Agreement will significantly advance U.S. interests. In effect, it confirms the U.S. approach to fisheries management and reflects the acceptance by other nations of that approach. The agreement does not require any changes to U.S. fishery laws or institutions. The Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act as well as other acts, provide the necessary legislative authority for the United States to carry out its obligations under the agreement.

It is very important to note that the Straddling Stocks Agreement is tightly linked, both legally and practically, to the U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea, which has for nearly 2 years been pending before the Foreign Relations Committee. The United States ability to pursue its objectives under the agreement will be maximized only if we in the Senate move ahead to grant advice and consent to ratification of the Law of the Sea Convention.

Over the past 2 years I have repeatedly addressed the Senate to highlight the ways in which the Law of the Sea Convention has been improved, and now meets our fisheries interests, our national security interests, and our economic interests. I hope that all my colleagues who have shown such an interest in the Straddling Stocks Agreement will join me in my efforts to see the convention ratified promptly.

Mr. MCCAIN. I further ask unanimous consent that the treaties be considered as having passed through their various parliamentary stages up to and including the presentation of the resolutions of ratification, that all committee provisos, reservations, understandings, et cetera, be considered agreed to; that any statements be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD as if read; and that the Senate take one vote on the resolutions of ratification to be considered as separate votes;

Further, that when the resolutions of ratifications are voted upon, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, that the President be notified of the Senate's action, that following disposition of the treaties the Senate return to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MCCAIN. I ask for a division vote on the resolutions of ratification.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

All those in favor of ratification please stand and be counted. (After a pause.) All those opposed to ratification be stand and be counted.

On a division, two-thirds of the Senators present having voted in the affirmative, the resolutions of ratification are agreed to.

The resolutions of ratification agreed to are as follows:

RESOLUTIONS OF RATIFICATION

TREATY BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND JAMAICA CONCERNING THE RECIPROCAL ENCOURAGEMENT AND PROTECTION OF INVESTMENT, WITH ANNEX AND PROTOCOL

Resolved, (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein), that the Senate advise and consent to the ratification of The Treaty Between the United States of America and Jamaica Concerning the Reciprocal Encouragement and Protection of Investment, with Annex and Protocol, signed at Washington on February 4, 1994 (Treaty Doc. 103-35).

TREATY BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS CONCERNING THE ENCOURAGEMENT AND RECIPROCAL PROTECTION OF INVESTMENT, WITH ANNEX, PROTOCOL, AND RELATED EXCHANGE OF LETTERS

Resolved, (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein), That the Senate advise and consent to the ratification of The Treaty Between the United States of America and the Republic of Belarus Concerning the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investment, with Annex, Protocol, and Related Exchange of Letters, signed at Minsk on January 15, 1994 (Treaty Doc. 103-36). The Senate's advice and consent is subject to the following declaration, which the President, using existing authority, shall communicate to the Republic of Belarus, in connection with the exchange of the instruments of ratification of the Treaty:

(1) It is the Sense of the Senate that the United States:

(a) supports the Belarusian Parliament and its essential role in the ratification process of this Treaty;

(b) recognizes the progress made by the Belarusian Parliament toward democracy during the past year;

(c) fully expects that the Republic of Belarus will remain an independent state committed to democratic and economic reform; and

(d) believes that, in the event that the Republic of Belarus should unite with any other state, the rights and obligations established under this agreement will remain binding on that part of the Successor State that formed the Republic of Belarus prior to the union.

TREATY BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND UKRAINE CONCERNING THE ENCOURAGEMENT AND RECIPROCAL PROTECTION OF INVESTMENT, WITH ANNEX, AND RELATED EXCHANGE OF LETTERS

Resolved, (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein), That the Senate advise and consent to the ratification of The Treaty Between the United States of America and Ukraine Concerning the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investment, with Annex and Related Exchange of Letters, done at Washington on March 4, 1994 (Treaty Doc. 103-37).