

Rep. Jones offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 210.

A resolution to condemn the slave trade taking place in Libya.

Whereas, International organizations and media outlets have recently documented the existence of slavery auctions in Libya. Reports indicate that victims are being held in abhorrent conditions, ransomed, sold into forced labor and prostitution, and killed at the hands of human traffickers; and

Whereas, Slavery is a galling violation of human rights. The Secretary General of the United Nations declared in response to the reports that "slavery has no place in our world" and that the events in Libya "may amount to crimes against humanity." The videos and stories emerging from Libya showing the inhuman abuse of migrants remind us of the darkest periods of human history; and

Whereas, The international community has demanded an investigation and response by Libyan authorities. Protests have taken place around the world and several countries have withdrawn their ambassadors from Libya; and

Whereas, The political and economic situation in Libya remains fraught in the aftermath of the NATO-supported overthrow of Muammar Gaddafi that took place in 2011. The Libyan government is struggling to manage migration and the disorder within the country has provided opportunity for human traffickers to barbarically exploit displaced people; and

Whereas, The United States and the international community must do everything in their power to support the rescue of the victims of these atrocities and ensure that the perpetrators are held accountable; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we condemn the slave trade taking place in Libya; and be it further

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