

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas the conflict in Tajikistan between the government and opposition forces has caused the death of tens of thousands of persons and has displaced 500,000 persons, one-tenth of the country's 5,400,000 people;

Whereas the conflict has been characterized on all sides by gross human rights violations, abuses, and brutalities, including the murders of children, pregnant women, and babies, widespread use of torture, and summary executions;

Whereas the current violence has the potential to cause conflict along ethnic lines between Tajiks and Uzbeks throughout the region;

Whereas the United Nations Security Council has called upon all parties to reach a political solution and seek national reconciliation;

Whereas the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe has established a mission in Tajikistan to seek ways to revolve the conflict;

Whereas through the efforts of the Special Envoy of the Secretary General of the United Nations to Tajikistan, negotiations are now being conducted;

Whereas elections have been scheduled by the Government of Tajikistan for November 6, 1994;

Whereas the success of a truly representative government will assist with the development of a peaceful and stable Central Asia and beyond;

Whereas the United States has successfully responded to urgent needs for food and other humanitarian assistance in the past;

Whereas food access rather than availability will be a critical problem facing Tajikistan for the foreseeable future;

Whereas there remain significant shortages of necessary building materials, wheat, cooking oil, soap, and shoes;

Whereas lack of fuel nationwide will delay food shipments to Gorno Badakshan, creating severe food shortages in that region, and has the potential to cripple the economy;

Whereas economic assistance can sometimes be given through nongovernmental organizations, in the form of microdevelopment projects, thus supporting the economy from the bottom up;

Whereas continued support for the present of the United Nations and other international organizations and for

microdevelopment projects could encourage the peaceful return and reintegration of refugees and displaced Tajiks; and

Whereas any unconditional economic assistance for the central government in Dushanbe, by any party, amounts to a failure to take advantage of political leverage to support national reconciliation and human rights: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring),*

3 (a) That it is the sense of the Congress that—

4 (1) while the Congress welcomes steps taken by
5 the Government of Tajikistan toward the holding of
6 open elections, it expresses its concerns that nomination,
7 registration, and voting procedures are inad-
8 equate to ensure that such elections will be free and
9 fair; and

10 (2) any peacekeeping activities in Tajikistan
11 should be conducted in full conformity with United
12 Nations and international peacekeeping norms and
13 practices.

14 (b) That it is the further sense of the Congress that
15 the President—

16 (1) should support existing efforts at national
17 reconciliation in Tajikistan, including—

18 (A) those of the Conference on Security
19 and Cooperation in Europe, and

1 (B) the current diplomatic initiatives,
2 through the office of the Special Envoy of the
3 Secretary General of the United Nations to
4 Tajikistan;

16 (4) should urge the international community to
17 make similar commitments;

21 (6) should seek to ensure that economic assist-
22 ance is provided directly to the Government of
23 Tajikistan only if it is making significant progress
24 in—

(A) protecting and facilitating the activities of human rights groups, including their monitoring of human rights abuses by or upon any party and the training of local human rights organizations;

(B) promoting democratic development, including free and fair elections;

(C) participating in and otherwise facilitating conflict resolution efforts;

(D) terminating interference in the non-violent activities of the political opposition;

(E) allowing the International Committee of the Red Cross to visit prisoners in accordance with its mandate, which includes private interviews with prisoners;

(F) participating in and otherwise facilitating the compilation of a list of all those who have been extrajudicially executed or have disappeared; and

1 (G) facilitating the protection and
2 reintegration of returnees.

Passed the House of Representatives October 5,
1994.

Attest:

Clerk.

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Urging the President to promote political stability in Tajikistan through efforts to encourage political resolution of the conflict and respect for human rights and through the provision of humanitarian assistance and, subject to certain conditions, economic assistance.