

“POW/MIA flag” has the same meaning as in section 1082 of such Act.

SEC. 2. The Architect of the Capitol may prescribe regulations with respect to the first section of this resolution.

SENATE RESOLUTION 235—COMMEMORATING 100 YEARS OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE PHILIPPINES

Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Mr. HELMS, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. INOUE, Mr. LUGAR, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. COCHRAN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. ROTH, Mr. COVERDELL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 235

Whereas 1998 marks 100 years of special ties between the people of the United States and the people of the Philippines and is also the centennial celebration of Philippine independence from Spain which initiated relations with the United States;

Whereas the people of the Philippines have on many occasions demonstrated their strong commitment to democratic principles and practices, the free exchange of views on matters of public concern, and the development of a strong civil society;

Whereas the Philippines has embraced economic reform and free market principles and, despite current challenging circumstances, its economy has registered significant economic growth in recent years benefiting the lives of the people of the Philippines;

Whereas the large Philippine-American community has immeasurably enriched the fabric of American society and culture;

Whereas Filipino soldiers fought shoulder to shoulder with American troops on the battlefields of World War II, Korea, and Vietnam;

Whereas the Philippines is an increasingly important trading partner of the United States as well as the recipient of significant direct American investment;

Whereas the United States relies on the Philippines as a partner and treaty ally in fostering regional stability, enhancing prosperity, and promoting peace and democracy; and

Whereas the 100th anniversary of relations between the people of the United States and the people of the Philippines offers an opportunity for the United States and the Philippines to renew their commitment to international cooperation on issues of mutual interest and concern: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the Philippines on the commemoration of its independence from Spain;

(2) looks forward to a broadening and deepening of friendship and cooperation with the Philippines in the years ahead for the mutual benefit of the people of the United States and the people of the Philippines;

(3) supports the efforts of the Philippines to further strengthen democracy, human rights, the rule of law, and the expansion of free market economics both at home and abroad; and

(4) recognizes the close relationship between the nations and the people of the United States and the people of the Philippines and pledges its support to work closely with the Philippines in addressing new challenges as we begin our second century of friendship and cooperation.

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, today I am submitting a resolution to com-

memorate 100 years of relations between the people of the United States and the people of the Philippines. It is especially fitting for Congress to recognize our special relationship with the Philippines because this year is also the centennial of Philippine independence from Spain. Senators HELMS, BIDEN, THOMAS, INOUE, ROTH, LUGAR, BOXER, COCHRAN, COVERDALE, and MURRAY have joined me in submitting the resolution.

Our country's friendship with the Philippines began in 1898, a year which also marked a growing U.S. interest in the Pacific region. Over the years, the Philippines has modeled its governmental institutions after the United States and has demonstrated a growing commitment to democracy, human rights, and a free market economy.

Until the end of the Cold War, the United States maintained major military facilities in the Philippines, which played a significant role in preserving regional peace and stability. The United States has important strategic, economic, and political interests in Southeast Asia and regional stability remains an overriding U.S. concern. To this end, Filipino soldiers have stood shoulder to shoulder with American troops on the battlefields of World War II, Korea, and Vietnam to protect and advance mutual interest. Today, the Philippines remains an important partner in guarding the peace and maintaining stability in Southeast Asia.

In the twelve years since the peaceful “people power” revolution restored democracy to the Philippines, President Aquino and Ramos established a democratic government and instituted market-based reforms which placed the Philippines—politically and economically—on a strong foundation for the 21st century. Economic growth exceeded 6 percent last year and is forecast to grow at 3 percent in 1998.

In many ways the Philippines has emerged as a model for her Asian neighbors. Political stability and democratic institutions were strengthened by free market and trade reforms. In turn, deregulation, lower tariffs and government debt, financial transparency, and respect for the rule of law provide a healthy economic foundation for the Philippine's future.

