

Arab States, nations in the region, and individual nations with significant economic or political influence over Sudan to—

(A) hold President al-Bashir and the Government of Sudan accountable for any failure through neglect or obstruction to fully facilitate the deployment of the full United Nations-African Union hybrid force for Darfur; and

(B) be prepared to implement meaningful measures, including the imposition of multilateral sanctions, an arms embargo, and a no fly zone for Sudanese military flights over Darfur, if the Government of Sudan obstructs deployment of the agreed upon peacekeeping mission.

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, today Senator LUGAR and I introduce a resolution calling for the urgent deployment of a peacekeeping mission to Darfur, but also laying out some benchmarks for that mission.

We are all aware of the terrible carnage that 4 years of genocide have wrought in Darfur and the surrounding region. Hundreds of thousands of people have been killed and millions more have been driven into camps.

The world has watched, it has passed resolutions, and it has decried the killings, but it has not stopped them.

Last month brought the welcome news that the Sudanese government had finally agreed once again, the deployment of a full-scale, joint peacekeeping operation by the United Nations and the African Union.

But in the weeks since then, President al-Bashir has fallen into his old pattern of backpedaling away from his commitments, of accepting the mission but seeking to impose conditions, and of alternately agreeing to the troops and then recanting.

President Bashir may be wavering, but the world must not.

The resolution that we are introducing today expresses Congress's determination to move forward in support of this peacekeeping mission and reaffirms the minimum standards of this mission, which the Khartoum government must not be allowed to bargain away.

It is critical that the United Nations and the African Union hold firm on the structure, capacity, command and control mechanisms, and mandate of the peacekeeping force. We cannot negotiate down on the force levels that are needed; this resolution supports the ongoing efforts at the United Nations Security Council to pass a resolution authorizing approximately 20,000 peacekeeping troops and over 6000 police personnel.

In addition to numbers, it is equally important that the mission have the mandate to protect Darfur's civilians and the means to carry out that mandate.

All the resolutions in the world, however, will not save the people of Darfur if the international community does not contribute the forces and equipment that are needed for this peacekeeping mission.

This resolution urges the member states of the United Nations to step up to volunteer the needed forces. It also

urges the President to work with these countries and the African Union and NATO to expedite deployment.

Together with our partners, we must ensure that the UN-AU force has the people and the equipment to do the job, including the air assets that will be needed to patrol an area that is the size of Texas but lacks both roads and infrastructure. We must also take steps to ensure humanitarian access and security for those bringing aid to the millions of people in Darfur who are in need. We cannot continue to allow attacks against humanitarian workers to take place with impunity.

Our resolution also emphasizes that peacekeeping must be accompanied by a reinvigorated peace-building effort. Chaos and fragmentation are accelerating in Darfur by the day. Blue helmeted troops are not enough: Khartoum, the rebel groups, and leading nations like the U.S. must all work toward a lasting and inclusive peace agreement on the ground.

I am committed to working with the administration to help secure the resources that are needed to fund this mission. If commitments for crucial equipment are not forthcoming, then the U.S. should help provide them—we have the best troops and the best equipment in the world and we must stand ready to assist this effort to bring four years of murder, rape, and destruction to an end.

Finally, I will conclude as our resolution does: if Khartoum does not fulfill its part of the agreement and allow the full deployment of the peacekeeping mission, then the international community must impose multilateral sanctions, an expanded arms embargo, and a no fly zone over Darfur.

The world stands at a critical moment: we must collectively assume our responsibility to protect the people of Darfur, either through the fulfillment of this peacekeeping mission or the imposition of meaningful countermeasures. Four years of killing are four years too many.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2331. Mr. BUNNING submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2669, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 601 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2008; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2332. Mr. BUNNING (for himself and Mr. DEMINT) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2669, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2333. Mr. SESSIONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, supra.

SA 2334. Mr. COLEMAN (for himself, Mr. INHOPE, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. THUNE, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. GRAHAM, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. GREGG, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. BENNETT, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. CORKER, and Mr. BOND) submitted an

amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, supra.

SA 2335. Mr. BIDEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1585, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2336. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1642, to extend the authorization of programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2337. Mr. NELSON, of Nebraska (for himself and Mr. BURR) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 601 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2008.

SA 2338. Mr. COLEMAN (for himself and Ms. LANDRIEU) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, supra.

SA 2339. Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. ENZI, Mr. GREGG, Mr. SMITH, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. COLEMAN, and Mr. VOINOVICH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, supra.

SA 2340. Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. KYL, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. WARNER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, supra.

SA 2341. Mr. SUNUNU submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, supra.

SA 2342. Mr. SESSIONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, supra.

SA 2343. Mr. SESSIONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2669, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2344. Mr. DURBIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2345. Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. HAGEL, and Mrs. CLINTON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2346. Mr. DURBIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2347. Mr. DURBIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2348. Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2339 submitted by Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. ENZI, Mr. GREGG, Mr. SMITH, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. COLEMAN, and Mr. VOINOVICH) to the amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2349. Mr. HARKIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2669, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2350. Mrs. DOLE (for herself and Mr. MCCONNELL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2327

proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, supra.

SA 2351. Mr. McCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, supra.

SA 2352. Mr. DEMINT proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, supra.

SA 2353. Mr. KYL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, supra.

SA 2354. Mrs. HUTCHISON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2355. Mr. ENSIGN proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, supra.

SA 2356. Mr. SALAZAR proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, supra.

SA 2357. Mr. McCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, supra.

SA 2358. Ms. STABENOW proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2355 proposed by Mr. ENSIGN to the amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, supra.

SA 2359. Mr. COLEMAN proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, supra.

SA 2360. Mr. GRAHAM proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, supra.

