

WHEREAS, Minnesota would be entitled to over \$250,000,000 in federal funds which are not now being distributed because of the expiration of the program; and

WHEREAS, swift action by the Congress early in its 1987 session is necessary if Minnesota and other states are to be able to use the federal funds to which they are entitled during the 1987 construction season; and

WHEREAS, the unavailability of federal funds during the 1987 construction season would cause a major setback in Minnesota's efforts to strengthen its economy through safer and more efficient transportation; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota that it urges the Congress of the United States to enact an extension of the federal highway program, and thereby make available to Minnesota and other states the federal aid which their taxpayers have provided, at the earliest possible date.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State of the State of Minnesota is directed to prepare certified copies of this resolution and transmit them to the President and Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Chief Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, and to Minnesota's Senators and Representatives in Congress.

Approved March 4, 1987

RESOLUTION 3—S.F.No. 653

A resolution memorializing the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to grant exit visas to Jewish prisoners of conscience.

WHEREAS, the government of the Soviet Union has recently demonstrated a new openness in their society by releasing some political prisoners; and

WHEREAS, the right to leave is contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the right to family reunification is recognized by the signatories to the Helsinki Accords; and

WHEREAS, Jews remain the only recognized nationality in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics deprived of their cultural and linguistic identity, and the exercise of the Jewish religion has been restricted in a manner which is excessive even by the standards of Soviet law; and

WHEREAS, Jews are threatened by a systematic Soviet propaganda assault disguised as anti-Zionism; and

WHEREAS, Jews are subject to discrimination in higher education and employment; and

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

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

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

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