It was not long ago that the Philippine economy was far behind the economic tigers of Asia. The Filipino people's love of democracy and political vitality were blamed in large part for this circumstance. Critics cited the absence of so-called “Asian values” in the Philippines, namely a willingness to make democracy secondary to prosperity and order. History has proven these commentators wrong, and today the Filipino model inspires advocates of democracy throughout Asia. Stability relies upon democracy and prudent economic policies.

Last month when President Clinton and President Ramos met at the White House they reaffirmed the friendship between our nations. The leaders prom-

ised to continue close cooperation in responding to the Asian financial situation and conducted a frank discussion on bilateral issues, including remediation efforts at the former Subic and Clark bases and benefit parity for Filipino-American veterans.

During this special year in which we observe the centennial of our relationship with the Philippines and the centennial of their independence, we have much to celebrate. First, we recognize the valuable contributions of Filipino-Americans to our nation. Filipino Americans helped to build and create the modern Hawaiian economy and have contributed greatly to the cultural diversity that is celebrated in my state. My good friend, Governor Ben Cayetano, is the first Filipino-American governor in the United States. In addition, we reflect on our close friendship and cooperation with the Philippines in times of war and peace. And finally, we look forward to continued close ties with a democratic and prosperous Republic of the Philippines, as we work together to champion democracy and economic growth in the dawning Pacific century.

SENATE RESOLUTION 236—TO EXPRESS THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING ENGLISH PLUS OTHER LANGUAGES

Mr. DOMENICI (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. ABRAHAM and Mrs. HUTCHISON) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources:

S. RES. 236

Whereas English is the most widely used language in the areas of finance, trade, technology, diplomacy, and entertainment, and is the living library of the last 100 years of scientific and technological advance;

Whereas there are more speakers of English as a second language in the world than there are native English speakers, and the large number of English language schools around the world demonstrates that English is as close as any language has been to becoming the world's common language;

Whereas English is the common language of the United States, is important to American life and individual success, and 94 percent of United States residents speak English according to the 1990 decennial census;

Whereas immigrants to the United States have powerful incentives to learn English in order to fully participate in American society and the Nation's economy, and 90 percent of all immigrant families become fluent in English within the second generation;

Whereas a common language promotes unity among citizens, and fosters greater communication;

Whereas there is a renaissance in cultural assertiveness around the world, noting that the more interdependent nations become economically, the more interested the nations are in preserving and sharing cultural identity;

Whereas the reality of a global economy is an ever-present international development that is fostered by international trade and

the creation of regional trading blocs, such as the European Union, Mercosur, the North American Free Trade Agreement and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations;

Whereas knowledge of English, Spanish, French, Italian, German, Japanese, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, African languages, Farsi, sign language, and the many other languages of the world, enhances competitiveness and tremendous growth in world trade;

Whereas the United States is well postured for the global economy and international development with the United States' diverse population and rich heritage of languages from all around the world;

Whereas many American Indian languages are indigenous to the United States, and should be preserved, encouraged, and utilized, as the languages were used during World War II when the Navajo Code Talkers created a code that could not be broken by the Japanese or the Germans;

Whereas Spanish exploration in the New World began in 1512 when Ponce de Leon explored the Florida peninsula, and included the expeditions of Francisco Coronado throughout California to Kansas and across Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, and Oklahoma from 1540 to 1542;

Whereas the Nation will commemorate the 400th anniversary of the first Spanish Settlement of the Southwest (Ohkay Yunge at San Juan Pueblo, New Mexico) with official visits from Spain, parades, fiestas, masses, and other celebrations to emphasize the importance of the first encounters with American Indian cultures and the subsequent importance of encounters with other European cultures;

Whereas Hispanic culture, customs, and the Spanish language are a vital source of familial and individual strength;

Whereas the Bureau of the Census estimates that 1 in 5 Americans will be of Hispanic descent by the year 2030, and the future cultural, political, and economic strengths of this country are clearly dependent upon our Nation's ability to harness the talents and skills of this large and growing segment of the American population;

