

**As Introduced**

**126th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2005-2006**

**S. C. R. No. 17**

**Senators Jacobson, Coughlin, Dann, Fingerhut, Goodman, Jordan, Miller,  
Mumper, Prentiss, Schuler, Wachtmann, Padgett**

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**CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

To focus on the Darfur genocide, which the United States Department of State has concluded is genocide, occurring in the Darfur region of Sudan, to encourage the United States to continue its support of humanitarian efforts in and contributions of humanitarian aid to the region, to encourage the United States to lead multilateral efforts to bring those responsible for the egregious human rights violations to justice, and to encourage Ohio companies and institutions, multinational corporations operating in Ohio, and agencies and political subdivisions of the state to divest themselves of interests in any companies that conduct business in Sudan.

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF OHIO (THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING):**

WHEREAS, In February 2003, the Sudan Liberation Army (SLA) and Justice Equality Movement (JEM) from the Darfur region of Sudan clashed with the Janjaweed militia, a group supported by the government of Sudan, in an attempt to oppose the region's extreme political and economic marginalization. Since that time, tens of thousands of civilians have been killed and more than two million

civilians have been made internally displaced peoples by the two warring factions. Furthermore, approximately two hundred thousand Darfur refugees have fled across the border to Chad; and

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WHEREAS, On July 22, 2004, the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate declared that the atrocities occurring in Darfur are genocide; and

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WHEREAS, On September 9, 2004, Secretary of State Colin L. Powell stated before the United States Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, "When we reviewed the evidence compiled by our team, along with other information available to the State Department, we concluded that genocide has been committed in Darfur and that the Government of Sudan and the (Janjaweed) bear responsibility - and genocide may still be occurring"; and

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WHEREAS, President George W. Bush, in an address before the United Nations General Assembly on September 21, 2004, stated, "At this hour, the world is witnessing terrible suffering and horrible crimes in the Darfur region of Sudan, crimes my government has concluded are genocide"; and

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WHEREAS, As a stabilizing force, the United States has an obligation to promote peace in the region and to work with other foreign governments to end the genocide in the Darfur region of Sudan; now therefore be it

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RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 126th General Assembly of the State of Ohio, wish to focus attention on the killing of tens of thousands of civilians at the hands of the armed belligerents; and be it further

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RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 126th General Assembly of the State of Ohio, encourage the President of the United States and the Congress of the United States to continue supporting the humanitarian efforts of international aid groups to relieve the suffering of those who have been affected by the genocide

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occurring in the Darfur region of Sudan, to protect the workers of 52  
those aid groups, to encourage foreign governments to provide 53  
water, food, shelter, and medical care to those suffering in 54  
Darfur, and to lead multilateral efforts to bring those 55  
responsible for the egregious human rights violations to justice; 56  
and be it further 57

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 126th General Assembly 58  
of the State of Ohio, encourage Ohio companies and institutions, 59  
multinational corporations operating in Ohio, and agencies and 60  
political subdivisions of the state to divest themselves of 61  
interests in any companies that conduct business in Sudan; and be 62  
it further 63

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly 64  
authenticated copies of this resolution to the President of the 65  
United States, the United States Secretary of State, the Speaker 66  
and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the 67  
President Pro Tempore and Secretary of the United States Senate, 68  
the members of the Ohio Congressional delegation, and the news 69  
media of Ohio. 70