

By: Reynolds

H.R. No. 1329

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Myanmar state forces killed almost 24,000 members of
2 the country's Rohingya Muslim minority between 2017 and 2020,
3 according to a report compiled by the Ontario International
4 Development Agency; and

5 WHEREAS, Rohingya Muslims have lived in Myanmar for
6 centuries, alongside a Buddhist majority and other, smaller ethnic
7 minorities, but following a military coup in 1962, the Rohingya
8 were demonized by a regime seeking scapegoats for its failures;
9 enacting a series of harsh laws, the military stripped them of
10 citizenship and practiced systematic oppression, claiming they
11 were illegal immigrants from Bangladesh, intent upon destroying
12 Buddhist heritage; and

13 WHEREAS, Isolated politically and economically, military
14 leaders began to adopt some trappings of representative government;
15 a new constitution was adopted in 2008, but the persecution of the
16 Rohingya escalated, and authorities launched an ethnic cleansing
17 campaign, interning them in squalid open-air detention camps; and

18 WHEREAS, In a 2015 election, the party led by Nobel
19 Prize-winning champion of democracy Aung San Suu Kyi won a
20 landslide victory; she became the de facto civilian leader, but
21 deferred to the military as the state continued to persecute the
22 Rohingya; after an attack by a rebel group in 2017, the military
23 descended upon Rohingya villages with helicopter gunships;
24 soldiers burned houses to the ground and committed murder and gang

1 rapes in a brutal campaign with "genocidal intent," according to a
2 United Nations human rights report; more than 750,000 desperate
3 Rohingya, mostly women and children, were driven over the border
4 into Bangladesh, according to Amnesty International; and

5 WHEREAS, Before being ousted by a military coup in February
6 2021, Aung San Suu Kyi ignored pleas from the international
7 community to speak out or intervene, dismissing evidence of
8 atrocities as "fake news" and claiming the military was simply
9 fighting terrorism; and

10 WHEREAS, The Rohingya have suffered immensely for decades,
11 and while hundreds of thousands languish in crowded refugee camps
12 in Bangladesh, the fate of those remaining in Myanmar is more
13 precarious than ever under an emboldened military determined to
14 crush all opposition; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
16 Legislature hereby condemn the genocide perpetrated against the
17 Rohingya people by the military government of Myanmar.