

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 357 Session of
1994

INTRODUCED BY CLYMER, FARGO, BAKER, MILLER, HENNESSEY, CORRIGAN,
ARMSTRONG, SERAFINI, ROHRER, TRELLO, PITTS, YEWIC, WOGAN,
J. TAYLOR, GEIST, LEH AND TOMLINSON, JUNE 28, 1994

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL-STATE RELATIONS, JUNE 28, 1994

A RESOLUTION

1 Memorializing each member of Congress from Pennsylvania to
2 support H.R.3744 and S.R.1803 to give Congress greater
3 oversight over United States Armed Forces participation in
4 United Nations peacekeeping operations.

5 WHEREAS, The President has affirmed that his foreign policy
6 will bear little change from that of his predecessor regarding
7 the deployment of the United States Armed Forces in support of
8 United Nations peacekeeping missions; and

9 WHEREAS, With the end of the Cold War, there is a growing
10 tendency in United States foreign policy toward participation in
11 multilateral peacekeeping actions with situations where units of
12 the United States Armed Forces are placed under United Nations
13 commanders; and

14 WHEREAS, The constitutional role of our military is to
15 protect the life, liberty and property of United States citizens
16 and to defend our nation against insurrection or foreign
17 invasion; and

18 WHEREAS, Our servicemen's lives should only be put at risk in

1 defense of our nation's clearly defined vital interests and not
2 in support of policy decisions made by United Nations officials;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, The War Powers Act and other current Federal
5 statutes do not specifically limit the President's ability to
6 make commitments of the United States Armed Forces to United
7 Nations peacekeeping missions which may not be in the national
8 interest or possess any significant popular support; therefore
9 be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
11 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania believe that:

12 (1) The United States must maintain and ensure the
13 primacy of its national security interests with respect to
14 participation in United Nations peacekeeping activities.

15 (2) Although the President must maintain his traditional
16 constitutional powers in relation to the deployment of the
17 United States Armed Forces in defense of our Nation's vital
18 national interests, Congress must have greater oversight and
19 voice in the commitment of our servicemen to constitutionally
20 "gray area" peacekeeping missions decided upon by the United
21 Nations such as Somalia and Bosnia.

22 (3) Greater Congressional oversight of these types of
23 multilateral peacekeeping missions will aid in preventing the
24 deployment of our sons and daughters to far flung parts of
25 the world in pursuit of unclear United Nations policies and
26 possibly situations with no popular support;

27 and be it further

28 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
29 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania believe that H.R.3744 and S.R.1803
30 are identical bills that propose sound measures for

1 Congressional oversight of United States troop commitments to
2 United Nations peacekeeping operations whose major provisions
3 include:

4 (1) Any special agreement or agreements negotiated by
5 the President with the Security Council providing for the
6 deployment of the United States Armed Forces at the request
7 of the Security Council in peacekeeping operations conducted
8 under Title 43 of the United Nations Charter shall be subject
9 to approval of Congress by act or joint resolution.

10 (2) The President may not subordinate to the command or
11 operational control of any foreign nationals any element of
12 the United States Armed Forces participating in United
13 Nations peacekeeping activity unless Congress enacts an act
14 or a joint resolution specifically authorizing such
15 subordination or the President satisfies notification and
16 formal reporting requirements detailing sound reasons for
17 such deployment to Congressional committees designated in the
18 bill; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
20 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania memorialize the Pennsylvania
21 Congressional Delegation to support H.R.3744 and S.R.1803 which
22 propose greater Congressional oversight of commitments of the
23 United States Armed Forces to United Nations peacekeeping
24 operations; and be it further

25 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to
26 each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.