

NEWS ADVISORY

Committee on International Relations

U.S. House of Representatives

Henry Hyde (R-IL), Chairman

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For IMMEDIATE Release

Henry J. Hyde United States-India Peaceful Atomic Energy Cooperation Act of 2006

Conference Report Passes House

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) – Today, the Conference Report on the Henry J. Hyde United States-India Peaceful Atomic Energy Cooperation Act of 2006 was adopted by the House of Representatives by a vote of 330 to 59. This landmark legislation was named in honor of the Chairman of the House Committee on International Relations, Henry J. Hyde (R-IL), who is retiring after 32 years in Congress.

The legislation allows the United States to sell technology to India for civil nuclear power. It commits India to undertake a number of measures, including separating its nuclear facilities used for civilian purposes from its military facilities, opening several of its nuclear facilities to international inspections, agreeing not to test nuclear weapons, and strengthening its nuclear export controls, among other provisions. Hyde made the following remarks upon passage of this measure:

This historic legislation is the culmination of more than a year of work by Members and staff of the House and Senate, as well as countless discussions and meetings with the Administration, experts in a wide range of fields, and many others. It balances the establishment of a strong foundation for the Global Partnership between the United States and India announced on July 18, 2005 by President Bush and Indian Prime Minister Singh while also strengthening U.S. efforts to prevent the spread of a nuclear weapons capability to other countries. We are especially pleased, and have been assured by the Administration, that this legislation will encourage India to play an active, substantial, and leading role in the international effort to stop Iran's efforts to acquire nuclear weapons. I am proud to have been a sponsor of this legislation and view with confidence and satisfaction what I hope is but the beginning of a new and ever-closer relationship between the world's two largest democracies, the United States and India.

The Senate is expected to take up the measure, and once it has been approved by both chambers, it will be sent to President Bush for his signature.

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