

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 395

Expressing the sense of the Senate in support of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the NATO summit to be held in Chicago, Illinois, from May 20 through 21, 2012.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 13, 2012

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. KIRK, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. LUGAR) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

MARCH 28, 2012

Reported by Mr. KERRY, without amendment and an amendment to the preamble

MARCH 29, 2012

Considered and agreed to with an amended preamble

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate in support of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the NATO summit to be held in Chicago, Illinois, from May 20 through 21, 2012.

Whereas the North Atlantic Treaty, signed April 4, 1949, in Washington, District of Columbia, which created the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (referred to in this preamble as “NATO”), proclaims: “[Members] are determined to safeguard the freedom, common heritage and civilisation of their peoples, founded on the principles of

democracy, individual liberty and the rule of law. They seek to promote stability and well-being in the North Atlantic area. They are resolved to unite their efforts for collective defence and for the preservation of peace and security.”;

Whereas NATO has been the cornerstone of transatlantic security cooperation and an enduring instrument for promoting stability in Europe and throughout the world for over 60 years;

Whereas the NATO summit in Chicago, Illinois, is an opportunity to enhance and more deeply entrench those principles, which continue to bind the alliance together and guide our efforts today;

Whereas the new Strategic Concept, approved in Lisbon, Portugal in November 2010, affirms that all NATO members “are determined that NATO will continue to play its unique and essential role in ensuring our common defence and security” and that NATO “continues to be effective in a changing world, against new threats, with new capabilities and new partners”;

Whereas the Chicago Summit will mark a critical turning point for NATO and a chance to focus on current operations, future capabilities, and the relationship between NATO and partners around the world;

Whereas the Chicago Summit will be the first NATO summit held in the United States since the 50th anniversary summit was held in Washington, District of Columbia, in 1999 and the first NATO summit held outside of Washington, District of Columbia;

Whereas NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen said, “Chicago is a city built upon diversity, and on determination. Those are values that underpin NATO too.”;

Whereas the Chicago Summit presents an opportunity to show to the world the Heartland of the United States—the site of the first elevated railway, the first skyscraper in the world, the busiest futures exchange in the world, and the starting point for historic Route 66;

Whereas the thousands of visitors to the Chicago Summit will have the opportunity to enjoy the hospitality of the city of Chicago, the 77 distinct neighborhoods in Chicago, and the State of Illinois; and

Whereas the contributions of generations of immigrants have made the city of Chicago and the State of Illinois what they are today and the ancestral homelands of the immigrants now contribute to making NATO the organization it is today: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) recognizes the service of the brave men and
3 women who have served to safeguard the freedom
4 and security of the United States and the whole of
5 the transatlantic alliance;

6 (2) honors the sacrifices of United States per-
7 sonnel, allies of the North American Treaty Organi-
8 zation (referred to in this resolution as “NATO”),
9 and partners in Afghanistan;

1 (3) remembers the 63 years NATO has served
2 to ensure peace, security, and stability in Europe
3 and throughout the world;

4 (4) reaffirms that NATO, through the new
5 Strategic Concept, is oriented for the changing inter-
6 national security environment and the challenges of
7 the future;

14 (6) conveys appreciation for the steadfast part-
15 nership between NATO and the United States; and

16 (7) expresses support for the 2012 NATO sum-
17 mit in Chicago.

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