

ENROLLED SENATE
RESOLUTION NO. 65

By: Garrison and Crutchfield

A Resolution calling upon the President of the United States to delay the sale of a company that controls shipping in certain ports until after a public review; supporting Congressional action to delay the sale and override a threatened veto; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, the Bush Administration has approved the sale of Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company to Dubai Ports World, a state-owned business in the United Arab Emirates. The sale would place Dubai Ports World in the position of controlling major shipping operations in the states of New York and New Jersey, as well as in the cities of Baltimore, Maryland; New Orleans, Louisiana; Miami, Florida; and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, numerous governors, mayors, and members of Congress, regardless of geography or political party, have requested that the President delay the sale until there has been a thorough public study of the transaction. The President has responded with a threat to veto any legislation that might hinder the agreement; and

WHEREAS, the agreement was approved behind closed doors by the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS), an interagency committee chaired by the United States Secretary of the Treasury. The panel has the power to review any proposed foreign acquisition of a corporation that may threaten American national security. The President also has authority to suspend or prohibit any such acquisition; and

WHEREAS, there are serious questions regarding the security and safety of Oklahomans and the American people should the operations of our ports be placed under the control of a foreign government-controlled entity. Members of Oklahoma's Congressional Delegation have also expressed their concern; and although the Port of Catoosa in Oklahoma is not directly involved, it could be affected by cargo shipped through the port in New Orleans, Louisiana.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 50TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate requests the President of the United States to reconsider his decision and delay the sale of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company to a foreign government-controlled business until there has been a thorough public review and disclosure of the transaction.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate supports Congressional action to place a moratorium on the sale to a foreign government-controlled company and a Congressional override of a threatened veto if the President refuses to delay this agreement pending a thorough public review and disclosure of the transaction.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United States, and members of Oklahoma's Congressional Delegation.

Adopted by the Senate the 22nd day of February, 2006.

Presiding Officer of the Senate