

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 80

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress relating to efforts of the Peace Parks Foundation in the Republic of South Africa to facilitate the establishment and development of transfrontier conservation efforts in southern Africa.

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Whereas on February 1, 1997, the Peace Parks Foundation was established in the Republic of South Africa as a non-profit company to facilitate the establishment of transfrontier conservation areas in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries;

Whereas the overall purpose of the Peace Parks Foundation is to facilitate the establishment and development of

transfrontier areas involving two or more countries without compromising national sovereignty, and allowing the free movement of humankind and animals across international borders within the peace park and thereby contributing to economic development, job creation, and peace and understanding between the countries concerned;

Whereas former South African President Nelson Mandela is a patron emeritus of the Peace Parks Foundation and the heads of state of the SADC countries are honorary patrons of the Foundation;

Whereas the Peace Parks Foundation has received the full support and endorsement for its efforts and activities from the heads of state of the SADC countries;

Whereas eight transfrontier conservation areas totaling approximately 232,000 square miles are supported by the Peace Parks Foundation in the SADC countries; and

Whereas the United States values peace and stability in the global community, and in particular Africa, and has long recognized the significance of sustainable economic development and the conservation of biodiversity: Now, therefore, be it

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

3 (1) the United States should support efforts to
4 facilitate the establishment and development of
5 transfrontier conservation areas in the Southern Af-
6 rican Development Community (SADC) countries;
7 and

1 (2) nongovernmental organizations and founda-
2 tions in the United States should be encouraged to
3 support and promote sustainable economic develop-
4 ment and benefits through the preservation of wild-
5 life in peace parks on an expanded and inclusive
6 basis to the benefit of the countries concerned and
7 their people.

Passed the House of Representatives July 16, 2003.

Attest:

Clerk.