

WHEREAS, Jews who teach the Hebrew language are subject to police harassment and even imprisonment; and

WHEREAS, the Soviet Union is a signatory to the Helsinki Accords, and a contracting party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization Convention Against Discrimination in Education, which obligates it to fulfill the cultural rights of minorities; and

WHEREAS, the Soviet constitution guarantees cultural and linguistic rights, but these are not applied uniformly and consistently to Jews; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 400,000 Jews have applied and are still waiting to emigrate; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota that it urges the General Secretary, Michail Gorbachev, and Rudolf Kunetsov, Chief of OVIR (immigration), to grant exit visas immediately to Jewish former prisoners of conscience, and to those waiting over ten years, followed by visas to those refused for five to ten years.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State of the state of Minnesota is directed to prepare certified copies of this memorial and send them to Michail Gorbachev and Rudolf Kunetsov.

Approved April 7, 1987

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#### RESOLUTION 4—H.F.No. 737

*A resolution memorializing the President and Congress to prevent from taking effect the proposed Internal Revenue Service regulations that limit the lobbying activities by nonprofit organizations.*

WHEREAS, nonprofit organizations play a legitimate and essential role in the debate of complicated and critical public policy issues; and

WHEREAS, the grass roots organizational and educational work of nonprofit organizations is important to democratic participation in the legislative process; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Reform Act of 1976 expanded and clarified the lobbying rights of nonprofit organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Internal Revenue Service now has proposed regulations interpreting this section that are contrary to Congressional intent and would severely limit the lobbying rights of nonprofit organizations; and

Changes or additions are indicated by underline, deletions by ~~strikeout~~.

WHEREAS, the regulation's definition of lobbying is unfairly broad in that it includes most informational activities about public policy issues whether or not a related bill may be pending; and

WHEREAS, if adopted, the proposed regulations, which are retroactive to 1977, would cause undue hardship to nonprofit organizations, requiring increased record keeping and the recalculation and refiling of tax returns and subjecting them to unexpected excise taxes; and

WHEREAS, the proposed regulations, which threaten nonprofit organizations engaged in lobbying with the loss of their tax exempt status, would discourage donors from making gifts to these organizations; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota that the President and Congress should prevent the proposed Internal Revenue Service regulations limiting the lobbying activities by public charities from taking effect and require that fair and reasonable regulations be developed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State of Minnesota shall transmit enrolled copies of this memorial to the President of the United States, the President and the Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, and to Minnesota's Senators and Representatives in Congress.

Filed April 9, 1987

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#### RESOLUTION 5—H.F.No. 567

*A resolution memorializing the President and Congress to give states more authority to regulate interstate pipelines and to improve federal regulation of pipelines.*

WHEREAS, pipelines in Minnesota carrying hazardous substances present a hidden danger to the citizens of the state; and

WHEREAS, the state currently has very limited authority to regulate the safety of pipelines; and

WHEREAS, the regulation of pipelines by the United States has proved inadequate to prevent injury and death to Minnesota residents and damage to property and the environment; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota that Congress should speedily enact legislation to give states more authority to regulate the safety of pipelines, and to mandate more effective federal regulation of pipelines. This legislation should require the Federal Department of Transportation to:

Changes or additions are indicated by underline, deletions by ~~strikeout~~.