

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.RES. 562
OFFERED BY MR. ROYCE OF CALIFORNIA

Strike the preamble and insert the following:

Whereas the United States has enjoyed good relations with the Republic of Moldova since the Republic of Moldova's independence in 1991;

Whereas since the Republic of Moldova's independence, the United States has provided financial assistance to support the people of Moldova's efforts to build a prosperous European democracy;

Whereas the United States and the Republic of Moldova further strengthened their partnership through the launching of a Strategic Dialogue on March 3, 2014;

Whereas the Republic of Moldova is due to sign an Association Agreement containing comprehensive free trade provisions with the European Union on June 27, 2014;

Whereas the United States Government supports the democratic aspirations of the people of the Republic of Moldova and their expressed desire to deepen their association with the European Union;

Whereas in a judgment in 2004, the European Court of Human Rights found that Transnistria was set up with the support of the Russian Federation and considered it "under the effective authority or at least decisive influence of Russia";

Whereas the United States supports the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova and on that basis participates as an observer in the “5+2” negotiations to find a comprehensive settlement that will provide a special status for the separatist region of Transnistria within Moldova;

Whereas the leaders of the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova requested to postpone the “5+2” round of talks scheduled to take place in April 2014;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation banned the import of Moldovan wine in 2013 and has threatened to ban Moldovan agricultural products, curtail the supply of energy resources to Moldova, and impose stricter labor migration policies on the people of Moldova;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation maintains a contingent of Russian troops and a stockpile of Russian military equipment and ammunition within the Moldovan region of Transnistria;

Whereas the Government of Russia has been actively issuing Russian passports to the residents of the Transnistria region;

Whereas the Council of Europe, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and the Government of Moldova have called upon the Government of the Russian Federation to remove its troops from the territory of the Republic of Moldova;

Whereas authorities in the Republic of Moldova’s Transnistria region have restricted access to the region by OSCE Mission to Moldova monitors, preventing the Mission from providing impartial reporting on the security situation in the region;

Whereas the House of Representatives and the Senate both passed by an overwhelming majority, and the President signed into law, S. 2183, providing for a United States international broadcasting programming surge to counter misinformation from Russian-supported news outlets and ensuring that Russian-speaking populations in Ukraine and Moldova have access to independent news and information; and

Whereas Moldova has been a valued and reliable partner in promoting global security by participating in U.N. peace-keeping missions in Liberia, Cote d'Ivoire, Sudan, and Georgia: Now, therefore, be it

Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following:

That the House of Representatives—

1 (1) reaffirms that it is the policy of the United
2 States to support the sovereignty, independence, and
3 territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova and
4 the inviolability of its borders by other nation-states;

5 (2) supports the Strategic Dialogue as a means
6 to strengthen relations between the Republic of
7 Moldova and the United States and enhance the
8 democratic, economic, rule of law, and security re-
9 forms already being implemented by the Republic of
10 Moldova;

11 (3) encourages the President and the Depart-
12 ment of State to enhance United States cooperation

1 with the Government of Moldova and civil society or-
2 ganizations and focus assistance on justice sector re-
3 form, anti-corruption efforts, strengthening demo-
4 cratic institutions, domestic energy development, di-
5 versification of energy supplies and energy efficiency,
6 as well as promoting trade and investment opportu-
7 nities;

8 (4) encourages the President to expedite the
9 implementation of Public Law 113-96, especially for
10 populations in Ukraine and Moldova;

11 (5) affirms the Republic of Moldova's sovereign
12 right to determine its own partnerships free of exter-
13 nal coercion and pressure, and affirms Moldova's
14 right to associate with the European Union or any
15 regional organization;

16 (6) calls upon the Government of Russia to ful-
17 fill its commitments made at the OSCE's Istanbul
18 summit in 1999 and to withdraw its military forces
19 and munitions from within the internationally recog-
20 nized territory of the Republic of Moldova;

21 (7) calls upon the Government of Russia to re-
22 frain from economic threats and pressure against
23 Moldova and to cease any and all actions that sup-
24 port separatist movements on the territory of
25 Moldova;

1 (8) supports constructive engagement and con-
2 fidence-building measures between the Government
3 of Moldova and the authorities in the Transnistria
4 region in order to secure a peaceful resolution to the
5 conflict;

6 (9) supports efforts to resolve the Transnistria
7 issue through a comprehensive settlement that af-
8 firms Moldova's sovereignty and territorial integrity,
9 while providing a special status for the
10 Transnistrian region within Moldova;

11 (10) urges officials in the Transnistrian region
12 to allow OSCE Mission to Moldova monitors unre-
13 stricted access to the region;

14 (11) urges all parties to refrain from unilateral
15 actions that may undermine efforts to achieve a
16 peaceful resolution, as well as the agreements al-
17 ready reached, and encourages leaders of the
18 Transnistrian region to resume negotiations toward
19 a political settlement; and

20 (12) affirms that lasting stability and security
21 in Europe is a key priority for the United States
22 and that these can only be achieved if the territorial
23 integrity and sovereignty of all European countries
24 is respected.

