
SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO DELAY OR DENY THE PORT MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT WITH DUBAI PORTS WORLD CONCERNING CERTAIN UNITED STATES PORTS.

1 WHEREAS, the London-based firm of Peninsular and Oriental
2 Steam Navigation Company was recently purchased by Dubai Ports
3 World, a state-owned business in the United Arab Emirates; and
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5 WHEREAS, Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company
6 presently manages port operations in New York, New Jersey,
7 Baltimore, New Orleans, Miami, and Philadelphia; and
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9 WHEREAS, the Department of Homeland Security reviewed and
10 approved of the takeover of contracts of the Peninsular and
11 Oriental Steam Navigation Company by the Dubai Ports World,
12 including a contract relating to the port operations in the
13 United States; and
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15 WHEREAS, the news of the approval of the deal has raised
16 considerable concern and consternation in the United States over
17 security of our ports; and
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19 WHEREAS, the major concerns over management of United
20 States ports by an Arab country relate to the possibility of
21 infiltration by terrorists through the ports into the United
22 States and the specter of smuggling in weapons of mass
23 destruction; and
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25 WHEREAS, American ports should be managed by United States
26 companies; and
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28 WHEREAS, although the United Arab Emirates is a friend and
29 ally of the United States, the possibility of nefarious
30 terrorist activity against the United State at our ports is
31 disturbing; and
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1 WHEREAS, our ports are very vulnerable to attack and the
2 United States needs to do more to protect and secure our ports;
3 and
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5 WHEREAS, it has been reported that one American company
6 stevedoring company has already filed suit in a Florida court to
7 challenge this deal; and
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9 WHEREAS, United States Senator Daniel K. Inouye has
10 criticized the agreement, saying, "Does this administration-
11 approved takeover by a foreign entity mean we will be putting up
12 signs at the ports ... that declare, terrorists welcome?"; now,
13 therefore,
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15 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-third
16 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006,
17 that the President of the United States and the United States
18 Congress are requested to delay or reject the port management
19 agreement with Dubai Ports World in particular and with all
20 foreign-owned entities in general, as American ports should be
21 managed by American companies; and
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
24 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States,
25 Majority Leader of the United States Senate, Minority Leader of
26 the United States Senate, Speaker of the United States House of
27 Representatives, Majority Leader of the United States House of
28 Representatives, Minority Leader of the United States House of
29 Representatives, Hawaii's Congressional delegation, and the
30 Governor.
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