

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 279

Expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the 125th anniversary of the 1882 Treaty of Peace, Amity, Commerce and Navigation between the Kingdom of Chosun (Korea) and the United States.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 24, 2007

Mr. LUGAR (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. WEBB, and Mr. ISAKSON) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

DECEMBER 19 (legislative day, DECEMBER 18), 2007

Considered, amended, and agreed to with an amended preamble

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the 125th anniversary of the 1882 Treaty of Peace, Amity, Commerce and Navigation between the Kingdom of Chosun (Korea) and the United States.

Whereas both the Republic of Korea and the United States are fully democratic states with a common commitment to human rights and the rule of law;

Whereas 2007 marks the 125th anniversary of the Treaty of Peace, Amity, Commerce and Navigation between the Kingdom of Chosun (Korea) and the United States, concluded May 22, 1882, which was a seminal moment in relations between the United States and Korea;

Whereas the treaty contemplates “everlasting amity and friendship between the two peoples”, a tradition that both state signatories have worked to achieve during the past 125 years;

Whereas 2007 marks the 50th anniversary of the entry into force of the Treaty of Friendship, Commerce, and Navigation, with Protocol, signed at Seoul November 28, 1956 (8 UST 2217), between the United States and the Republic of Korea;

Whereas the United States and the Republic of Korea share a mutual interest in the peaceful denuclearization of the Korean peninsula;

Whereas nearly 40,000 citizens of the United States gave their lives during the Korean War with the hope that the Republic of Korea would remain free and independent;

Whereas the Mutual Defense Treaty, signed at Washington October 1, 1953 (5 UST 2368), between the United States and the Republic of Korea, has led to more than 50 years of effective deterrence against attack by the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea;

Whereas 29,000 troops from the United States remain stationed in the Republic of Korea as a tangible sign of the commitment of the United States to the security of the Republic of Korea;

Whereas the Republic of Korea is the fourth largest contributor of troops to the peacekeeping effort in Iraq and continues its tradition of supporting the United States in key armed struggles;

Whereas the Republic of Korea is making a significant military and financial contribution to building lasting stability in Afghanistan;

Whereas the United States and the Republic of Korea continuously work to modernize their security relationship through annual Security Consultative Meetings between their defense ministers, the Strategic Consultation for Allied Partnership Dialogue, and various lower-level forums;

Whereas the economic partnership between the United States and the Republic of Korea has contributed to significant economic growth for both countries;

Whereas the Republic of Korea is the seventh largest trading partner of the United States, and the United States is the third largest trading partner of the Republic of Korea;

Whereas nearly 2,000,000 Korean-Americans contribute to the fabric of life in the United States and link the United States to Korea on a personal basis;

Whereas the Republic of Korea sends more international students to the United States than any other country; and

Whereas the strong relationship between the United States and the Republic of Korea across many fronts has proven beneficial for both countries: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

2 (1) the strength and endurance of the alliance
3 between the United States and the Republic of
4 Korea should be acknowledged and celebrated;

5 (2) the economic relationship, highlighting the
6 vibrancy and diversity of the common interests of
7 the United States and the Republic of Korea, should
8 be broadened and deepened;

1 (3) the United States should sustain sub-
2 stantive dialogue with both the Republic of Korea
3 and the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, with
4 the expectation of the eventual unification of the Ko-
5 rean peninsula, as it was at the signing of the Trea-
6 ty of Peace, Amity, Commerce and Navigation be-
7 tween the Kingdom of Chosun (Korea) and the
8 United States, concluded May 22, 1882;

9 (4) working with the Republic of Korea to fos-
10 ter greater regional cooperation in East Asia should
11 be a priority of the United States, as such coopera-
12 tion brings long and short term benefits to all those
13 involved; and

14 (5) the United States and the Republic of
15 Korea should strive to develop further a more global
16 perspective in their partnership, with the goal of ad-
17 dressing international priorities such as the fight
18 against terrorism, the promotion of human rights,
19 the enhancement of democracy, support for peace-
20 keeping, and protection of the environment.

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