

104TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 160

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 22, 1996

Received and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Congratulating the people of the Republic of Sierra Leone on the success of their recent democratic multiparty elections.

Whereas since 1991 the people of the Republic of Sierra Leone have endured a horrific civil war that has killed thousands of individuals and displaced more than half the population of the country;

Whereas for the first time in almost 30 years, the Republic of Sierra Leone held its first truly democratic multiparty elections to elect a president and parliament and put an end to military rule;

Whereas the elections held on February 26, 1996, and the subsequent runoff election held on March 15, 1996, were deemed by international and domestic observers to be free and fair and legitimate expressions of the will of the people of the Republic of Sierra Leone;

Whereas success of the newly elected democratic government led by President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah could have a positive effect on the West African neighbors of the Republic of Sierra Leone; and

Whereas the historic event of democratic multiparty elections in the Republic of Sierra Leone should be honored: Now, therefore, be it

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

3 (1) congratulates the people of the Republic of
4 Sierra Leone for holding their first democratic
5 multiparty presidential and parliamentary elections
6 in nearly 30 years;

7 (2) encourages all people of the Republic of Si-
8 erra Leone to continue to negotiate an end to the
9 civil war and to work together after taking the criti-
10 cal first step of holding democratic elections in that
11 country;

12 (3) reaffirms the commitment of the United
13 States to help nations move toward freedom and de-
14 mocracy; and

1 (4) further reaffirms that the United States is
2 committed to encouraging peace, democracy, and
3 economic development on the African continent.

Passed the House of Representatives May 21, 1996.

Attest: ROBIN H. CARLE,
 Clerk.

By LINDA NAVE,
 Deputy Clerk.