

By: Representative Evans

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 53

1 A RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO ENACT MEASURES TO PROTECT THE
2 STEEL INDUSTRY.

3 WHEREAS, the steel industry is in jeopardy of being
4 eliminated from the United States of America through imported and
5 illegal dumping in our country; and

6 WHEREAS, foreign countries which sell government subsidized
7 steel at a cheaper rate than steel produced in the United States
8 advance their own economies by dumping below market-priced steel
9 while putting American steelworkers out of work; and

10 WHEREAS, sixteen steel companies have filed for bankruptcy
11 since the crisis began in 1997; and

12 WHEREAS, the industry was operating at less than 65% of its
13 capacity by the end of year 2000 which is the lowest operating
14 level in more than 14 years; and

15 WHEREAS, more than 15,000 steelworker jobs have been lost
16 since January 1998; and

17 WHEREAS, existing laws regarding steel dumping are not
18 enforced nor strict enough in this country where the American
19 steel industry plays a vital role in the national defense of our
20 country; and

21 WHEREAS, key steel-consuming industries employ 6,000,000
22 United States workers, representing nearly 15% of our gross
23 national product and an even higher percentage of the countries
24 better paying jobs:

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
26 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That the United

27 States Congress is hereby urged to take emergency measures in this
28 country to save the steel industry, including passage of House
29 Bill No. 808 which includes import relief, industry-wide legacy
30 cost-sharing, steel loan guarantee adjustments, and incentives for
31 consolidation. Further, consolidation, while encouraging the
32 retention of workers and domestic steel production capacity, is
33 encouraged, along with the establishment of a \$500,000,000.00
34 grant program at the Department of Commerce.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution will
36 be furnished to the members of the Mississippi Congressional
37 Delegation and the Capitol Press Corps.