Expressing the sense of the Congress that the United States should establish an international education policy to further national security, foreign policy, and economic competitiveness, and promote mutual understanding and cooperation among nations.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress that the United States should establish an international education policy to further national security, foreign policy, and economic competitiveness, and promote mutual understanding and cooperation among nations.

Whereas promoting international education for United States citizens and ensuring access to high-level international experts are important to meet national security, foreign policy, economic, and other global challenges facing the United States;
Whereas international education entails the imparting of effective global competence to United States students and other citizens as an integral part of their education at all levels;

Whereas research indicates that the United States is failing to graduate enough students with expertise in foreign languages, cultures, and policies to meet the demands of business, government, and universities;

Whereas, according to the Institute for International Education, less than 10 percent of United States students graduating from college have studied abroad;

Whereas, according to the American Council on Education, foreign language enrollments in United States higher education fell from 16 percent in 1960 to just 8 percent today, and the number of 4-year colleges with foreign language entrance and graduation requirements also declined;

Whereas educating international students is an important way to impart cross-cultural understanding, to spread United States values and influence, and to create goodwill for the United States throughout the world;

Whereas, based on studies by the College Board, the Institute for International Education, and Indiana University, more than 500,000 international students and their dependents contributed an estimated $12,300,000,000 to the United States economy in the academic year 1999–2000;

Whereas, according to the Departments of State and Education, the proportion of international students choosing to study in the United States has declined from 40 to 30 percent since 1982;
Whereas international exchange programs, which in the past have done much to extend United States influence in the world by educating the world’s leaders, as well as educating United States citizens about other nations and their cultures, are suffering from decline; and

Whereas American educational institutions chartered in the United States but operating abroad are important resources both for deepening the international knowledge of United States citizens and for nurturing United States ideals in other countries: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that—

(1) the United States should establish an international education policy to enhance national security, significantly further United States foreign policy and economic competitiveness, and promote mutual understanding and cooperation among nations;

and

(2) an international education policy for the United States should strive to achieve the following:

(A) Enhance the educational infrastructure through which the United States produces citizens with a high level of international expertise, and build a broad knowledge base that serves the United States.

(B) Promote greater diversity of locations, languages, and subjects involved in teaching, re-
search, and study abroad to ensure that the
United States maintains a broad international
knowledge base.

(C) Significantly increase participation in
study and internships abroad by United States
students.

(D) Invigorate citizen and professional
international exchange programs and promote
the international exchange of scholars.

(E) Support visas and employment policies
that promote increased numbers of inter-
national students.

(F) Ensure that a United States college
graduate has knowledge of a second language
and of a foreign area, as well as a broader un-
derstanding of the world.

(G) Encourage programs that begin for-

(H) Promote educational exchanges and
research collaboration with American edu-
cational institutions abroad that can strengthen
the foreign language skills and a better under-
standing of the world by United States citizens.
(I) Promote partnerships among government, business, and educational institutions and organizations to provide adequate resources for implementing this policy.