RESOLUTION 5-H.F.No. 2417

A resolution memorializing Congress to support the admission of Poland, the Czech Republic, and the Republic of Hungary to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

WHEREAS, the Republic of Poland, the Czech Republic, and the Republic of Hungary are free, democratic, and independent nations with long and proud histories; and

WHEREAS, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is dedicated to the preservation of the freedom and security of its member nations; and

WHEREAS, these nations desire to share in both the benefits and obligations of NATO in pursuing the development, growth, and promotion of democratic institutions and ensuring free market economic development; and

WHEREAS, they recognize their responsibilities as democratic nations and wish to exercise those responsibilities in concert with members of NATO; and

WHEREAS, the Republic of Poland, the Czech Republic, and the Republic of Hungary desire to become part of NATO's efforts to prevent the extremes of nationalism; and

WHEREAS, the security of the United States is dependent upon the stability of central Europe; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota that it urges the President and Congress to act in support of the admission of the Republic of Poland, the Czech Republic, and the Republic of Hungary to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State of the State of Minnesota is directed to prepare copies of this memorial and transmit them to the President of the United States, the Committee on International Relations of the United States House of Representatives; the Committee on Foreign Relations of the United States Senate; and Minnesota's Senators and Representatives in Congress.

Presented to the governor March 2, 1998

Filed with the Secretary of State March 4, 1998