

Reps. Vagnozzi, Ball, Bieda, Brown, Clack, Constan, Dean, Ebli, Farrah, Gonzales, Hammel, Hopgood, Johnson, Robert Jones, Kathleen Law, Lemmons, McDowell, Miller, Polidori, Tobocman, Valentine and Wojno offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 59.

A resolution to memorialize the Congress of the United States and the United States State Department to increase efforts to halt the violence and to provide humanitarian assistance in the Darfur region of Sudan.

Whereas, Over the past few years, the government of Sudan and the government-backed militia have carried out a campaign of murder, rape, and terror in the Darfur region. More than 1.5 million people are estimated to have been displaced from their homes, while tens of thousands of civilians have been killed or pushed into disease and malnutrition. A 2004 cease-fire agreement has proven ineffective, and the conditions for those who have been displaced can only be described as a nightmare; and

Whereas, The United States, the United Nations, the African Union, and other nations and organizations have largely ignored the grave human rights violations and suffering that are taking place. The situation in the Darfur region is acknowledged to be ethnic cleansing and may amount to genocide; and

Whereas, While the United States and other countries have tried to bring a halt to the suffering, a greater sense of urgency needs to be brought to these efforts. Our country must do all it can to influence the leadership of the United Nations to increase the number of troops on the ground to protect civilians and to bring pressure on the Sudanese government to halt its illegal and immoral acts. Clearly, the United States must play a leadership role in working with other nations, the United Nations, and the African Union in the effort to bring relief to this region of sorrows; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States and the United States State Department to increase efforts to halt the violence and to provide humanitarian assistance to the victims of the atrocities in the Darfur region of Sudan; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Office of the President of the United States, the United States Secretary of State, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.