

By: Naishtat

H.R. No. 341

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, In February 2003, after decades of tension over
2 scarce natural resources in the Darfur province of western Sudan,
3 African Muslims rose up against the Arab Muslim government in the
4 capital city of Khartoum; in response to the uprising, the
5 government armed local militias, known as "Janjaweed," to campaign
6 primarily against three ethnic groups: the Fur, Massalit, and
7 Zaghawa; and

8 WHEREAS, For nearly three years, the government-funded
9 Janjaweed militias have systematically terrorized the African
10 residents of Darfur--destroying villages, ransacking food
11 supplies, blocking international assistance, and killing, maiming,
12 and raping villagers; the scope of the crisis is staggering, with
13 an estimated 400,000 innocent civilians brutally murdered, more
14 than 200,000 forced from their homes and fleeing to neighboring
15 Chad, and more than 1,600,000 displaced within Sudan itself; and

16 WHEREAS, Human rights organizations and governmental
17 representatives from around the world have pronounced the situation
18 in Darfur as nothing less than genocide; in fact, in July 2004, the
19 United States Congress passed resolutions declaring genocide in
20 Sudan, and in January 2005, the United Nations Commission of
21 Inquiry decried the indiscriminate attacks, including killing of
22 civilians, torture, enforced disappearances, destruction of
23 villages, rape and other forms of sexual violence, pillaging, and
24 forced displacement perpetrated by government forces and militias

1 against the Fur, Zaghawa, Massalit, Jebel, Aranga, and other
2 African tribes; moreover, in June 2004, the Group of Eight issued a
3 statement lamenting the obstruction of humanitarian access and
4 reported gross violations of human rights, many with an ethnic
5 dimension; and

6 WHEREAS, The United States has long been a beacon of hope for
7 vulnerable and disenfranchised people around the world; as citizens
8 of conscience and this great land, we bear both the responsibility
9 and honor to raise our voices against injustice in behalf of those
10 unable to speak for themselves; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
12 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, express its support for the
13 immediate intervention by the United States and the United Nations,
14 as leaders of the international community, to stop the genocide in
15 Darfur and to ensure that humanitarian relief reaches all those in
16 need.