

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 281

Expressing the sense of Congress that Indonesia completes a transition to a democratically elected, nonmilitary government.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 22, 1998

Mr. STEARNS (for himself, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. OLVER, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. STRICKLAND, Mr. STARK, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. EVANS, Mrs. LOWEY, and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress that Indonesia completes a transition to a democratically elected, nonmilitary government.

Whereas the political situation in Indonesia has been in a state of chaos;

Whereas innocent people have been killed by Indonesia's military forces;

Whereas General Suharto has finally resigned, and his vice president, Joseph Habibie has assumed the presidency of Indonesia;

Whereas General Suharto came to power through a military takeover that led to the deaths of a half million Indonesians;

Whereas President Habibie has hand-picked General Suharto to carry out policies consistent with the past 32 years of economic exploitation and political repression;

Whereas General Suharto has said that he will remain leader of the Golkar ruling party;

Whereas President Habibie has declared that he will serve out the remainder of General Suharto's term that ends in March 2003;

Whereas the policies of General Suharto and the Indonesian military regime have caused the deaths of at least 200,000 people, one-third of the population, in East Timor;

Whereas the State Department Report on Human Rights reports that in 1997, the Indonesian government "continued to commit serious human rights abuses" and "demonstrated that it would not tolerate challenges to the fundamental elements of the political system by arresting and placing on trial some of its critics";

Whereas Indonesia continues to imprison democratic, student, labor, religious, and ethnic leaders;

Whereas General Suharto and his family have looted the Indonesian treasury of between \$30,000,000,000 and \$40,000,000,000; and

Whereas General Suharto's cronyism has enabled his friends to pillage billions of dollars more from the Indonesian people: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that the
3 United States should support a complete transition that
4 will lead immediately to a democratically elected, non-
5 military government in Indonesia including—

- 6 (1) release of political prisoners;
- 7 (2) legalization of political organizing activities;
- 8 (3) international monitoring of human rights
9 conditions;
- 10 (4) roundtable all party discussions;
- 11 (5) a transitional government of national unity;
- 12 (6) democratic elections;
- 13 (7) a truth commission to address past political
14 crimes; and
- 15 (8) recognition that past injustices require
16 redress.

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