

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2415
OFFERED BY MR. BEREUTER OF NEBRASKA

Page 84, after line 16, add the following (and make such technical and conforming changes as may be necessary):

1 SEC. 703. SELF-DETERMINATION IN EAST TIMOR.

2 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

3 (1) On May 5, 1999, the Government of Indo-
4 nesia and the Government of Portugal signed an
5 agreement that provides for a vote on the political
6 status of East Timor to be held on August 8, 1999,
7 under the auspices of the United Nations.

8 (2) On June 22, 1999, the vote was rescheduled
9 for August 21 or 22, 1999, because of concerns that
10 the conditions necessary for a free and fair vote
11 could not be established prior to August 8, 1999.

12 (3) On January 27, 1999, Indonesian President
13 Habibie expressed a willingness to consider inde-
14 pendence for East Timor if a majority of the East
15 Timorese reject autonomy in the August 1999 vote.

16 (4) Under the agreement between the Govern-
17 ments of Indonesia and Portugal, the Government of
18 Indonesia is responsible for ensuring that the Au-
19 gust 1999 vote is carried out in a fair and peaceful

1 way and in an atmosphere free of intimidation, vio-
2 lence, or interference.

3 (5) The inclusion of anti-independence militia
4 members in Indonesian forces that are responsible
5 for establishing security in East Timor violates this
6 agreement because the agreement states that the ab-
7 solute neutrality of the military and police is essen-
8 tial for holding a free and fair vote.

9 (6) The arming of anti-independence militias by
10 members of the Indonesian military for the purpose
11 of sabotaging the August 1999 ballot has resulted in
12 hundreds of civilians killed, injured, or missing in
13 separate attacks by these militias and these militias
14 continue to act without restraint.

15 (7) The United Nations Secretary General has
16 received credible reports of political violence, includ-
17 ing intimidation and killing, by armed anti-independ-
18 ence militias against unarmed pro-independence ci-
19 vilians in East Timor.

20 (8) There have been killings of opponents of
21 independence for East Timor, including civilians and
22 militia members.

23 (9) The killings in East Timor should be fully
24 investigated and the individuals responsible brought
25 to justice.

1 (10) Access to East Timor by international
2 human rights monitors and humanitarian organiza-
3 tions is limited and members of the press have been
4 threatened.

5 (11) The presence of members of the United
6 Nations Assistance Mission in East Timor has al-
7 ready resulted in an improved security environment
8 in the East Timorese capital of Dili.

9 (12) A robust international observer mission
10 and police force throughout East Timor is critical to
11 creating a stable and secure environment necessary
12 for a free and fair vote.

13 (13) The Administration should be commended
14 for its support for the United Nations Assistance
15 Mission in East Timor which will provide monitoring
16 and support for the ballot and include international
17 civilian police, military liaison officers, and election
18 monitors.

19 (b) SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.—It is the sense of the
20 Congress that—

21 (1) the President and the Secretary of State
22 should immediately intensify their efforts to prevail
23 upon the Indonesian Government and military—

24 (A) to disarm and disband anti-independ-
25 ence militias in East Timor;

1 (B) to grant full access to East Timor by
2 international human rights monitors, humani-
3 tarian organizations, and the press; and

4 (C) to allow Timorese who have been living
5 in exile to return to East Timor to participate
6 in the vote on the political status of East Timor
7 to be held on August 1999 under the auspices
8 of the United Nations; and

9 (2) not later than 21 days after the date of the
10 enactment of this Act, the President should prepare
11 and transmit to the Congress a report that contains
12 a description of the efforts of the Administration,
13 and an assessment of the steps taken by the Indo-
14 nesian Government and military, to ensure a stable
15 and secure environment in East Timor for the vote
16 on the political status of East Timor, including an
17 assessment of the steps taken in accordance with
18 subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of paragraph (1).