

# Congressional Record

By Mr. TSONGAS (for himself, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. MATSUNAGA, Mr. NUNN, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. DECONCINI, Mr. DODD, Mr. BOSCHWITZ, Mrs. HAWKINS, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HEFLIN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. ZORINSKY, Mr. STENNIS, Mr. CRANSTON, Mr. DIXON, Mr. EXON, Mr. DENTON, Mr. TRIBLE, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. PRESSLER, Mr. EAGLETON, and Mr. WILSON):

S.J. Res. 316. Joint resolution designating the week of September 30 through October 6, 1984, as "National High-Tech Week"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### NATIONAL HIGH-TECH WEEK

● Mr. TSONGAS. Mr. President, I am pleased to introduce today a joint resolution designating the week of September 30 through October 6, 1984 as High Technology Week. In a bipartisan effort, 25 of my colleagues have joined me in sponsoring this legislation. I believe that a High Technology Week will provide a forum in which each of us can achieve a better understanding of the technical innovations which are transforming our lives.

The industries on which we pin our highest hopes for U.S. competitiveness are those we refer to as high technology industries. These industries, such as biotechnology, robotics, materials research, telecommunications, computers, and microelectronics, are important for all sectors of our economy. Manufacturing industries are increasing their productivity with the use of robots while biotechnical processes revolutionize the agricultural and chemical industries, to name just two examples. However, high technology industries are among the most vulnerable to trade barriers and to targeting by our international competitors. This Nation needs a time in which special attention may be focused on them and the products which may be the guarantors of our future economic success. A High Technology Week can provide such a time.

High technology will change our lives in the future even more than the changes seen in the past. A few years ago the largest computers in the world could not perform all the operations that a hand-held calculator now handles with ease. Commercial space ventures are possible now that were only dreamed of 20 years ago.

In addition to helping increase awareness and promote understanding of high technology among adults, I believe it may be even more important to designate a week for our children's sake. My children and yours will grow up with computers, cable television, and calculators as a part of their classrooms and everyday lives. In order to ensure that technological innovations and breakthroughs continue to take place, the future generation must be familiar with, understand, and be interested in high technology. We need to provide positive role models in the high tech fields. As Robert Haavind, editor of High Technology Magazine has so cogently stated: "The heroes of America's youth are movie stars, ballplayers, TV personalities, and other media celebrities. As for technologists, most kids don't even know what they do, let alone who the outstanding ones are. So why should we expect them to go into science and engineering?"

Congressman MERVYN DYMALLY from California has introduced a similar joint resolution in the House. We are in the process of enlisting support from all sectors—high tech industries, trade associations, the education community, and local and State government, among others—for the proposed High Technology Week. The response has been overwhelmingly favorable. A week of activities dedicated to increasing awareness and understanding of the role high technology plays in all of our lives is planned.

In closing, I urge my colleagues to support this important joint resolution. Mr. President, I ask that the text of the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the joint resolution was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

#### S.J. RES. 316

Whereas the economy of this Nation is closely tied to technological advances; Whereas the United States has long been a leader in high technology development;

Whereas it is of the highest national interest to focus our collective abilities to maintain this leadership;

Whereas the national commitment to high technology development has been called into doubt;

Whereas the youth of the Nation need to have educational opportunities to grow and develop in a high technology environment; and

Whereas our youth should have a national focus on their high technology future: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the week of September 30 through October 6, 1984, is designated as "National High-Tech Week". The President is requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe such week with appropriate ceremonies and activities, including programs aimed at educating the Nation's youth about high technology. ●