

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 182

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding marches
in Northern Ireland.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 9, 1997

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts (for himself, Mr. KING, Mr. MANTON, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. GILMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives
regarding marches in Northern Ireland.

Whereas it is in the interest of the Republic of Ireland, the United Kingdom, and the United States to bring an end to the strife in Northern Ireland;

Whereas the majority of the citizens of Northern Ireland, Catholic and Protestant, want an end to violence in the region;

Whereas the British Government's decision in 1996 to allow the Orange Order to march along a disputed stretch of the Garvaghy Road resulted in the worst rioting in Northern Ireland's history;

Whereas the British Government's decision to allow such a march on July 6, 1997, resulted in a repeat of the violence of 1996 on the Garvaghy Road;

Whereas the British Government continues to use plastic bullets against civilians;

Whereas the right of citizens to assemble peacefully is an important part of a pluralistic democracy;

Whereas the majority of marches conducted by the Orange Order are designed to provoke conflict and heighten tensions among Protestant and Catholic citizens; and

Whereas such marches only serve to undermine efforts to secure a lasting peace in Northern Ireland: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-
 2 resentatives that the British Government should prohibit
 3 any march by any group through any neighborhood or
 4 community in Northern Ireland in which residents have
 5 clearly stated their opposition to the march.

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