

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 45

To honor 1996 Nobel Peace Prize recipients Bishop Carlos Felipe Ximenes Belo and Jose Ramos-Horta, and to express support for the process of building a just and lasting peace in East Timor.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 10, 1997

Mr. HALL of Ohio (for himself, Mr. WOLF, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Mrs. MORELLA, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. LANTOS, and Mr. PORTER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

To honor 1996 Nobel Peace Prize recipients Bishop Carlos Felipe Ximenes Belo and Jose Ramos-Horta, and to express support for the process of building a just and lasting peace in East Timor.

Whereas the Norwegian Nobel Committee has awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for 1996 to Bishop Carlos Felipe Ximenes Belo and Jose Ramos-Horta for their tireless efforts to find a just and peaceful solution to the conflict in East Timor;

Whereas Indonesia invaded East Timor in 1975 and has since systematically oppressed the people of East Timor;

Whereas since 1975 one-third of the population of East Timor is estimated to have perished of starvation, war, and terror;

Whereas Indonesia's invasion was condemned by the United Nations, as was its subsequent occupation of East Timor;

Whereas on November 12, 1991, Indonesian troops opened fire on thousands of peaceful mourners and demonstrators at the Santa Cruz cemetery in Dili, the capital of East Timor, killing hundreds and wounding hundreds;

Whereas Bishop Belo has been the preeminent representative of the people of East Timor, and has at great risk to his own life fought for the human and civil rights of the people of East Timor, while also being a steadfast advocate for nonviolence and dialogue between the people of East Timor and the Indonesian authorities;

Whereas Ramos-Horta has since 1975 been the leading international spokesman for the people of East Timor, and has made valuable contributions to their cause through his efforts to create a peace plan for the region; and

Whereas both men are an inspiration not only for those who desire peace in East Timor, but for those the world over who seek peacefully to resolve longstanding, bloody conflicts: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the United States House of Rep-
2 resentatives—

3 (1) recognizes, admires, and honors Carlos
4 Felipe Ximenes Belo and Jose Ramos-Horta for
5 their sustained and self-sacrificing contributions on
6 behalf of their oppressed people;

1 (2) expresses its support for the continued ef-
2 forts of Bishop Belo, Ramos-Horta, and the people
3 of East Timor; and

4 (3) affirms its support for a diplomatic solution
5 to the conflict in East Timor based on the people's
6 right to self-determination.

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