

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 606

Calling upon the President to provide for the appropriate training of Foreign Service officers and other executive branch personnel in the primacy of democratic values and internationally recognized human rights.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 3, 2000

Mr. ROHRBACHER (for himself, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. BURTON, and Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Calling upon the President to provide for the appropriate training of Foreign Service officers and other executive branch personnel in the primacy of democratic values and internationally recognized human rights.

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This resolution may be cited as the “United States
3 Training on and Recognition of Man’s Inhumanity to Man
4 or Twentieth Century Atrocities Resolution”.

5 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

6 The Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Evidence of man's inhumanity to man has
2 been present since the beginnings of recorded his-
3 tory.

4 (2) The impact of man's inhumanity to man on
5 history and the development of human civilization
6 has been so tragic and devastating as to have called
7 forth numerous responses at different times and in
8 many different cultures to restrain the human appe-
9 tite for violence, domination, and intolerance.

10 (3) The history of the modern age since the rise
11 of the democratic spirit during the eighteenth cen-
12 tury provides evidence that the solution to the di-
13 lemma of man's inhumanity to man lies, at least in
14 part, with the establishment of democratic political
15 and social systems that are based on the equality of
16 all citizens before the law, the public accountability
17 of the governors to the governed, and on mutual tol-
18 erance.

19 (4) Despite the best efforts of democratic na-
20 tions and the ameliorating influence of the universal
21 religious and humanist traditions, the twentieth cen-
22 tury was the bloodiest in history, with an estimated
23 175,000,000 people worldwide having lost their lives
24 because of politically motivated violence, genocide,

1 ethnic cleaning, planned starvation, and other forms
2 of exploitation and basic cruelty.

3 (5) These atrocities have included injustices
4 perpetrated against, inter alia, the Jewish, Slavic,
5 and Roma populations of Nazi-controlled territories
6 in Europe; the victims of the Gulag, state-imposed
7 famine and brutal relocation policies followed by the
8 government of the Soviet Union; the victims of the
9 land reform program, the Great Leap Forward pro-
10 gram, and the Cultural Revolution in the People's
11 Republic of China; the Tibetan population in Chi-
12 nese-controlled Tibet; the victims of the Pol Pot re-
13 gime in Cambodia; the Hutu population of Rwanda;
14 the Armenian population of the Ottoman Empire;
15 the Kurdish population of northern Iraq and the
16 Shi'a population of southern Iraq; the Moslem and
17 Croat populations of the former Yugoslavia; the vic-
18 tims caused by the apartheid system in South Afri-
19 ca, and of slavery everywhere; the victims of reli-
20 gious fundamentalism, particularly in Iran; the vic-
21 tims of the Sudanese and Libyan governments; the
22 Albanian population of Kosova; the decimated tribes
23 of Amazon rain forest; and others.

24 (6) The spread of democratic values and insti-
25 tutional practices, particularly since the recent

1 downfall in numerous countries of ruling regimes
2 based on fascism, communism, and other forms of
3 racial, religious, and national exclusivity offers hope
4 at the dawn of this twenty-first century that human-
5 kind may finally find the means effectively to re-
6 strain the sinister motivations of which human na-
7 tures is capable at an organized or institutional
8 level.

9 (7) The United States of America, by virtue of
10 its experience in the ongoing struggle to redeem the
11 promises of its own founding documents and ideals,
12 is well qualified to provide assistance, as appro-
13 priate, to other nations and societies in their strug-
14 gle to achieve similarly lofty goals.

15 **SEC. 3. DECLARATION OF POLICY.**

16 The House of Representatives calls upon the Presi-
17 dent to provide for the appropriate training of Foreign
18 Service officers and other executive branch personnel who
19 have occasion to respond to issues related to man's inhu-
20 manity to man, with such training to include an emphasis
21 on the primacy of democratic values and internationally
22 recognized human rights and the means available to the
23 United States, acting singly or in concert with other na-
24 tions, to promote and enforce those values and rights.

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