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COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES:
FOREIGN OPERATIONS
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

26 February 1974

FEB 2 6 1974

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The Honorable Harley O. Staggers
Chairman
Committee on Interstate and Foreign
Commerce
House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Washington, D.C. 20515

I am enclosing for your reference a draft copy of H. Res. 917, which I introduced yesterday with 8 co-sponsors, authorizing and directing your Committee to obtain for the House the key facts concerning oil and oil products imports, distribution and inventories in the U. S.

I have introduced this resolution to express the strong feeling of many Americans that hard facts on our imports and our oil inventories are vital to our survival of the present so-called energy crisis.

I believe your Committee would be extremely competent to undertake this much needed investigation and that under your very able leadership it would be possible to deliver to the House the report my resolution requests within a month, provided your Committee has the express backing of the full House, to bolster your position in dealing with the oil companies.

I would welcome your co-sponsorship of this resolution and would be happy to respond to any questions you might have thereon.

Warm regards,

CLARENCE D. LONG

FEBRUARY 25, 1974

Dear Colleague:

The Shah of Iran said last night that the United States is importing as much oil as before, if not more, and suggested fraud and manipulation in the present so-called energy crisis.

Today I introduced a resolution which directs the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce to investigate and report to the House within 30 days

its findings and recommendations on
1) the precise levels of imports of oil and oil
products into the United States;

2) the inventories of these items in the United States or controlled by companies owned in whole or in part by U. S. citizens; and 3) the distribution in and from the United States

of oil and oil products.

The Committee Chairman or any designated Hember may issue subpenas under his own signature; the Committee or its designated subcommittees may sit at any place in the United States, whether the House is in session or adjourned.

If you feel as strongly as I do that Congress must know the <u>facts</u> as quickly as possible, I hope you will join me in sponsoring this resolution. Please let Jean O'Neil of my office know by <u>moon</u>, Thursday, February 28th, when I shall re-introduce the measure.

Warm regards,

CLARENCE D. LONG, M.C.

CDL: jfo

Attachment: Copy of resolution outlined above

93d Congress 2d Session

Mr. Long of Maryland

## RESOLUTION

To authorize the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce to conduct an investigation and study of the importing, inventorying, and disposition of crude oil, residual fuel oil, and refined petroleum products.

## Resolved, That

it is the sense of the House of Representatives that accurate and complete data on imports of oil and oil products into the United States, oil and oil products inventories in the United States or under the control of companies owned by United States citizens, and distribution of oil and oil products within and from out of the United States are essential to the national security of the United States, the safety of its citizens, and the proper conduct of its domestic and international commerce; and further, it is the sense of the House of Representatives that these data are essential to the evaluation of legislation before this House.

- Sec. 2. (a) The Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, acting as a whole or by subcommittee, is authorized and directed to conduct a full and complete investigation and study of the importing, inventorying, and disposition of crude oil, residual fuel oil, and refined petroleum products.
- (b) For the purpose of carrying out this resolution, the Committee or subcommittee is authorized to sit and act during the present Congress at such times and places within the United States, including any Commonwealth or possession thereof, whether the House is in session, has recessed, or has adjourned, to hold such hearings, and to require, by subpoena or otherwise, the attendance and testimony of such witnesses under oath and the production of such books, records, correspondence, memoranda, papers, and documents, as it deems necessary; except that neither the Committee nor any subcommittee thereof may sit while the House is meeting unless special leave to sit shall have been obtained from the House. Subpoenas may be issued under the signature of the chairman of the Committee or any member of the Committee designated by him, and may be served by any person designated by such chairman or member.
- (c) The Committee shall report to the House within 30 days after adoption of this resolution the results of its investigation and study, together with such recommendations as it deems advisable. Any such report which is made when the House is not in session shall be filed with the Clerk of the House.