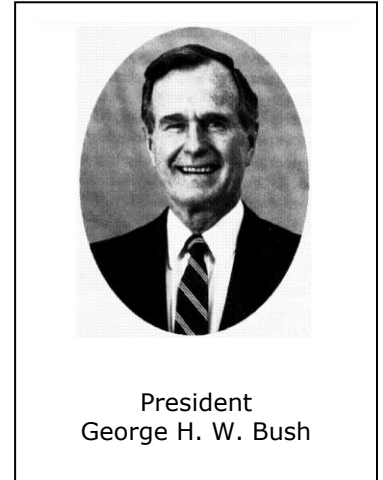


One Hundred and First Congress

Jan.3, 1989-Oct. 28, 1990

Administration of George H. W. Bush

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Historical Background

In President George H. W. Bush’s State of the Union address, delivered February 9, 1989, he said the country was “headed in the right direction,” but that the Federal deficit needed to be reduced significantly without raising taxes and requested a constitutional amendment that required a balanced Federal budget. Bush also said he supported education programs, tough criminal sentences — including the death penalty — for drug dealers, and full funding of Social Security, as well as efforts to reduce regulations and the Federal bureaucracy.

Elsewhere during 1989, control of the Government in Poland was assumed by members of the Solidarity labor union, headed by dissident Lech Walesa, the playwright Vaclav Havel was elected president of the Czech Republic and the Berlin Wall that separated East Berlin from West Berlin was razed, marking a turning point in the politics of Europe.

In Central America the U.S. military invaded Panama to remove dictator General Manuel Noriega and restore democracy there. During Bush’s 1990 State of the Union Address, he said the invasion of Panama — code named Operation Just Cause — was a success and that additional numbers of American troops would be coming home. In addition to continuing to support deficit reduction without tax increases, Bush also said he was committed to increasing efforts to gain control over the cost of health care.

| House | Senate |
|--|---|
| Majority Party: Democrat (262 seats) | Majority Party: Democrat (55 seats) |
| Minority Party: Republican (173 seats) | Minority Party: Republican (45 seats) |
| Other Parties: None | Other Parties: None |
| Speaker of the House: Thomas S. Foley | Majority Leader: George J. Mitchell |

Sources:

Bush, George H.W. [*Message from the President of the United States Transmitting His Address to the Joint Session of Congress*](#). House, Feb. 9, 1989. 101st Congress, 1st Session, H. Doc. 101-1. ProQuest Congressional, 13931 H.doc.1

Bush, George H.W. [*State of the Union Message, Message from the President*](#). House, Jan. 29, 1991. 102nd Congress, 1st Session, H. Doc. 102-1. ProQuest Congressional, 14053 H.doc.1

Dell, Christopher and Stephen W. Stathis. [*Major Acts of Congress and Treaties Approved by the Senate, 1789-1980*](#). Government Division (CRS), Sept. 1, 1982. 97th Congress, 2nd Session, 82-156 GOV. ProQuest Congressional, CRS-1982-GOV-0005

War or Peace?

Iron Curtain Drawn

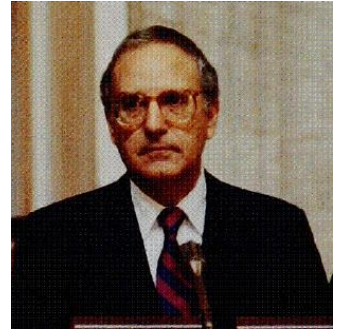
After roughly 45 years of tension, furtiveness, and recriminations, events in central and eastern Europe began to unfold at a blistering pace during 1989 and 1990. On February 2, 1989, Soviet troops began a complete withdrawal from Afghanistan. In Poland, where the Solidarity labor movement had instigated growing unrest in the country, the Polish Round Table Talks were convened during February-April 1989, aimed at curbing political agitation. The talks resulted in the first contested election in postwar-Poland on June 4, 1989, in which candidates backed by the Solidarity movement garnered all available seats in the Polish Parliament and 99% in the Senate. Poland's first post-war non-communist government was led by Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki.

