

JOHN EDWARD PORTER,
BILL YOUNG,
HENRY BONILLA,
DAN MILLER,
JAY DICKEY,
ROGER F. WICKER,
ANNE M. NORTHUP,
BOB LIVINGSTON,
DAVID OBEY,
LOUIS STOKES,
STENY H. HOYER,
NANCY PELOSI,
NITA M. LOWEY,
ROSA L. DELAURO,

Managers on the Part of the House.

ARLEN SPECTER,
THAD COCHRAN,
SLADE GORTON,
KIT BOND,
JUDD GREGG,
LARRY E. CRAIG,
LAUCH FAIRCLOTH,
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON,
TED STEVENS,
FRITZ HOLLINGS,
TOM HARKIN,
DANIEL K. INOUEY,
DALE BUMPERS,
HARRY REID,
HERB KOHL,
PATTY MURRAY,
ROBERT C. BYRD,

Managers on the Part of the Senate.

MAKING IN ORDER ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1997, OR ANY TIME THEREAFTER CONSIDERATION OF H.J. RES. 101, FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, FISCAL YEAR 1998

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Appropriations be discharged from further consideration of H.J. Res. 101 when called up; and that it be in order at any time on Friday, November 7, 1997, or any day thereafter to consider the joint resolution in the House; and that the joint resolution be considered as read for amendment; that the joint resolution be debatable for not to exceed 1 hour, to be equally divided and controlled by myself and the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. OBEY]; and that the previous question be considered as ordered on the joint resolution to final passage without intervening motion, except one motion to recommend with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Louisiana?

Mr. OBEY. Madam Speaker, I have no objection. Free at last, free at last.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the request is agreed to.

There was no objection.

MAKING IN ORDER ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1997, OR ANY DAY THEREAFTER CONSIDERATION OF CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2264, DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Madam Speaker, I share the sentiment of the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. OBEY].

Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order at any time on Friday, November 7, 1997 or any day thereafter, to consider a conference report on the bill, H.R. 2264, that all points of order against the conference report and against its consideration be waived, and that the conference report be considered as read when called up.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Louisiana?

There was no objection.

ENSURING THAT COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES OF PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY OF CHINA ARE MONITORED

Mr. HAMILTON. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. FOWLER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, given the litany that we have heard this afternoon of recent PLA-driven misdeeds, the People's Liberation Army clearly should be placed on constant notice that this President have the flexibility to take immediate action against their enterprises and assets that are in this country, and this bill, I just want to remind my colleagues, would give the President the ability to target specific PLA-owned firms doing business in the United States when these kinds of activities occur.

Now, let me stress again, it does not require the President to do anything, it only gives him the flexibility to do so, because in the past it has taken extraordinary emergencies like the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait or the Iranian seizure of American diplomats to trigger the provisions of IEPA. I do not think the President should have to wait until a crisis of that magnitude develops to be able to signal in a clear way that we disapprove of PLA misdeeds in the case of Chinese military-owned firms which would be clearly identified beforehand. Under this legislation, he would have the flexibility to act immediately.

I think it is high time that we put the PLA on notice that their actions will be under close scrutiny by this government and that their enterprises and assets may be subject to increased regulation or seizure if the President so determines.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SNOWBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2647, to monitor and restrict the commercial activities of the Chinese Peoples Liberation Army, or PLA.

China's Government imposes restrictions and barriers to companies that wish to enter its market—just as other countries do whose markets are beginning to develop. It is a fact of life that American and other foreign firms operating in China must pay for the privilege. We should do what we can to ensure that this payment is not going to the Peoples Liberation Army.

The PLA is heavily engaged in commercial activities. The PLA also maintains a vast in-

dustrial empire. These factories do more than make weapons. Up to 80 percent of its operation is engaged in civilian production—particularly for the export market. Each company is diversified as well. Norinco—North China Industries Group—makes both toys and rifles.

The hard currency earned by such enterprises is then used for buying high-technology weapons systems and financing Chinese espionage. PLA commercial enterprises have also been involved in smuggling fully automatic AK-47's into the United States to supply drug gangs.

I believe that free and voluntary commerce is an effective method of opening up a society. Furthermore, I see such commerce as the acts of individual Americans and foreigners, not as the actions of nations. However, the armed forces of a totalitarian regime is not your garden-variety customer or merchant. The American economy should not be a tool in China's efforts to build its military.

Finally, I would like to relay a more personal note regarding the importance of restricting the PLA's commercial activities in the United States. A constituent of mine is the attorney for a Missouri family. The family's son had been given an SKS carbine as an inexpensive, first hunting gun. The gun was so poorly made that it discharged, with the safety on, when the butt struck the ground. The young man was killed. The family obtained a judgment against Norinco for its gross negligence. Unfortunately, it has proven impossible to enforce that judgment against the Chinese military in China. This is not just an issue of guns. It is virtually impossible to enforce liability against a subsidiary of the PLA for any defective product it may produce.

Please join me in supporting this important legislation. The right of people to engage in free and voluntary commerce is very important to me. However, there is a difference between businesses and armies—especially armies that are aiming intercontinental ballistic missiles at our citizens. This measure is vital to our country's national security.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

The bill is considered read for amendment, and pursuant to House Resolution 302, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on passage of the bill.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the yeas appeared to have it.

Mrs. FOWLER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were— yeas 408, nays 10, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 614]

YEAS—408

Abercrombie	Bachus	Barrett (NE)
Ackerman	Baesler	Barrett (WI)
Aderholt	Baker	Bartlett
Allen	Baldacci	Barton
Andrews	Ballenger	Bass
Archer	Barcia	Bateman
Armey	Barr	Becerra