Whereas it is clearly in the interest of the United States to encourage educational opportunity for and the human potential of all citizens, and to take steps to realize the opportunity and potential;

Whereas a skilled labor force is crucial to the competitiveness of the Nation in today's global economy, foreign language skills are a tremendous resource to the United States, and such foreign language skill enhances American competitiveness in global markets by permitting improved communication and understanding;

Whereas one of the common bonds of Hispanic people is the Spanish language, and promoting the use of Spanish at home and in cultural affairs will benefit not only the growing Hispanic population of the United States but also the economic interests of the entire Nation; and

Whereas knowledge of other languages and other cultures is known to enhance the United States diplomatic efforts by fostering greater communication and understanding between nations, and can promote greater understanding between different ethnic and racial groups within the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the United States Government should pursue policies that—

(1) support and encourage Americans to master the English language plus other languages of the world;

(2) recognize the importance of English as the unifying language of the United States, and the importance of English fluency for in-

dividuals who want to succeed in American society;

(3) recognize that command of the English language is a critical component of the success and productivity of our Nation's children, and should be encouraged at every age;

(4) recognize that a skilled labor force is crucial to United States competitiveness in a global economy, and the ability to speak 1 or more languages in addition to English is a significant skill;

(5) recognize that knowledge of Spanish, in particular, is vital for building future cultural and economic bridges to Latin America;

(6) support literacy programs, including programs designed to teach English, as well as those dedicated to helping Americans learn and maintain other languages in addition to English; and

(7) develop our Nation's linguistic resources by encouraging citizens of the United States to learn and maintain Spanish, French, German, Japanese, Chinese, Italian, Korean, Vietnamese, Farsi, African languages, sign language, and the many other languages of the world, in addition to English.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, today I am proud to be joined by Senators MCCAIN, HATCH, DEWINE, CHAFEE, LUGAR, HAGEL, GRASSLEY, and ABRAHAM in submitting a Senate Resolution entitled "English-Plus." By this, we simply mean to reaffirm the importance of mastering the English language *plus* other languages of the world, such as Spanish, Italian, German, Japanese, Chinese, Vietnamese, and many, many more.

As English becomes the world language of finance, trade, technology, diplomacy, and entertainment, the reality of international markets and international learning require a greater sensitivity to local languages. In our hemisphere, Spanish is clearly a dominant language.

In my home state of New Mexico, 37 percent of the people are Spanish-Americans or Mexican-Americans. These days, the term "Hispanic Americans" is used to include Americans whose roots are in Spain, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Central America, and South America. As *U.S. News* reported in the May 11, 1998, issue, "the label *Hispanic* obscures the enormous diversity among people who come (or whose forebears came) from two dozen countries and whose ancestry ranges from pure Spanish to mixtures of Spanish blood with Native American, African, German, and Italian, to name a few hybrids."

U.S. News also reported in the same issue that "The number of Hispanics is increasing almost four times as fast as the rest of the population, and they are expected to surpass African-Americans as the largest minority group by 2005." In the October 21, 1996, issue, *U.S. News* reported that "Nearly 28 million people—1 American in 10—consider themselves of Hispanic origin." This 1996 estimate was based on 1994 Census data. Current estimates are that there are 29 million Hispanics in America, or 1 in 9 Americans. By 2050 projections are that 1 in every 4 Americans will be Hispanic.

As our world economy barges into the next century, it has become clear the "domestic-only market planning" has been replaced by the era of international trade agreements and the creation of regional trading blocs. In 1996, the total volume of trade with Mexico was estimated at \$130 billion. Our trade with the rest of Latin America that same year was \$101 billion.

Spanish is clearly a growing cultural and economic force in our hemisphere. It is also the common language of hundreds of millions of people. New Mexico is the only state that requires the use of both English and Spanish on every election ballot.