In October 1989 in Hungary, a new Hungarian constitution was approved, allowing for a multi-party system of governance and free elections. The following month, the Berlin wall was breached when an East German official mistakenly announced at a press conference in Berlin that the border was open. In December, growing unrest in the Romanian capital of Bucharest led long-time Romanian dictator Nicolae Ceaușescu and his wife Elena to flee the capital. The couple were captured and summarily executed in the sole violent overthrow of a former communist regime in eastern Europe. Finally, on December 29, Václav Havel became President of the newly free Czechoslovakia.

Meanwhile, in Malta, U.S. President George H.W. Bush and Soviet Premier Mikhail Gorbachev convened a summit to provide an open forum for the discussion of the changes occurring throughout Europe. Though no treaties or agreements were signed during the summit, the leaders did officially take the opportunity to declare the official end of the Cold War.

Unrest in the Persian Gulf

For those who expected the end of the Cold War to signal a new era of global peace, disappointing news came from the Persian Gulf in August 1990 when the government of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein invaded and occupied its tiny, oil-rich neighbor to the southeast, Kuwait. The invasion was predicated on the claim made by Iraq that Kuwait had been slant-drilling into Iraqi oil reserves. However, the invasion of Kuwait is generally believed to be rooted



Senate Majority Leader
George J. Mitchell



Speaker of the House
Thomas S. Foley

in Saddam Hussein's sense of frustration at having borrowed huge sums to fund Iraq's disastrous 8-year war with Iran, leaving the country saddled with debt and a broken economy. Moreover, countries such as the United States and Saudi Arabia had little inclination to forgive Iraq's debts.

Panama

On Dec. 20, 1989, President Bush ordered the deployment of U.S. forces to Panama "to safeguard the lives of Americans in Panama, to defend democracy in Panama, to combat drug trafficking, and to protect the integrity of the Panama Canal Treaty." The military action took place because of U.S. opposition to the *de facto* rule of General Manuel Noriega in Panama. On Jan. 3, 1990, Noriega turned himself in to U.S. forces, and by Feb. 13, 1990 the U.S. military presence in Panama was reduced to pre-invasion levels.

Source:

Sullivan, Marl P. [Panama-U.S. Relations: Issues for Congress](#). Foreign Affairs and National Defense Division (CRS), Oct. 3, 1990. 101st Congress, 2nd Session, IB90044. ProQuest Congressional, CRS-1990-FND-0073

Economic Trends and Conditions

During 1989, the U.S. regained its positions as the world's leading exporter and retained its position as the world's leading job-creator. In all, 2.5 million jobs were created during 1989. Inflation increased to 4.1 percent but remained lower than the inflation rate of 4.5 percent that was recorded during 1988. In addition, the per capita income within the U.S. was the highest of any major industrialized country.

In August 1990 Iraq invaded Kuwait and threatened Saudi Arabia, which caused oil prices to sharply increase, and for business and consumer confidence to fall. During the fourth quarter of 1990, it became clear that the U.S. economy was in recession.

Sources:

Bush, George H.W. [Economic Report of the President](#). House, Feb. 1, 1990. 101st Congress, 2nd Session, H. Doc. 101-121. ProQuest Congressional, 13984 H. doc.121

Bush, George H.W. [Economic Report of the President](#). House, Feb. 1, 1991. 102nd Congress, 1st Session, H. Doc. 102-2. ProQuest Congressional, 14053 H. doc.2

Major Treaties

Montreal Protocol on Substances That Deplete the Ozone Layer to the 1985 Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer. Provided for controls on production and trade of ozone-depleting substances. Limited production and consumption of ozone-depleting substances known as

chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), and restricted trade in CFCs with countries not party to the protocol. Signed Sept. 16, 1987. Entered into force Jan. 1, 1989

Source:

Dell, Christopher and Stephen W. Stathis. [Major Acts of Congress and Treaties Approved by the Senate, 1789-1980](#). Government Division (CRS), Sept. 1, 1982. 97th Congress, 2nd Session, 82-156 GOV. ProQuest Congressional, CRS-1982-GOV-0005

Landmark U.S. Supreme Court Decisions

Patterson v. McLean Credit Union, held that the claim of racial harassment and failure to promote a black woman at a banking branch, was not actionable under 42 U.S.C. § 1981, in that it relates to conditions of employment rather than private contracts, [485 U.S. 617](#) (1989)

