

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 130

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 13, 1997

Received and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Concerning the situation in Kenya.

Whereas on July 7, a large and violent confrontation occurred in Kenya when police stormed Nairobi's All-Saints Cathedral and attacked those present at a prayer meeting;

Whereas prodemocracy activists throughout Kenya have demonstrated in favor of reform of Kenya's constitution and the repeal of repressive colonial laws;

Whereas the bloody suppression of the constitutional reform rallies, the disruptive behavior of some demonstrators, and the recent ethnic confrontations in Kenya's Coast Province have jeopardized both the safety and the political rights of average Kenyans;

Whereas the Government of Kenya has continued to disrupt opposition rallies and meetings even after pledging to take a more tolerant approach to them in late July;

Whereas these events led to the consideration in early September of a package of democratic reforms by members of parliament representing the government and the opposition, but not including representatives of Kenyan civil society;

Whereas it remains unclear whether long-discussed political reforms can be effectively implemented in the time remaining before anticipated elections in 1997; and

Whereas colonial laws have given Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi sweeping powers to suppress political opponents and thwart reform throughout his 19-year rule: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring), That the Congress—*

3 (1) recognizes and commends those Kenyans
4 who have demonstrated their love of peace, law, and
5 order;

6 (2) condemns those who are inciting others to
7 violence, looting, and destroying property;

8 (3) urges an immediate cessation to the violence
9 in Kenya;

1 (4) urges the Government of Kenya to take all
2 necessary and lawful steps to avoid more violence in
3 the future;

4 (5) recognizes President Moi's response to do-
5 mestic and international pressure to allow meaning-
6 ful constitutional and legal electoral process reform
7 through the current package of legislation agreed to
8 by the ruling party and opposition party representa-
9 tives;

10 (6) calls for the prodemocracy movement to re-
11 main unified in working toward implementing con-
12 stitutional, statutory, and administrative reforms;

13 (7) urges rapid progress toward conducting free
14 and fair elections; and

15 (8) urges the United States Government and
16 the international community to continue to work
17 with all parties to encourage the Government of
18 Kenya to ensure a lasting and committed transition
19 to democracy, including an immediate review of the
20 propriety of the time of the next elections.

Passed the House of Representatives November 13,
1997.

Attest:

ROBIN H. CARLE,

Clerk.