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Subject: [PATCH 20/29] memory controller resource counters v7 fix  
Posted by [Paul Menage](#) on Tue, 11 Sep 2007 19:52:59 GMT  
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From: David Rientjes <[rientjes@google.com](mailto:rientjes@google.com)>

There's a gotcha in `res_counter_charge_locked()` because of C99 6.3.1.8(1) since both `counter->limit` and `'val'` are of unsigned long type, the result of the subtraction will be the same; no promotion is required. So if `'val'` is greater than `counter->limit`, it will always be larger than `counter->usage` and the conditional will fail. Simply casting this to signed doesn't work since `counter->usage` is also unsigned and thus the result of the subtraction will be promoted to unsigned since the ranks are the same.

Even though the only (current) use of `res_counter_charge()` is with a `'val'` actual of 1, this still fails if you set `counter->limit` to 0. No chance of overflow unless you're running on a machine with 4KB pages and 16TB of memory.

Signed-off-by: David Rientjes <[rientjes@google.com](mailto:rientjes@google.com)>  
Cc: Pavel Emelianov <[xemul@openvz.org](mailto:xemul@openvz.org)>  
Cc: Balbir Singh <[balbir@linux.vnet.ibm.com](mailto:balbir@linux.vnet.ibm.com)>  
Signed-off-by: Andrew Morton <[akpm@linux-foundation.org](mailto:akpm@linux-foundation.org)>

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kernel/res\_counter.c | 2 +-  
1 files changed, 1 insertion(+), 1 deletion(-)

diff -puN kernel/res\_counter.c~memory-controller-resource-counters-v7-fix kernel/res\_counter.c  
--- a/kernel/res\_counter.c~memory-controller-resource-counters-v7-fix  
+++ a/kernel/res\_counter.c  
@@ -21,7 +21,7 @@ void res\_counter\_init(struct res\_counter

```
int res_counter_charge_locked(struct res_counter *counter, unsigned long val)
{
- if (counter->usage > (counter->limit - val)) {
+ if (counter->usage + val > counter->limit) {
    counter->failcnt++;
    return -ENOMEM;
}
```

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<https://lists.linux-foundation.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

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