Allegheny Pittsburgh Coal Company v. Country Commission of Webster County, held that the finding of "systematic and intentional" discrimination against petitioners, in this case property owners in West Virginia, in the assessment of its property by local taxing authorities, and in relegating petitioners to a purported remedy under state law that is itself constitutionally inadequate, was all in clear violation of the Equal Protection Clause, [488 U.S. 336](#) (1989)

United States v. Mistretta, held that the Constitution's structural protections do not prohibit Congress from delegating to an expert body within the Judicial Branch the intricate task of formulating sentencing guidelines consistent with such significant statutory direction, nor from calling upon the accumulated wisdom and experience of the Judicial Branch in creating policy on a matter uniquely within the ken of judges, [488 U.S. 361](#) (1989)

City of Richmond v. Croson, held that an ordinance that requires prime construction contractors to subcontract a portion of their city contracts to minority businesses, was in violation of the Equal Protection Clause, in that the ordinance was created based on generalized assertions of past discrimination, [488 U.S. 469](#) (1989)

Texas Monthly, Inc. v. Bullock, held that a state statute exempting from a general sales tax only those "periodicals that are published or distributed by a religious faith and that consist wholly of writings promulgating the teaching of the faith" unconstitutionally discriminates in the taxation of periodicals based on content under the decision in *Arkansas Writers' Project, Inc. v. Ragland*, [489 U.S. 1](#) (1989)

DeShaney v. Winnebago County Department of Social Services, held that the failure to provide the petitioner, a 4 year old boy who suffered traumatic brain injury as a result of repeated beatings from his father, with adequate protection against his father's violence did not violate his rights under the substantive component of the Due Process Clause, [489 U.S. 189](#) (1989)

Skinner v. Railway Labor Executives' Assn., held that mandatory drug and alcohol tests for railroad employees who were involved in train accidents and fatal incidents are reasonable under the Fourth Amendment even

though there is no requirement of a warrant or a reasonable suspicion that any particular employee may be impaired, since, on the present record, the compelling governmental interests served by the regulations outweigh employees' privacy concerns, [489 U.S. 602](#) (1989)

National Treasury Employees Union v. Von Raab, held that the testing of employees who apply for promotion to positions directly involving the interdiction of illegal drugs, or to positions that require the incumbent to carry firearms, is reasonable under the Fourth Amendment, despite the absence of a requirement of probable cause or of some level of individualized suspicion, [489 U.S. 656](#) (1989)

Skinner v. Mid-America Pipeline Company, held that Section 7005 of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA) is not an unconstitutional delegation of the taxing power by Congress to the Executive Branch, [490 U.S. 212](#) (1989)

Texas v. Johnson, held that the desecration of the flag as part of a protest is protected by the First Amendment, [491 U.S. 397](#) (1989)

Public Employees Retirement System of Ohio v. Betts, held as invalid the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's regulations requiring that age-based distinctions be justified by a substantial business purpose, [492 U.S. 158](#) (1989)

Browning-Ferris Industries of Vermont, Inc. v. Kelco Disposal, held that an award of \$6,000,000 in punitive damages, amounting to more than 100 times the plaintiff's actual damages from a purely economic tort, does not qualify as excessive under the Eighth Amendment or otherwise, due to the fact that the case was between private parties, [492 U.S. 257](#) (1989)

Penry v. Lynaugh, held that executing persons with mental retardation does not violate the Eighth Amendment, but that mental retardation should be a mitigating factor to be considered by the jury during sentencing, [492 U.S. 302](#) (1989)

Webster v. Reproductive Health Services, held that several abortion restrictions in the state of Missouri were not infringing on the right to privacy or the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, [492 U.S. 490](#) (1989)

Country of Allegheny v. ACLU Greater Pittsburgh Chapter, held that some public displays of religion in public buildings, in this case a courthouse, were in violation of the First Amendment in that the presence of the displays endorsed the views of that religion, [492 U.S. 573](#) (1989)

University of Pennsylvania v. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, held that a university does not enjoy a special privilege requiring a judicial finding of particularized necessity of access, beyond a showing of mere relevance, before peer review materials pertinent to charges of discrimination in tenure decisions are disclosed to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, [493 U.S. 182](#) (1990)

Swaggart Ministries v. Board of Equalization of California, held that California's imposition of sales and use tax liability on appellant's sales of

religious materials does not contravene the Religion Clauses of the First Amendment, [493 U.S. 378](#) (1990)