SA 2361. Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2341 submitted by Mr. SUNUNU to the amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, supra.

SA 2362. Mr. DEMINT proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, supra.

SA 2363. Ms. LANDRIEU proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2362 proposed by Mr. DEMINT to the amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, supra.

SA 2364. Mr. KERRY proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2353 submitted by Mr. KYL to the amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, supra.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2331. Mr. BUNNING submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2669, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 601 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2008; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place insert the following:

SEC. ____ . REPEAL OF 1993 INCOME TAX INCREASE ON SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS.

(a) RESTORATION OF PRIOR LAW FORMULA.—Subsection (a) of section 86 (relating to social security and tier 1 railroad retirement benefits) is amended to read as follows:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Gross income for the taxable year of any taxpayer described in subsection (b) (notwithstanding section 207 of the Social Security Act) includes social security benefits in an amount equal to the lesser of—

“(1) one-half of the social security benefits received during the taxable year, or

“(2) one-half of the excess described in subsection (b)(1).”.

(b) REPEAL OF ADJUSTED BASE AMOUNT.—Subsection (c) of section 86 is amended to read as follows:

“(c) BASE AMOUNT.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘base amount’ means—

“(1) except as otherwise provided in this subsection, \$25,000,

“(2) \$32,000 in the case of a joint return, and

“(3) zero in the case of a taxpayer who—

“(A) is married as of the close of the taxable year (within the meaning of section 7703) but does not file a joint return for such year, and

“(B) does not live apart from his spouse at all times during the taxable year.”.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Subparagraph (A) of section 871(a)(3) is amended by striking “85 percent” and inserting “50 percent”.

(2)(A) Subparagraph (A) of section 121(e)(1) of the Social Security Amendments of 1983 (Public Law 98–21) is amended—

(i) by striking “(A) There” and inserting “There”;

(ii) by striking “(i)” immediately following “amounts equivalent to”; and

(iii) by striking “, less (ii)” and all that follows and inserting a period.

(B) Paragraph (1) of section 121(e) of such Act is amended by striking subparagraph (B).

(C) Paragraph (3) of section 121(e) of such Act is amended by striking subparagraph (B) and by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (B).

(D) Paragraph (2) of section 121(e) of such Act is amended in the first sentence by striking “paragraph (1)(A)” and inserting “paragraph (1)”.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

(2) SUBSECTION (c)(1).—The amendment made by subsection (c)(1) shall apply to benefits paid after December 31, 2007.

(3) SUBSECTION (c)(2).—The amendments made by subsection (c)(2) shall apply to tax liabilities for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SEC. ____ . MAINTENANCE OF TRANSFERS TO HOSPITAL INSURANCE TRUST FUND.

There are hereby appropriated to the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund established under section 1817 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395i) amounts equal to the reduction in revenues to the Treasury by reason of the enactment of this Act. Amounts appropriated by the preceding sentence shall be transferred from the general fund at such times and in such manner as to replicate to the extent possible the transfers which would have occurred to such Trust Fund had this Act not been enacted.

SA 2332. Mr. BUNNING (for himself and Mr. DEMINT) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2669, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 601 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2008; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place insert the following:

SEC. ____ . REPEAL OF APPLICABILITY OF SUNSET OF THE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TAX RELIEF RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2001 WITH RESPECT TO ADOPTION CREDIT AND ADOPTION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

Section 901 of the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(c) EXCEPTION.—Subsection (a) shall not apply to the amendments made by section 202 (relating to expansion of adoption credit and adoption assistance programs).”.

SA 2333. Mr. SESSIONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 601 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2008; as follows:

Strike section 401 of the Higher Education Access Act of 2007.

SA 2334. Mr. COLEMAN (for himself, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. THUNE, Mr. McCONNELL, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. GRAHAM, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. GREGG, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. BENNETT, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. BROWBACK, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. CORKER, and Mr. BOND) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2327 proposed by Mr. KENNEDY to the bill H.R. 2669, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 601 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2008; as follows:

At the end of the bill, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . FAIRNESS DOCTRINE PROHIBITED.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the “Broadcaster Freedom Act of 2007”.

(b) FAIRNESS DOCTRINE PROHIBITED.—Title III of the Communications Act of 1934 is amended by inserting after section 303 (47 U.S.C. 303) the following new section:

“SEC. 303A. LIMITATION ON GENERAL POWERS: FAIRNESS DOCTRINE.

“Notwithstanding section 303 or any other provision of this Act or any other Act authorizing the Commission to prescribe rules, regulations, policies, doctrines, standards, or other requirements, the Commission shall not have the authority to prescribe any rule, regulation, policy, doctrine, standard, or other requirement that has the purpose or effect of reinstating or repromulgating (in whole or in part) the requirement that broadcasters present opposing viewpoints on controversial issues of public importance, commonly referred to as the ‘Fairness Doctrine’, as repealed in *General Fairness Doctrine Obligations of Broadcast Licensees*, 50 Fed. Reg. 35418 (1985).”.

SA 2335. Mr. BIDEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1585, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle C of title XV, add the following:

SEC. 1535. IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICE AND EXPLOSIVELY FORMED PENETRATOR PROTECTION FOR MILITARY VEHICLES.

(a) PROCUREMENT OF ADDITIONAL MINE RESISTANT AMBUSH PROTECTED VEHICLES.—

(1) ADDITIONAL AMOUNT FOR MARINE CORPS PROCUREMENT.—The amount authorized to be appropriated by section 1502(b) for procurement for the Marine Corps is hereby increased by \$23,600,000,000.

(2) AVAILABILITY FOR PROCUREMENT OF ADDITIONAL MRAP VEHICLES.—Of the amount authorized to be appropriated by section 1502(b)