

104TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. CON. RES. 53

Congratulating the people of the Republic of Sierra Leone on the success
of their recent democratic multiparty elections.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 23, 1996

Mr. JEFFORDS (for himself, Mrs. KASSEBAUM, Mr. SIMON, and Mr. FEINGOLD) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Congratulating the people of the Republic of Sierra Leone on the success of their recent democratic multiparty elections.

Whereas since 1991 the people of the Republic of Sierra Leone have endured a horrific civil war that has killed thousands of individuals and displaced more than half the population of the country;

Whereas for the first time in almost 30 years, the Republic of Sierra Leone held its first truly democratic multiparty elections to elect a president and parliament and put an end to military rule;

Whereas the elections held on February 26, 1996, and the subsequent runoff election held on March 15, 1996, were deemed by international and domestic observers to be

free and fair and legitimate expressions of the will of the people of the Republic of Sierra Leone;

Whereas success of the newly elected democratic government led by President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah could have a positive effect on the West African neighbors of the Republic of Sierra Leone; and

Whereas the historic event of democratic multiparty elections in the Republic of Sierra Leone should be honored: Now, therefore, be it

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

3 (1) congratulates the people of the Republic of
4 Sierra Leone for holding their first democratic
5 multiparty presidential and parliamentary elections
6 in nearly 30 years;

7 (2) encourages all people of the Republic of Si-
8 erra Leone to continue to negotiate an end to the
9 civil war and to work together after taking the criti-
10 cal first step of holding democratic elections in that
11 country;

12 (3) reaffirms the commitment of the United
13 States to help nations move toward freedom and de-
14 mocracy; and

15 (4) further reaffirms that the United States is
16 committed to encouraging peace, democracy, and
17 economic development on the African continent.