Austin v. Michigan Chamber of Commerce, restricted the ability of nonprofit corporations to make independent campaign expenditures, [494 U.S. 652](#) (1990)

Employment Division of Oregon v. Smith, held that The Free Exercise Clause permits the State to prohibit sacramental peyote use and thus to deny unemployment benefits to persons discharged for such use, [494 U.S. 872](#) (1990)

Osborne v. Ohio, held that Ohio may constitutionally proscribe the possession and viewing of child pornography, in that there was a valid First Amendment interest in such activities, [495 U.S. 103](#) (1990)

Missouri v. Jenkins, held that in remedying an intradistrict violation under *Brown v. Board of Education*, Missouri District Courts may impose a duty to attract additional non-minority students to a school district, and require improvements to make the district schools comparable to those in surrounding districts, but they may not grant across-the-board salary increases for all school staff in the district, [495 U.S. 33](#) (1990)

The Board of Education, Westside Community Schools v. Mergens, held that the school's prohibition to officially sponsor student religious clubs and meetings rendered the Equal Access Act unconstitutional under the Establishment Clause, [496 U.S. 226](#) (1990)

United States v. Eichman, held that the First Amendment prohibits the United States from prosecuting appellees for knowingly burning a flag of the United States, [496 U.S. 310](#) (1990)

Michigan Department of State Police v. Sitz, held that the petitioners' highway sobriety checkpoint program is consistent with the Fourth Amendment, [496 U.S. 444](#) (1990)

Cruzan v. Director, Missouri Department of Health, held that the United States Constitution does not forbid Missouri to require that evidence of an incompetent's wishes as to the withdrawal of life sustaining treatment be proved by clear and convincing evidence, [497 U.S. 261](#) (1990)

Hodgson v. Minnesota, held that the requirement that both biological parents be notified prior to a minor's abortion was unconstitutional, [497 U.S. 417](#) (1990)

Ohio v. Akron Center for Reproductive Health, held that the Ohio parental notification statute, which contains a judicial bypass procedure, provides a constitutionally sufficient framework for ensuring the due process rights of a minor seeking an abortion, [497 U.S. 502](#) (1990)

Metro Broadcasting, Inc. v. FCC, held that the Federal Communications Commission's policies of awarding substantial preferences in comparative broadcast licensing proceedings to minority and female applicants, created,

in the absence of any findings of prior discrimination and applied for the sole purpose of fostering program diversity do not violate equal protection, [497 U.S. 547](#) (1990)

Maryland v. Craig, held that the Confrontation Clause does not guarantee criminal defendants an absolute right to face-to-face meetings with child witnesses, ages four to seven, when subjected to cross-examination at trial, [497 U.S. 836](#) (1990)

Source:

Costello, George A. and Johnny H. Killian. [Constitution of the United States of America, Analysis and Interpretation](#). CRS, Library of Congress, Jan. 1, 1996. 103rd Congress, 1st Session, S. Doc. 103-6 (Y1.1/3:103-6). ProQuest Congressional, 14152 S.doc.6

1989 Events

- **Feb. 14:** [Iranian leader of Iran, Ayatollah Khomeini, issues a fatwa against writer Salman Rushdie, for his *Satanic Verses*](#)
- **Mar. 1:** The U.S. ratifies the Berne Convention, governing copyrights
- **Mar. 14:** [President Bush bans selected assault weapons](#)
- **Mar. 24:** [The oil tanker Exxon Valdez strikes a reef in Prince William Sound, Alaska resulting in the ship spilling nearly 11 million gallons of crude oil into the sound](#)
- **Apr. 9:** A peaceful demonstration among Georgian citizens results in the Tbilisi Massacre, when the Soviet Army is charged with dispersing them
- **Apr. 14:** [Lincoln Savings and Loan is placed into Federal conservatorship, leading to criminal investigations of Charles Keating and other officers of Lincoln S&L](#)
- **Apr. 15:** [Student-led demonstrations in Beijing begin the Tiananmen Square protests](#)
- **May 2:** [Hungary takes down 150 miles of barbed wire with its shared Austrian border](#)
- **May 11:** [U.S. troops are deployed to Panama](#)
- **June 4:** [Chinese protesters are massacred in Tiananmen Square in Beijing](#)
- **June 26:** Cornell University student Robert Tappan Morris is indicted by a grand jury for violating the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act
- **July 31:** [The Organization for the Oppressed on Earth, an affiliate of Hezbollah, says it has executed U.S. Marine Lt. Col. William Higgins](#)
- **Aug. 23:** 2 million people join hands to encourage freedom from Soviet occupation, known as the Baltic Way
- **Aug. 24:** [Cocaine dealers and traffickers in Colombia begin bombing and setting fires to government properties](#)
- **Sept. 17-22:** [Hurricane Hugo destroys much of the Caribbean and Southeastern U.S.](#)
- **Oct. 8:** [The East German regime of Erich Honecker collapses](#)
- **Nov. 9:** [East German government announces all GDR citizens could visit East Germany opening the border](#)

