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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4002

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By Representatives R. Meyers, Ferguson, Ballard, Broback, Edmondson, Paris, Holland, May, D. Sommers, Mielke, Brumsickle, Nealey, Miller, P. Johnson, Casada, Wood, Padden, Bowman, Tate and McLean.

Read first time January 18, 1991. Referred to Committee on State Government.

1 TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND  
2 TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF  
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of  
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully  
7 represent and petition as follows:

8 WHEREAS, On August 2, 1990, the military forces of Iraq invaded,  
9 and to the present have occupied, the sovereign state of Kuwait; and

10 WHEREAS, Iraq's unprovoked aggression has brought untold suffering,  
11 injury, and death to the citizens of Kuwait and others caught in Iraqi  
12 president Saddam Hussein's reign of terror; and

13 WHEREAS, The Iraqi leadership has ignored numerous appeals by the  
14 United Nations, members of the Arab League, and the United States to  
15 withdraw peacefully from Kuwait, which Saddam Hussein now regards as  
16 his "19th state"; and

1       WHEREAS, Iraq now controls twenty percent of the world oil reserves  
2 and, if allowed to corner the world energy market, could irreparably  
3 harm or destroy the global economy; and

4       WHEREAS, The United States' failure to adopt a coherent energy  
5 policy has left this nation's own economy vulnerable to such a threat;  
6 and

7       WHEREAS, The Iraqi leadership has shown no proclivity to bend to  
8 international sanctions, even at the expense of their own people; and

9       WHEREAS, Iraq will continue to threaten the stability of the  
10 Mideast with its million-man army and growing arsenal of weapons until  
11 such time as it is disarmed; and

12       WHEREAS, The United Nations has authorized "member states  
13 cooperating with the government of Kuwait" to use "all necessary means"  
14 -- including force -- to expel the Iraqi invaders from Kuwait after  
15 January 15, 1991; and

16       WHEREAS, The twenty-seven-nation international alliance now has  
17 nearly seven hundred thousand troops on alert in the Persian Gulf; and

18       WHEREAS, That alliance, which includes many Arab states, cannot be  
19 expected to last indefinitely; and

20       WHEREAS, The United States and the international alliance are the  
21 single strongest deterrent to Iraq's success in carrying out its policy  
22 of aggression; and

23       WHEREAS, Both Houses of the United States Congress, in accordance  
24 with the Constitution, have given President Bush the authority to use  
25 force if necessary to expel Iraq from Kuwait; and

26       WHEREAS, The United States military has proven an effective  
27 deterrent to Fascism in the 1940s and Stalinism in the years  
28 thereafter;

1           NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists state their support for President  
2 Bush's current policy of pursuing peace but providing for active  
3 opposition to the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait; and

4           BE IT RESOLVED, That we support the President's use of force if and  
5 when he deems it necessary to restore the freedom of Kuwait and counter  
6 the threat of Iraqi expansionism; and

7           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That whatever the outcome of the current  
8 Mideast crisis, the United States should adopt a comprehensive energy  
9 policy that will reduce this nation's dependence on foreign oil; and

10          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately  
11 transmitted to the Honorable George Bush, President of the United  
12 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the  
13 House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of  
14 Washington.