

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. CON. RES. 114

Calling on civic groups, women's groups, and others throughout the world to hold workshops, forums, and other events to speak up for world peace and reaffirm women's essential role in the peace-building process.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 25, 2003

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

---

## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Calling on civic groups, women's groups, and others throughout the world to hold workshops, forums, and other events to speak up for world peace and reaffirm women's essential role in the peace-building process.

Whereas the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, have focused the world's attention on the scourge of terrorism and the need to challenge the belief that violence is an acceptable tool in resolving differences and conflicts;

Whereas the presence of the United Nations peacekeeping missions throughout the world is a strong indication of the need for increased dialogue in order to bring lasting peace to war-torn and strife-ridden areas of the world;

Whereas the Beijing Declaration of the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women stated that the full

participation of women in all spheres of society, including participation in decision making processes, is fundamental for the achievement of equality, development, and peace;

Whereas women are generally non-combatants in war but are severely affected by conditions accompanying war, through displacement as refugees and the deprivation of human and civil rights;

Whereas women at the grassroots level have been deeply involved in establishing and maintaining stability within their communities through cooperative efforts that often reach across boundaries of race, class, and economic circumstances;

Whereas the individual and collective works of women in peace-building and community-building activities help to undo the legacies of hatred and suspicion and therefore break the cycle of violence;

Whereas in the last 50 years, the political and social influence of women in the United States and throughout the world has increased and the voices of women are emerging in policy disciplines from which they have traditionally been excluded, including national security, foreign policy, and international economics;

Whereas the rights and interests of women are rarely given attention during formal peace negotiations, and the failure to address these issues ensures that the status quo will continue;

Whereas in peace building and reconstruction efforts, the contributions of women to the economy and the potential of women as agents of economic and social change must be given appropriate consideration;

Whereas in order to create a culture of peace, there must be developed peace education and conflict resolution programs for preventing the onset and reducing the risk of violence in society; and

Whereas the Month of May, when initial Mother's Day celebrations were designed not only as a commemoration of one's own mother, but also to lift up a more universal principal of honoring the sanctity of human life through the preservation of peace, is an appropriate time to focus on the role of women in achieving world peace: Now, therefore, be it

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

3           (1) calls on civic groups, women's groups, cler-  
4       gy, and legislators throughout the world to hold  
5       workshops, forums, and other events to speak up for  
6       world peace;

7           (2) encourages the on-going efforts of grass-  
8       roots organizations engaged in peace-building in  
9       their communities which reach across race, class,  
10      and economic circumstances; and

11          (3) urges the inclusion of more women in peace  
12      negotiations, peace building, and reconstruction ef-  
13      forts.

○