

JUN 19 2001
Laid Over Under Rule 25

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 48

BY SIEVERS, VAN FOSSEN, ELGIN, DRAKE,
JENKINS, MILLAGE, METCALF, HANSEN, LARSON,
SIEGRIST, HEATON, GIPP, AND RANTS

A Resolution urging the Iowa congressional delegation
to support and work to implement the renewal of the
trade promotion authority of the President of the
United States.

WHEREAS, since 1974, Presidents of the United
States used trade promotion authority, formerly known
as fast track authority, to negotiate trade agreements
that reduced barriers to American exports in foreign
markets; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States has
been without trade promotion authority since 1994; and

WHEREAS, it is increasingly difficult for the
United States to actively participate in the
international trade arena; and

WHEREAS, of the current 130 multilateral trade
agreements in the world, most of which were signed
since 1990, the United States is party to only two,
the European Union is party to 27, and Mexico is party
to 28; and

WHEREAS, under trade promotion authority, trade
agreements are submitted to Congress for approval or
disapproval under rules barring committee or floor
amendments; and

WHEREAS, trade promotion authority does not give
the President of the United States a blank check to
negotiate trade agreements, nor does it undermine the

1 constitutional prerogatives of Congress; and

2 WHEREAS, if the President of the United States
3 cannot wield trade promotion authority, no country
4 will initiate serious trade negotiations with the
5 United States; and

6 WHEREAS, trade promotion authority guarantees that
7 trade accords negotiated in good faith with the
8 President of the United States will not be changed
9 later by Congress; and

10 WHEREAS, the free trade agreements achieved under
11 trade promotion authority have provided tangible
12 benefits for the American economy; and

13 WHEREAS, trade is vitally important to Iowa's
14 agricultural economy and Iowa family farmers as Iowa
15 sold \$3.2 billion of agricultural products to export
16 markets in 1999, about 30 percent of the total value
17 of Iowa's agricultural production; NOW THEREFORE,

18 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
19 That the Iowa congressional delegation is urged to
20 support and work to implement renewal of the trade
21 promotion authority of the President of the United
22 States; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That official copies of
24 this Resolution be sent to the members of the Iowa
25 congressional delegation.

26

27

28

29

30