

## 1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, At approximately 8:15 p.m. Eastern Standard  
3 Time, Saturday, March 31, 2001, in international waters, a  
4 United States Navy EP-3 maritime patrol aircraft on a routine  
5 surveillance mission over the South China Sea was intercepted  
6 by two People's Republic of China fighter aircraft; and

7 WHEREAS, There was contact between one of the Chinese  
8 aircraft and the EP-3, causing sufficient damage for the  
9 United States plane to issue a "Mayday" signal and divert to  
10 an airfield on Hainan Island, People's Republic of China; and

11 WHEREAS, The plane's crew of 24 United States service  
12 members is being detained incommunicado by the government of  
13 the People's Republic of China; and

14 WHEREAS, Seaman Jeremy Crandall of Poplar Grove, Illinois  
15 and Marine Corps Sgt. Mitchell Pray of Geneseo, Illinois are  
16 among the 24 crew members detained by the People's Republic  
17 of China; therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
19 NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE  
20 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that the citizens of the State of  
21 Illinois represented by the General Assembly strongly urge  
22 the Government of the People's Republic of China to respect  
23 the well-being and safety of the crew in accordance with  
24 international practices; and be it further

25 RESOLVED, That the People's Republic of China expedite  
26 the immediate return of Seaman Jeremy Crandall and Marine  
27 Corps Sgt. Mitchell Pray along with the 22 additional United  
28 States service men and women; and be it further

29 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
30 delivered to the families of Seaman Jeremy Crandall and  
31 Marine Corps. Sgt. Mitchell Pray; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
2 delivered to the Honorable George W. Bush, United States  
3 President.