

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 134

Acknowledging the deepening relationship between the United States and the Republic of Djibouti and recognizing Djibouti's role in combating terrorism.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 1, 2003

Mr. ROYCE (for himself, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. FLAKE, and Mr. JEFFERSON) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Acknowledging the deepening relationship between the United States and the Republic of Djibouti and recognizing Djibouti's role in combating terrorism.

Whereas the Republic of Djibouti attained independence in 1977 and has since maintained good relations with the United States;

Whereas Djibouti lies at the junction of the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden, a strategic maritime passage;

Whereas during the first Persian Gulf War, Djibouti provided important assistance to the United States and its coalition partners, including access to its modern ports and airports;

Whereas the Republic of Djibouti is a voice of moderation in the African Union, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, and the Arab League;

Whereas for over a decade, Djibouti has been a force for stability in the conflict-prone Horn of Africa;

Whereas since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, Djibouti has been a full and active partner with the United States in the global war on terrorism;

Whereas Djibouti has hosted United States military forces for over one year and has allowed United States and other coalition military forces to conduct extensive training exercises;

Whereas the United States Central Command has chosen Djibouti as the headquarters of the Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa, a key anchor of the United States Central Command's antiterrorist efforts;

Whereas President Ismail Omar Guelleh of the Republic of Djibouti visited the United States in January, 2003 to discuss strengthening bilateral cooperation, economic development, and other issues, and was warmly received by President George W. Bush and members of his cabinet;

Whereas Djibouti suffers one of the highest infant mortality rates in Africa;

Whereas the executive branch plans to establish an office of the United States Agency for International Development in Djibouti;

Whereas the executive branch recently established a transmission facility in Djibouti to support international broadcasting by the United States of Arabic language programs throughout the Middle East; and

Whereas Djibouti is a key ally of the United States in a strategically important region: Now, therefore, be it

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

3 (1) acknowledges the deepening relationship be-
4 tween the United States and the Republic of
5 Djibouti;

6 (2) recognizes the support and assistance
7 Djibouti has provided in combating terrorism;

8 (3) applauds the Republic of Djibouti for wel-
9 coming the presence of United States military forces
10 for training and other purposes; and

11 (4) encourages expanded relations between the
12 United States and the Republic of Djibouti on issues
13 of importance to the two countries, including assist-
14 ance programs aimed at promoting economic devel-
15 opment in Djibouti.

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