- **Dec. 20:** [U.S. launches Operation Just Cause against Panama](#)
- **Dec. 29:** [Dissident playwright Vaclav Havel is elected president of Czechoslovakia](#)

1990 Events

- **Jan. 3:** [General Manuel Noriega of Panama surrenders to U.S. authorities](#)
- **Jan. 7:** The Tower of Pisa is closed to the public after leaning too far
- **Jan. 10:** [China lifts martial law \(imposed after the Tiananmen Square massacre\)](#)
- **Feb. 11:** [Nelson Mandela is released after 27 years imprisonment in South Africa](#)
- **Feb. 13:** [The U.S., Britain and France approve the plan for the reunification of East and West Germany](#)
- **Feb. 25:** [Nicaraguans vote the Sandinista Party out of power](#)
- **Mar. 10:** Prosper Avril resigns as president of Haiti
- **Mar. 11:** [Lithuania declares its Independence](#)
- **Mar. 13:** Nicholas Braithwaite is elected Premier of Grenada
- **Mar. 14:** Soviet Communist Party General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev is elected President of the Soviet Congress
- **Apr. 7:** [John Poindexter, the former National Security Advisor for President Ronald Reagan, is found guilty of charges related to the Iran-Contra scandal](#)
- **Apr. 19:** [The U.S.-backed Nicaraguan rebels known as the Contras; the leftist Sandinistas Party; and the newly elected Nicaraguan Government agree to a truce](#)
- **Apr. 24:** [West and East Germany agree to merge currencies and economies commencing July 1](#)
- **Apr. 25:** [Crewmembers from the space shuttle *Discovery* place the Hubble space telescope into orbit](#)
- **May 22:** North and South Yemen merge to form the Republic of Yemen
- **Jun. 7:** [South Africa president F W de Klerk lifts the state of emergency that had been in place for four years](#)
- **June 21:** [Iran is hit by an earthquake measuring 7.7, as well as hundreds of aftershocks, resulting in the deaths of about 50,000](#)
- **June 22:** [Nelson Mandela addresses the United Nations Special Committee against Apartheid](#)
- **July 31:** Bosnia-Herzegovina declares independence
- **Aug. 2:** [Iraq invades and occupies Kuwait, the Emir of Kuwait flees to Saudi Arabia](#)
- **Aug. 2:** [President Bush responds to the invasion of Kuwait by ordering U.S. troops be sent to Saudi Arabia](#)
- **Aug. 6:** [The U.N. Security Council votes 13-0 to impose economic sanctions on Iraq \(both Cuba and Yemen abstain\)](#)
- **Aug. 7:** [The U.S. initiates operation "Desert Shield" in which U.S. troops are to protect Saudi Arabia](#)

- **Aug. 9:** Twelve Arab leaders agree to send pan-Arab forces to protect Saudi Arabia
- **Aug. 10:** The U.S. *Magellan* spacecraft lands on Venus
- **Oct. 3:** [East and West Germany reunify with the reunification signaled by raising the West German flag over Berlin's Brandenburg Gate at Midnight](#)
- **Nov. 15:** [President Bush signs a bill amending the Clean Air Act; the bill increases programs for controlling acid rain, and modifies how States can achieve air-quality standards](#)
- **Nov. 28:** [British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher resigns her post and is replaced by John Major](#)
- **Nov. 29:** [The U.N. Security Council approves the U.S.-sponsored resolution seeking the use of force in the Persian Gulf if Iraq does not withdraw from Kuwait by Jan. 15, 1991](#)
- **Dec. 9:** [Lech Walesa, a former electrician and head of the Solidarity trade union, is elected President of Poland](#)
- **Dec. 22:** [Iraq says it will never give up Kuwait](#)
- **Dec. 22:** Lech Walesa is sworn in as Poland's first popularly elected President
- **Dec. 23:** [Slovenians vote to secede from Yugoslavia](#)
- **Dec. 25:** The first trial run of the system that would become the World Wide Web is conducted, and it is a success