As the son of an Italian immigrant, I can personally testify to the importance of English Plus. My father did not read or write in English, yet he insisted that I learn English and do my best at some Italian. My parents both spoke Spanish—a skill which they found very useful in establishing a wholesale grocery business in Albuquerque.

Tens of thousands of New Mexico families still speak Spanish at home. Spanish remains a strong tie to their culture, music, history, and folklore. After decades of being taught to learn English first, most New Mexico Hispanic families also know English very well.

It is ironic that recent economic trends of this decade show Latin America as the most promising future market for American goods and services. An article in *The Economist* of April 21, 1998, stresses the value of the Spanish language to America's fastest growing minority group.

"America's Latinos are rapidly becoming one of its most useful resources." *The Economist*, however, also goes on to note that, "The Spanish language, which is their glory, also consigns too many of them to jobs not far removed from indentured slavery."

"Although they often meet discrimination, they have little taste for the politics of quotas or compensation. And although they have always supported 'affirmative action' programmes, they now loathe bilingual education, the programme most specifically devised to give them a leg-up into American life."

"Even poor Latinos retain a sturdy distrust of government preferring to rely on their families. Relatively few Latinos are on welfare; most believe that a man ought to help himself first by his own efforts."

It is no longer accurate to say that we are perched to enter a global economy—rather, we are well into it. With Latin America as the next great market partner of the United States, those Americans who know both English and Spanish will have many new grand opportunities. Mexico's recent hiring and celebration of its one-millionth *maquiladora* worker in international manufacturing plants mostly along our border, the value of knowing two languages to function with the hundreds

of Fortune 500 companies now manufacturing in Mexico is unquestioned.

Mr. President, I have long believed that New Mexico and other border states are uniquely poised to create the focal point of North American trade with South America. I agree with *The Economist* observation that "America's Latinos are rapidly becoming one of its most useful resources." I predict that English Plus Spanish will be one of the major marketable skills for the next century.

In conclusion, I would like my colleagues to see the shallowness of thought behind the idea that "English Only" should be the wave of the future. If we want to miss our best potential markets in Mexico, Central America, and South America, then "English Only" should be our intent. If we want to become a more powerful cultural and economic American force in the world—including both North and South America into the meaning of "America"—then we should adopt "English Plus" as approach.

As stated in our resolution, "English Plus" includes many if not all of the languages of the world. No one disputes the importance of English as the leading language of science, technology, the internet, finance, and diplomacy. By acknowledging our heightened abilities through the addition of other languages to our national strengths, the United States will benefit greatly by expanding its cultural life and economic potential through the application of the notion of "English Plus" other languages of the world.

Mr. McCAIN. Mr. President, I rise today with my several of my colleagues from the Hispanic Task Force to submit a Resolution on English-Plus. This resolution is intended to express the importance of the English language in our society, PLUS the importance of knowing, understanding and speaking other languages in addition to English.

As a member of the Hispanic Task Force, I have been working closely with my colleagues, Senators DOMENICI and HATCH, in developing this resolution. Many of our colleagues may be curious to know what we mean when we say "English Plus." "English-Plus" reflects our firm belief that all members of our society need to recognize and understand the importance of being fluent in English, Plus one or more additional languages.

Everyone agrees that all Americans must be fluent in English in order to succeed in today's society. Not only is English the common language of our nation, it is also the most popular and widely used language internationally in the areas of finance, trade, technology, diplomacy and entertainment. This is why it is critical that we continue encouraging all members of our society to be fluent in the English language.

However, I believe it is equally important for each of us to encourage all members of our society to study and develop an understanding of, if not a

fluency, in one or more languages in addition to English. Individuals who have the capability to communicate in multiple languages have access to a wealth of opportunities economically, socially, professionally and personally.

