

107<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. RES. 520

Congratulating Bosnia and Herzegovina on the 10th anniversary of its independence.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 10, 2002

Mr. GILMAN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

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## RESOLUTION

Congratulating Bosnia and Herzegovina on the 10th anniversary of its independence.

Whereas Bosnia and Herzegovina declared its independence on March 1, 1992, was recognized by the United States on April 6, 1992, and became a member of the United Nations on May 25, 1992;

Whereas during the 10 years since the recognition, the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina have made significant steps to overcome the legacy of the radical political forces hostile to coexistence of multiethnic society and persevered in building a democratic society, based on the rule of law, respect for human rights, and a free market economy, as shown by the results of the democratic elections held in November 2000;

Whereas the United States has supported the sovereignty, legal continuity, and territorial integrity of Bosnia and Herzegovina within its internationally recognized borders and also reaffirms its support for the equality of the 3 constituent peoples and others in Bosnia and Herzegovina as a united multiethnic country, according to the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina and associated Annexes negotiated in Dayton, Ohio, and signed in Paris on December 14, 1995 (commonly referred to as the “Dayton Peace Agreement”);

Whereas the people and the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina share the democratic values of the international community and the responsibility to uphold them, actively promoting democratic principles in international relations and in the functioning of international organizations;

Whereas Bosnia and Herzegovina, cooperating on the basis of partnership and solidarity, committed to the common values of security and democratic stability by declaring the commencement of the process of joining the Partnership for Peace program of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO);

Whereas Bosnia and Herzegovina is a reliable friend and ally of the United States, actively contributing to the stabilization of South Eastern Europe; and

Whereas Bosnia and Herzegovina immediately positioned itself within the antiterrorism coalition of nations, sharing the common interests and values of the free and democratic world: Now, therefore, be it

1        *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

1           (1) commends Bosnia and Herzegovina for the  
2           significant progress it has made during the past dec-  
3           ade, the implementation of the Dayton Peace Agree-  
4           ment and implementation of the Constituent Peo-  
5           ples' Decision of the Constitutional Court of Bosnia  
6           and Herzegovina, and encourages its democratic ori-  
7           entation and the further strengthening of respect for  
8           human rights, the rule of law, and a free market  
9           economy;

10           (2) supports the aspirations of Bosnia and  
11           Herzegovina to become a member of the Partnership  
12           for Peace, welcomes the commitment to Partnership  
13           of Peace membership declared by the Presidency of  
14           Bosnia and Herzegovina, and affirms the importance  
15           of the earliest possible fulfillment of the Partnership  
16           for Peace membership requirement of the creation of  
17           a joint military command of the armed forces of  
18           Bosnia and Herzegovina;

19           (3) encourages continuous contributions of Bos-  
20           nia and Herzegovina toward (A) speeding up the re-  
21           turn process, and (B) bringing peace, stability, and  
22           prosperity to the region of South Eastern Europe,  
23           including by intensifying its cooperation with the  
24           International Criminal Tribunal for the former

1 Yugoslavia, in particular with regard to surrendering  
2 war crime indictees;

3 (4) reaffirms the importance for the future of  
4 Bosnia and Herzegovina of its successful participa-  
5 tion in the European integration process, welcomes  
6 significant improvement of the overall mutual co-  
7 operation among the successor states of the former  
8 Yugoslavia and strengthening cooperation within the  
9 region as a whole, which is important for long-last-  
10 ing peace and stability in South Eastern Europe;

11 (5) encourages the strengthening of Bosnia and  
12 Herzegovina state institutions, which will enhance  
13 the rule of law and foster additional foreign direct  
14 investment, thus advancing its economic recovery  
15 and development; and

16 (6) recognizes the important role of the Bosnia  
17 Herzegovinian-American community in the further  
18 improving of bilateral relations between the United  
19 States and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

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