

NATION

Senators hold up U.N. funding over ties to pedophiles

By Joyce Price
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The Senate unanimously voted yesterday to withhold nearly \$119 million from the U.S. annual contribution to the United Nations until the president certifies that no U.N. body recognizes any group with ties to pedophiles.

In July, the U.N. Economic and Social Council gave consultant status to the International Lesbian and Gay Association. In September, a publication called Lambda Report disclosed that the 1,000-member North American Man-Boy Love Association is part of the ILGA.

Sen. Jesse Helms, North Carolina Republican, led the move to cut U.S. contributions to the United Nations. The amendment was attached to a bill authorizing more than \$12 billion for the State Department in fiscal 1994 and 1995.

"I never fathomed that the day would come when the United Nations would officially condone the sexual molestation of children. ... Tragically and shockingly, that is precisely what has happened," Mr. Helms said.

"There is no question that ... the International Lesbian and Gay Association knew about NAMBLA's despicable agenda," he said. "They knew it. They do not deny it. Indeed, ILGA has even passed resolutions of its own supportive of pedophilia."

Claiborne Pell, Rhode Island Democrat, was the only senator who did not vote for the Helms amendment. He said he supported the amendment but couldn't get to the Senate floor for the vote.

The Senate also voted 93-6 to withhold 10 percent of the U.S. contribution to the United Nations in fiscal 1994 unless the world body appoints an independent inspector general. In fiscal 1995, the penalty would rise to 20 percent of authorized funds.

The amendment was introduced

by Sen. Larry Pressler, South Dakota Republican.

Jim Jatras, foreign policy analyst for the Senate Republican Policy Committee, said the U.S. contribution to the U.N. Economic and Social Council makes up 25 percent of the money available for its programs.

He said the Helms amendment, if retained by a House-Senate conference committee, would force the council to rescind the consultant status it bestowed on the ILGA last summer.

The association, a worldwide federation of 300 homosexual and AIDS groups, is the first homosexual organization to "gain a voice at the U.N.," according to the Washington Blade.

Lambda Report, an anti-homosexual newsletter, revealed in the fall that NAMBLA, Gay Male S&M Activists and the Dutch pedophile group Vereniging Martijn are members of the ILGA and questioned the umbrella organization's recognition by the United Nations.

Lambda Report noted that the United States was one of the 22 nations that voted to give ILGA consultative status.

Because of the battering the homosexual federation has received as a result of its NAMBLA connections, members of the ILGA board said they would ask NAMBLA to resign and would seek NAMBLA's expulsion by the general membership this summer if it failed to comply.

Gregory King, spokesman for the Human Rights Campaign Fund, the nation's largest homosexual group, said yesterday his organization "did not object to the Helms amendment and believes ILGA should expel NAMBLA, which is not a gay organization."

But Lambda Report said ILGA leaders have no authority to expel NAMBLA. The newsletter said it would take a vote of 80 percent of the delegates at the world conference in June to do so.