Encouraging our citizens to be bilingual or multilingual serves as a tremendous resource to the United States, because it enhances our competitiveness in global markets by enabling communication and cross-cultural understanding while trading and conducting international business. In addition, multilingualism enhances our nation's diplomatic efforts and leadership role on the international front by fostering greater communication and understanding between nations and their people.

Foreign language skills also serve as a powerful tool for promoting greater cross-cultural understanding between the multitude of racial and ethnic groups in our country. One in five Americans will be of Hispanic descent by the year 2030. According to the 1990 Census, Spanish is the second most widely used language in the world. It is my firm belief that developing a greater knowledge of the Spanish language will benefit the economic and cultural interests of our entire country. Being proficient or fluent in languages besides English, combined with an understanding of various cultures, will significantly enhance communication and understanding between the various racial and ethnic groups in our country.

This resolution highlights the importance of implementing policies in our country which support and encourage all Americans to master English, plus one or more other languages of the world. It is critical that we continue supporting policies and programs which stress the importance of English but we should also encourage all Americans to study, learn and familiarize themselves with the languages of many other cultures.

I urge the Senate to adopt this resolution, which sends a clear message to our citizens and the people of the world that Americans are committed to encouraging proficiency in English as well as other international languages.

SENATE RESOLUTION 237—EX-PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING THE SITUATION IN INDONESIA AND EAST TIMOR

Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself, Mr. REED, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. KOHL, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. HARKIN, and Mr. WELLSTONE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 237

Whereas recent political turmoil and economic failure in Indonesia have endangered the people of that country and fomented instability in the region;

Whereas President Suharto has properly responded to this crisis by resigning, after 32 years in office, the presidency of Indonesia in

accordance with Indonesia's constitutional processes;

Whereas Indonesia is now embarking on a new era that is ripe for political and economic reform;

Whereas in 1975 Indonesia invaded, and since that time has illegally occupied, East Timor claiming the lives of approximately 200,000 East Timorese;

Whereas Indonesia has systematically committed human rights abuses against the people of East Timor through arbitrary arrests, torture, disappearances, extra-judicial executions, and general political repression;

Whereas 8 United Nations General Assembly and 2 United Nations Security Council resolutions have reaffirmed the right of the people of East Timor to self-determination;

Whereas Bishop Carlos Filipe Ximenes Belo and Jose Ramos-Horta, who were awarded the 1996 Nobel Peace Prize for their courageous contribution to the East Timorese struggle, have called for a United Nations-sponsored referendum on self-determination of the East Timorese;

Whereas President Clinton in a letter dated December 27, 1996, expressed interest in the idea of a United Nations-sponsored referendum on self-determination in East Timor;

Whereas the United States cosponsored a 1997 United Nations Human Rights Commission Resolution calling for Indonesia to comply with the directives of existing United Nations resolutions regarding East Timor; and

Whereas present circumstances provide a unique opportunity for a resolution of the East Timor question: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that the President should—

(1) encourage the new political leadership in Indonesia to institute genuine democratic and economic reforms, including the establishment of an independent judiciary, civilian control of the military, and the release of political prisoners;

(2) encourage the new political leadership in Indonesia to promote and protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all the people of Indonesia and East Timor; and

(3) work actively, through the United Nations and with United States allies, to carry out the directives of existing United Nations resolutions on East Timor and to support an internationally supervised referendum on self-determination.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the President.

● Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, over the past few days, the world has watched in disbelief as Indonesia has unraveled. Barely two days ago, in response to mounting domestic and international pressure, President Suharto, Indonesia's authoritarian ruler for 32 years, announced his resignation. For the moment, power has been transferred to Suharto's longtime confidant, the former Minister of Research and Technology, Vice President, B.J. Habibie.

Mr. President, it is too soon to tell whether this transition will satisfy the demands of the students and other Indonesians who have been protesting Suharto's rule for the past three months. To be honest, I doubt it. These students want real political reform, and I believe all of Indonesia's people deserve such reform.

I hope Indonesia's new leadership will exercise restraint during this period of