

House Committee on Rules
January 14, 1991 - Page

These minutes contain materials which paraphrase and/or summarize statements made during this session. Only text enclosed in quotation marks report a speaker's exact words. For complete contents of the proceedings, please refer to the tapes.

Measures Heard
SR1 (PH & WS)

SENATE COMMITTEE ON
RULES

January 14, 1991Hearing Room 454
12:15 p.m. Tape 1
Salem, Oregon

MEMBERS PRESENT:Sen. Frank Roberts, Chair
Sen. Bill Bradbury, Vice-Chair
Sen. John Brenneman
Sen. Jane Cease
Sen. Joyce Cohen
Sen. Lenn Hannon
Sen. Mike Thorne

VISITING MEMBER:Sen. Tricia Smith

STAFF PRESENT: Jose Mata, Committee Administrator
Ann Engelson, Committee Assistant

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TAPE 1, SIDE A

006 CHAIR ROBERTS calls the meeting to order at 12:45 p.m. and recesses the meeting until 2 p.m.

010 CHAIR ROBERTS calls the meeting to order at 2:08 p.m. and asks Sen. Smith to testify.

PUBLIC HEARING AND WORK SESSION ON SENATE RESOLUTION 1

012 SEN. SMITH: Purpose of resolution is to urge the President and Congress to continue to seek alternatives to war as a resolution to the crisis in the Persian Gulf.

021 CHAIR ROBERTS asks for questions/comments or any other testimony.

025 SEN. BRENNEMAN: Expressed concern from Senate session today and caucus for lack of support of armed forces serving there at this point. Is looking for a compromise so we can get more support for Senate Resolution 1 on the Senate Floor. Reword resolution commencing on line 19 "Be it further resolved that the Oregon State Senate here assembled expresses its support for the United Nations Resolution and to the President of the United States and his efforts toward negotiated peace and further supports the members of the United States armed forces."

039 SEN. SMITH: States concern about United Nations resolution which authorizes force after tomorrow -- would like a stronger alternative message sent supporting the President in pursuit of a peaceful solution to the crisis.

054 SEN. BRENNENMAN: Remove "who are prepared to fight for the liberation of Kuwait."

055 CHAIR ROBERTS: Sen. Brennenman could you repeat the proposed language change? (Noted above.)

060 SEN. COHEN: Is concerned regarding "the United Nations resolution." Supportive of the United Nations actively involved in the resolution. It is mainly their responsibility to solve disputes of this nature. Change wording to state our firm commitment to the United Nations involvement and their taking the lead - whatever that amounts to.

080 SEN. BRADBURY: Would be very supportive of language that expresses support of the President of the United States in his efforts toward negotiating peace and further supports the members of the United States armed forces. It is difficult to support the UN resolution which does layout a deadline of tomorrow and does specifically outline the use of force after that date. The Oregon Senate wants the President to continue to negotiate settlement rather than move toward the use of force. Proposed language change "Be it therefore resolved that the Oregon State Senate here assembled expresses its support for the President of the United States in his efforts for negotiated peace and further supports the members of the United States armed forces now stationed in Saudi Arabia."

100 SEN. HANNON: The action taken by Congress Saturday supersedes anything we feel one way or the other about the UN resolution adopted by the United Nations representatives. The President will not commence war on Tuesday, January 16. The President

indicated over the weekend that if there is movement toward negotiated settlement that he is willing to withhold. The "UN resolution" is a pivotal point to the whole discussion; that is what is bringing about January 15.

136 SEN. THORNE: The thrust of the resolution is on the right course. This is an opportunity for us to agree upon a strategy to express ourselves. We know that this resolution will be among other voiced concerns about world peace. It will not bind anyone. It is an appropriate thing for us to do.

170 CHAIR ROBERTS: There are differences of opinion on this issue. Suggested wording "Whereas we pray for the safety of the thousands of Americans, men and women, who have been placed in the desert of Saudi Arabia." Also include in resolution "we applaud the President to exhaust all reasonable alternatives to the use of military force. We hope that the Congress and the President will continue that effort."

227 SEN. CEASE: Suggest wording change to Sen. Brennanman's revision and also express all of our concerns that we don't want things to blow up and to support our armed forces.

245 CHAIR ROBERTS: Could you repeat your changes?

246 SEN. CEASE: The next clause after the Senate supporting the President should read ", the role of the United Nations in seeking world peace without armed conflict" and add "support of the armed forces" which is an important part too.

259 SEN. THORNE: Believes there was an error in judgment to move quickly on the part of Congress. It will be pretty hard to negotiate when you're dealing with people that believe an-eye-for-an-eye and a-tooth-for-a-tooth. To those people, dying is of more value than living. This potential resolution deals with people that think very differently than us. I feel we are wrong to be in there.

306 CHAIR ROBERTS: Suggests language change to "We resolve that we commend the President and Congress of the United States of America for seeking to exhaust all reasonable alternatives to the use of military force against Iraq and urge that effort be continued." As a substitute for lines 16 to 18.

The second amendment is "Whereas we pray for the safety of the thousands of American men and women who have been placed in the desert of Saudi Arabia." There were no objections to

the substitutions.

Expressed concern about lines 10 and 11. These lines are not directly relevant to the urgency of this resolution. Strike lines 10 and 11.

382 SEN. BRENNEMAN: Is not opposed, but is not sure he will support the Resolution when it reaches the Senate Floor for a vote. Vote was unanimous in recommending resolution be adopted as amended.

389 CHAIR ROBERTS adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

Submitted by:

Reviewed by:

Ann Engelson
Assistant

Jose Mata
Administrator