Sources:

["A Tribute to the Independent Nation of Lithuania."](#) Congressional Record, 101st Congress, 2nd Session (Mar. 29, 1990) Vol. 136. ProQuest Congressional, CR-1990-0329

Browne, Marjorie Ann. [Iraq-Kuwait: U.N. Security Council Resolutions--Texts and Votes](#). Foreign Affairs and National Defense Division (CRS), Dec. 4, 1990. 102nd, Congress, 2nd Session, 90-513 F. ProQuest Congressional, CRS-1990-FND-0032

["Colombia's Commitment to the War Against Drugs."](#) Congressional Record, 101st Congress, 1st Session (July 27, 1989) Vol. 135. ProQuest Congressional, CR-1989-0727

Committee on Armed Services. Senate. [1989 Events in Panama](#). GPO, Oct. 6, 17, Dec. 22, 1989. 101st Congress, 1st Session, Committee on Science and Technology (Y4.Ar5/3:S.hrg.101-881). ProQuest Congressional, HRG-1989-SAS-0023

Committee on Armed Services. Senate. [Implications of Treaty on Final German Settlement for NATO Strategy and U.S. Military Presence in Europe](#). GPO, Oct. 4, 1990. 101st Congress, 2nd Session, Committee on Armed Services (Y4.Ar5/3:S.hrg.101-1154). ProQuest Congressional, HRG-1990-SAS-0006

Committee on Banking, Finance, and Urban Affairs. House. [Investigation of Lincoln Savings and Loan Association, Part 1](#). GPO, Oct. 17, 1989. 101st Congress, 1st Session, Committee on Banking, Finance, and Urban Affairs Serial No. 59 (Y4.B22/1:101-59/pt.1). ProQuest Congressional, HRG-1989-BFU-0040

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Senate. [Energy Policy Implications of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1989](#). GPO, Jan. 24-25, 1990. 101st Congress, 2nd Session, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources (Y4.En2:S.hrg.101-826). ProQuest Congressional, HRG-1990-NAR-0031

Committee on Foreign Affairs. House. [*Consideration of Miscellaneous Bills and Resolutions \(Vol. II\)*](#). Mar. 14, May 3, 11, 16, 23-24, Jun. 1, 7, 15, Jul. 18, 1989. 101st Congress, 1st Session (Y4.F76/1:B49/2/v.1/989). ProQuest Congressional, HRG-1989-FOA-0019

Committee on Foreign Affairs. House. [*Nicaragua and the United States: A New Era?*](#) GPO, Apr. 13, 1989. 101st Congress, 1st Session, Committee on Foreign Affairs (Y4.F76/1:N51/26). ProQuest Congressional, HRG-1989-FOA-0003

Committee on Foreign Affairs. House. [*Roundtable Discussion on Recent Developments in East Germany*](#). GPO, Nov. 21, 1989. 101st Congress, 1st Session, Committee on Foreign Affairs (Y4.F76/1:R69/2). ProQuest Congressional, HRG-1989-FOA-0062

Committee on Foreign Relations. Senate. [*Treaty on the Final Settlement with Respect to Germany*](#). GPO, Sept. 28, 1990. 101st Congress, 2nd Session, Committee on Foreign Relations (Y4.F76/2:S.hrg.101-1124). ProQuest Congressional, HRG-1990-FOR-0019

Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. House. [*Investigation of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill, Prince William Sound, Alaska, Part I*](#). GPO, May 5, 7-8, 1989. 101st Congress, 1st Session, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs Serial No. 5. (Y4.In8/14:101-5/pt.1). ProQuest Congressional, HRG-1989-IAA-0014

["Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress over the reported murder of Lt. Col. William Higgins and Hezbollah-sponsored terrorism."](#) Congressional Record, 101st Congress, 1st Session (Aug. 4, 1989) Vol. 135, p. 19074 – 19427, ProQuest Congressional, CR-1989-0804

["Former President Reagan's Testimony in the Poindexter Trial."](#) Congressional Record, 101st Congress, 2nd Session (Mar. 21, 1990) Vol. 136, p. 4742. ProQuest Congressional, CR-1990-0321

["In Support of Slovenia."](#) Congressional Record Daily Edition, 102nd Congress, 1st Session (Sep. 25, 1991) Vol. 137. ProQuest Congressional, CR-1991-0925

["Lifting of State of Emergency in South Africa."](#) Congressional Record, 101st Congress, 2nd Session (Jun. 7, 1990) Vol. 136, p. 13357. ProQuest Congressional, CR-1990-0607

["New Year Address of Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel."](#) Congressional Record, 101st Congress, 2nd Session (Jan. 23, 1990) Vol. 136, p. 235 – 273, ProQuest Congressional, CR-1990-0123

["The Release of Nelson Mandela."](#) Congressional Record, 101st Congress, 2nd Session (Feb. 27, 1990) Vol. 136, ProQuest Congressional, CR-1990-0227

["Senate Resolution 90-Extending a Warm Welcome to His Excellency Lech Walesa, President of the Republic of Poland."](#) Congressional Record, 102nd, Congress, 1st Session (Mar. 21, 1991) Vol. 137. ProQuest Congressional, CR-1991-0321

["South African Freedom Week."](#) Congressional Record, 101st Congress, 2nd Session (Jun. 21, 1990) Vol. 136, p. 15077 – 15227. ProQuest Congressional, CR-1990-0621

Subcommittee on Crime, Committee on the Judiciary. House. [*Semiautomatic Assault Weapons Act of 1989*](#), Apr. 5-6, 10, 1989. 101st Congress, 1st Session, Committee on the Judiciary Serial No. 26 (Y4.J89/1:101/26). ProQuest Congressional, HRG-1989-HJH-0046

Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs, Committee on Foreign Relations, Senate. [*Sino-American Relations: One Year After the Massacre at Tiananmen Square*](#). GPO, June 6, 1990. 101st Congress, 2nd Session, Committee on Foreign Relations (Y4.F76/2:S.hrg.101-1125). ProQuest Congressional, HRG-1990-FOR-0021

Subcommittee on Education and Health, Committee on Economic. Joint. [*Economic Sanctions Against Iraq*](#). GPO, Dec. 19, 1990. 101st Congress, 2nd Session, Committee on Economic (Y4.EC7:IR1/2). ProQuest Congressional, HRG-1990-ECJ-0028

Subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East, Committee on Foreign Affairs. House. [Persian Gulf Crisis](#). GPO, Aug. 8, Sept. 18, 25, Oct. 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 11, 1990. 101st Congress, 2nd Session, Committee on Foreign Affairs, Committee on Economic (Y4.F76/1:P43/15). ProQuest Congressional, HRG-1990-FOA-0082

Subcommittee on Forests, Family Farms, and Energy, Committee on Agriculture. House. [Effects of Hurricane Hugo on Forest Resources](#). GPO, Nov. 6, 1989. 101st Congress, 1st Session, Committee on Agriculture Serial No. 43 (Y4.Ag8/1:101-43). ProQuest Congressional, HRG-1989-HAG-0023

Subcommittee on Readiness, Committee on Armed Services. House. [Military Exchange Operations During Mobilization, Including Operation Desert Shield](#). GPO, Oct. 10, 1990. 101st Congress, 2nd Session, Committee on Armed Services Serial No. 101-73 (Y4.Ar5/2a:989-90/73). ProQuest Congressional, HRG-1990-ASH-0028

Subcommittee on Science, Technology, and Space, Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Senate. [Status of the Hubble Space Telescope](#). GPO, June 29, 1990. 101st Congress, 2nd Session, Committee on Science and Technology (Y4.C73/7:S.hrg.101-991). ProQuest Congressional, HRG-1990-CST-0043

["Support Reforms in Poland and Hungary."](#) Congressional Record, 101st Congress, 1st Session (Oct. 19, 1989) Vol. 135. ProQuest Congressional, CR-1989-1019

["Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher."](#) Congressional Record, 102nd Congress, 1st Session (Mar. 7, 1991) Vol. 137, ProQuest Congressional, CR-1991-0307

["Tragedy in Iran-Compassion from America."](#) Congressional Record, 101st Congress, 2nd Session (Jun. 25, 1990) Vol. 136, p. 15467 – 15515, ProQuest Congressional, CR-1990-0625

Major Acts

Whistleblower Protection Act of 1989. Strengthened the protections available to Federal employees against prohibited personnel practices. Approved Apr. 10, 1989. ([103 Stat. 16; PL101-12](#)) ([Regulatory History](#))

Natural Gas Wellhead Decontrol Act of 1989. Amended the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978 to eliminate wellhead price and non-price controls on the first sale of natural gas. Approved July 26, 1989. ([103 Stat. 157; PL101-60](#)) ([Regulatory History](#))

Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989. Reformed, recapitalizes, and consolidated the Federal deposit insurance system, enhanced the regulatory and enforcement powers of Federal financial institutions regulatory agencies; provided for resolution of failed and failing federally insured savings and loan associations; and strengthened the residential housing finance system. Approved Aug. 9, 1989. ([103 Stat. 183; PL101-73](#)) ([Regulatory History](#))

Flag Protection Act of 1989. Established criminal penalties for the mutilation, defacement, burning, or trampling of the U.S. flag. Approved Oct. 28, 1989. ([103 Stat. 777; PL101-131](#))

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Prohibited discrimination against disabled individuals in employment and public transportation,

accommodations, and services. Approved July 26, 1990. ([104 Stat. 327; PL101-336](#)) ([Regulatory History](#))

Oil Pollution Act of 1990. Established limitations on liability for damages resulting from oil pollution and established a fund for the payment of compensation for such damages. Approved Aug. 18, 1990. ([103 Stat. 484; PL101-380](#)) ([Regulatory History](#))

Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990. Provided for reconciliation pursuant to section 4 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for the Federal fiscal years 1991 through 1995, and included Title XI, the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990 which revised the Federal tax system and increased the public debt. Approved Nov. 5, 1990. ([104 Stat. 1388; PL101-508](#)) ([Regulatory History](#))

Clean Air Act Amendments. Amended the Clean Air Act to revise programs for attainment and maintenance of health protective national ambient air quality standards. Approved Nov. 15, 1990. ([104 Stat. 2399; PL101-549](#)) ([Regulatory History](#))

Administrative Dispute Resolution Act. Amended the Administrative Procedure Act, and several other acts, to authorize and establish guidelines for Federal agencies use of mediation, conciliation, arbitration, and other alternative dispute resolution techniques as alternatives to litigation. Approved Nov. 15, 1990. ([104 Stat. 2736; PL101-552](#)) ([Regulatory History](#))

Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. Provided for the protection of Native American graves, and clarified the right of ownership of Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian (Native American) human remains and artifacts that included funerary objects, religious artifacts, and objects of cultural patrimony, found on Federal or tribal lands. Approved Nov. 16, 1990. ([104 Stat. 3048; PL101-601](#)) ([Regulatory History](#))

Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act. Authorized a new HOME Investment Partnerships program, a National Homeownership Trust program, and HOPE Program to amend and extend certain laws relating to housing, community and neighborhood preservation. Approved Nov. 28, 1990. ([104 Stat. 4079; PL101-625](#)) ([Regulatory History](#))

Negotiated Rulemaking Act of 1990. Established guidelines for the appropriate use of negotiated rulemaking committees, in which affected interests participate with Federal regulatory agencies in the development of regulations, as an alternative to adversarial rulemaking. Approved Nov. 29, 1990. ([104 Stat. 4969; PL101-648](#)) ([Regulatory History](#))

Immigration Act of 1990. Amended the Immigration and Nationality Act to change the level, and preference system for admission, of immigrants to the United States, and to provide for administrative naturalization. Approved Nov. 29, 1990. ([104 Stat. 4978; PL101-649](#)) ([Regulatory History](#))

Judicial Improvements Act of 1990. Provided for the appointment of additional Federal circuit and district judges. Approved Dec. 1, 1990. ([104 Stat. 5089; PL101-650](#)) ([Regulatory History](#))

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