

JOINT RESOLUTION

We, your Memorialists, the Members of the One Hundred and Twentieth Legislature of the State of Maine now assembled in the Second Regular Session, most respectfully present and petition the President of the United States and the Congress of the United States, as follows:

Whereas, Acadia National Park is Maine's most visited natural destination, with approximately 3 million annual visits, and is one of the most heavily used parks in the National Park System; and

Whereas, Acadia National Park is among the most beautiful places in Maine and its Atlantic shore represents 25% of the Maine coastline that is available for public use and enjoyment; and

Whereas, Acadia National Park generates \$132,000,000 in direct economic benefits to the Mount Desert Island region and many additional millions of dollars in indirect benefits throughout Maine, making the park's 45,000 acres of land and easements among the most economically productive natural assets in the State; and

Whereas, Acadia National Park has conducted a rigorous financial analysis leading to a business plan that demonstrates an average operating annual budget that supplies only 47% of what is needed to operate the park in compliance with laws and regulations; and

Whereas, Acadia National Park's annual operating budget shortfall is the 3rd largest calculated to date in the 40 national parks that have undertaken business plans; and

Whereas, Acadia National Park's total annual operating budget need is approximately \$14,000,000, and additional millions of dollars are needed for anticipated park operations at Schoodic Point; and

Whereas, Acadia National Park has 121 full-time equivalent employees but needs 230 full-time equivalent employees to execute the park's mission in accordance with laws and regulations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That We, your Memorialists, respectfully urge the President of the United States and the Congress of the United States to increase the annual budget of Acadia National Park to amounts that will meet the park's full operational needs, including the needs of Schoodic Point; and be it further

Resolved, That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the President of the United States, the President of the Senate of the United States, the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States and to each Member of the Maine Congressional Delegation.

POM-273. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Maine relative to Cuba; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

JOINT RESOLUTION

We, your Memorialists, the Members of the One Hundred and Twentieth Legislature of the State of Maine now assembled in the Second Regular Session, most respectfully present and petition the Congress of the United States as follows:

Whereas, the relationship between the United States and Cuba has long been marked by tension and confrontation, and further heightening this hostility is the 40-year-old United States trade embargo against the island nation that remains the longest-standing embargo in modern history; and

Whereas, there has been significant change in relations between Cuba and the United States since 1962, when the prohibitive trade sanctions were imposed; and

Whereas, the export ban was imposed during a period of much fear caused by the

threat of nuclear attack due to the Cold War between the former Soviet Union and other communist regimes and the United States; and

Whereas, that threat no longer exists and it is no longer United States policy to prohibit trade with a communist country, as we already have heavy trade with China and are establishing trade with countries like Vietnam; and

Whereas, with complete normalization of trade relations, Cuba could become a \$1 billion market for United States agricultural producers within 5 years, making it our 3rd largest market in the Americas after Mexico and Canada; and

Whereas, agriculture in Maine has developed into a diverse industry and could greatly benefit from the market opportunities that free trade with Cuba would provide. Maine is the largest producer of brown eggs and wild blueberries in the world and ranks 8th in the nation in the production of potatoes and 2nd in the production of maple syrup. It ranks 2nd in New England in milk and livestock production; and

Whereas, rather than depriving Cuba of agricultural products, the United States trade embargo succeeds only in driving Cuba's purchasers to competitors in other countries that have no trade restrictions; and

Whereas, the United States has much to gain by trading with Cuba, not only in agriculture but also in many other sectors of the economy and culture; and

Whereas, the Cuban people also have much to gain and are more likely to move toward liberty as they see our way of life and the success of our free market system: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That We, your Memorialists, urge the Congress of the United States to lift trade sanctions and establish permanent, normal trade relations with Cuba; and be it further

Resolved, That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United States, and to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States and each Member of the Maine Congressional Delegation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
RECEIVED DURING RECESS

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of June 26, 2002, the following reports of committees were submitted on July 3, 2002:

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 2709: An original bill making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, and for other purposes. (Rept. No. 107-202).

By Mr. BINGAMAN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with amendments:

S. 1946: A bill to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Old Spanish Trail as a National Historic Trail. (Rept. No. 107-203).

By Mr. BINGAMAN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment:

H.R. 640: A bill to adjust the boundaries of Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, and for other purposes. (Rept. No. 107-204).

By Mr. SARBANES, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

Report to accompany S. 2673, An original bill to improve quality and transparency in financial reporting and independent audits and accounting services for public companies, to create a Public Company Accounting Oversight Board, to enhance the standard setting process for accounting practices, to strengthen the independence of firms that audit public companies, to increase corporate responsibility and the usefulness of corporate financial disclosure, to protect the objectivity and independence of securities analysts, to improve Securities and Exchange Commission resources and oversight, and for other purposes. (Rept. No. 107-205).

By Mr. BIDEN, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment:

S. 2525: A bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to increase assistance for foreign countries seriously affected by HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, and for other purposes. (Rept. No. 107-206).

By Mr. KENNEDY, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2059: A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for Alzheimer's disease research and demonstration grants.

S. 2649: A bill to provide assistance to combat the HIV/AIDS pandemic in developing foreign countries.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND
JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN:

S. 2709. An original bill making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND
SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. DASCHLE (for himself and Mr. LOTT):

S. Res. 299. A resolution to authorize testimony, document production, and legal representation in City of Columbus v. Jacqueline Downing, et al and City of Columbus v. Vincent Ramos; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 917

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) were added as cosponsors of S. 917, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income amounts received on account of claims based on certain unlawful discrimination and to allow income averaging for backpay and frontpay awards received on account of such claims, and for other purposes.

S. 952

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, his name was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 952, a bill to provide collective bargaining rights for public safety officers