

**Calendar No. 50**

105<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> Session  
**S. CON. RES. 6**

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**CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

Expressing concern for the continued deterioration of human rights in Afghanistan and emphasizing the need for a peaceful political settlement in that country.

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MAY 8, 1997

Reported with an amendment and an amendment to the preamble

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### IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 7, 1997

Mr. DODD (for himself, Mr. HAGEL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. MCCAIN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

MAY 8, 1997

Reported by Mr. HELMS, with an amendment and an amendment to the preamble

[Strike out all after the resolving clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

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## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing concern for the continued deterioration of human rights in Afghanistan and emphasizing the need for a peaceful political settlement in that country.

Whereas Congress recognizes that the legacy of civil conflict in Afghanistan during the last 17 years has had a devastating effect on the civilian population in that country and a particularly negative impact on the rights and security of women and girls;

Whereas the longstanding civil conflict in Afghanistan among the warring political and military factions has created an environment where the rights of women and girls are routinely violated;

Whereas the Afghan forces led by Burhanuddin Rabbani and Abdul Rashid Dostum are responsible for numerous abhorrent human rights abuses, including the rape, sexual abuse, torture, abduction, and persecution of women and girls;

Whereas Congress is disturbed by the upsurge of reported human rights abuses, including extreme restrictions placed on women and girls, since the Taliban coalition seized the capital city of Kabul;

Whereas Afghanistan is a sovereign nation and must work to solve its internal disputes; and

Whereas Afghanistan and the United States recognize international human rights conventions, such as the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, which espouse respect for basic human rights of all individuals without regard to race, religion, ethnicity, or gender: Now, therefore, be it

*Whereas Congress recognizes that the legacy of civil conflict in Afghanistan during the last 17 years has had a devastating effect on the civilian population in that country, killing 2,000,000 people and displacing more than 7,000,000, and has had a particularly negative impact on the rights and security of women and girls;*

*Whereas the Department of State's Country Reports on Human Practices for 1996 states: "Serious human rights violations continue to occur[...] political killings, torture, rape, arbitrary detention, looting, abductions and*

*kidnappings for ransom were committed by armed units, local commanders and rogue individuals.”;*

*Whereas the Afghan forces affiliated with Burhanuddin Rabbani and Abdul Rashid Dostum are responsible for numerous abhorrent human rights abuses, including the rape, sexual abuse, torture, abduction, and persecution of women and girls;*

*Whereas Congress is disturbed by the upsurge of reported human rights abuses in Taliban-controlled territory, including extreme restrictions placed on women and girls;*

*Whereas the Taliban have provided safe haven to suspected terrorists and may be allowing terrorist training camps to operate in territory under its control;*

*Whereas Afghanistan is a sovereign nation and must work to solve its internal disputes; and*

*Whereas Afghanistan and the United States recognize international human rights conventions, such as the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, which espouse respect for basic human rights of all individuals without regard to race, religion, ethnicity, or gender: Now therefore, be it.*

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

3               (1) ~~deplores the violations of international hu-~~  
4 ~~manitarian law by the Taliban coalition in Afghani-~~  
5 ~~stan and raises concern over the reported cases of~~  
6 ~~stoning, public executions, and street beatings;~~

7               (2) ~~condemns the Taliban’s targeted discrimina-~~  
8 ~~tion against women and girls and expresses deep~~

1 concern regarding the prohibition of employment  
2 and education for women and girls;

3 (3) takes note of the recent armed conflict in  
4 Kabul, affirms the need for peace negotiations and  
5 expresses hope that the Afghan parties will agree to  
6 a cease-fire throughout the country.

7 (b) It is the sense of Congress that the President  
8 should—

9 (1) continue to monitor the human rights situa-  
10 tion in Afghanistan and should call for an end to  
11 discrimination against women and girls in Afghani-  
12 stan and for adherence by all factions in Afghani-  
13 stan to international humanitarian law;

14 (2) review United States policy with respect to  
15 Afghanistan if the Taliban coalition and others do  
16 not cease immediately the harassment and other dis-  
17 criminatory practices against women and girls;

18 (3) encourage efforts to procure a durable peace  
19 in Afghanistan and should support the United Na-  
20 tions Special Mission to Afghanistan led by Norbert  
21 Holl to assist in brokering a peaceful resolution to  
22 years of conflict;

23 (4) call upon the Government of Pakistan to  
24 use its good offices with the Taliban to reverse the

1 Taliban's restrictive and discriminatory policies  
2 against women and girls;

3 ~~(5) call upon other nations to cease providing~~  
4 ~~financial assistance, arms, and other kinds of sup-~~  
5 ~~port to the militaries or political organizations of~~  
6 ~~any of the warring factions in Afghanistan.~~

7 SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit  
8 a copy of this concurrent resolution to the President with  
9 the request that he further transmit such copy to the  
10 United Nations and relevant parties in Afghanistan.

11 *That (a) Congress hereby—*

12 *(1) deplores the violations of international hu-*  
13 *manitarian law by the Taliban coalition in Afghani-*  
14 *stan and raises concern over the reported cases of*  
15 *stoning, public executions, and street beatings;*

16 *(2) condemns the Taliban's targeted discrimina-*  
17 *tion against women and girls and expresses deep con-*  
18 *cern regarding the prohibition of employment and*  
19 *education for women and girls;*

20 *(3) urges the Taliban and all other parties in Af-*  
21 *ghanistan to cease providing safe haven to suspected*  
22 *terrorists or permitting Afghan territory to be used*  
23 *for terrorist training; and*

24 *(4) takes note of the continued armed conflict in*  
25 *Afghanistan, affirms the need for peace negotiations*

1        *and expresses hope that the Afghan parties will agree*  
2        *to a cease-fire throughout the country.*

3        *(b) It is the sense of Congress that the President*  
4        *should—*

5                *(1) continue to monitor the human rights situa-*  
6                *tion in Afghanistan and should call for adherence by*  
7                *all factions in Afghanistan to international humani-*  
8                *tarian law;*

9                *(2) call for an end to the systematic discrimina-*  
10               *tion and harassment of women and girls in Afghani-*  
11               *stan;*

12               *(3) encourage efforts to procure a durable peace*  
13               *in Afghanistan and should support the United Na-*  
14               *tions Special Mission to Afghanistan led by Norbert*  
15               *Holl to assist in brokering a peaceful resolution to*  
16               *years of conflict;*

17               *(4) call upon the Government of Pakistan to use*  
18               *its good offices with the Taliban to cease human*  
19               *rights violations, end provision of safe haven to ter-*  
20               *rorists and terrorist training camps, and reverse dis-*  
21               *criminatory policies against women and girls; and*

22               *(5) call upon other nations to cease providing fi-*  
23               *nancial assistance, arms, and other kinds of support*  
24               *to the militaries or political organizations of any of*  
25               *the warring factions in Afghanistan;*

1           (6) *undertake a review of United States policy*  
2           *toward Afghanistan.*

3           *SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a*  
4           *copy of this concurrent resolution to the President with the*  
5           *request that he further transmit such copy to the United*  
6           *Nations and relevant parties in Afghanistan.*