The House,

having heard the deliberations,

noting that the International Criminal Court will start its activities in The Hague on 1 July 2002;

noting that this is a milestone in the development of international law;

noting that the American Senate, by passing the American Service Members' Protection Act, is actively endeavouring to thwart the International Criminal Court (ICC);

noting that the Netherlands, as the host country of the ICC, is directly affected since the Bill provides that all necessary means may be used to free any American prisoners from detention;

knowing that the Bill is not primarily directed against the Netherlands;

expresses its concern about the consequences of the passing of this Bill, which harms transatlantic relations;

requests the Government to use all diplomatic means at both bilateral and international level (EU, NATO and the parties to the ICC) to communicate the concern of the House of Representatives to the United States Government, the Senate and the Congress;

also requests the Government to employ the same means in relation to the relevant institutions in order to endeavour to prevent ratification of the Act;

and proceeds to the order of the day.

Proposed by the following Members of Parliament: Karimi Verhagen Janssen van Raaij Terpstra Koenders Van Bommel Dittrich Huizinga-Heringa Van der Vlies Teeven