

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To provide a complete substitute.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—113th Cong., 1st Sess.

S. Res. 144

Concerning the ongoing conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the need for international efforts supporting long-term peace, stability, and observance of human rights.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Mr. COONS

Viz:

- 1 Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the fol-
- 2 lowing: “That the Senate—
- 3 (1) commends United Nations Secretary-Gen-
- 4 eral Ban Ki-Moon’s commitment and leadership to
- 5 resolving the crisis in the Democratic Republic of
- 6 the Congo and his appointment of Mary Robinson as
- 7 United Nations Special Envoy to the Great Lakes;
- 8 (2) supports the commitments agreed to by the
- 9 signatories of the Peace, Security and Cooperation
- 10 (in this resolution, the “Framework”), and encour-
- 11 ages them to work closely with the United Nations,

1 the African Union, the International Conference on
2 the Great Lakes Region, the Southern African De-
3 velopment Community, as guarantors of the Frame-
4 work, and the United Nations Special Envoy,
5 MONUSCO, and relevant international bodies and
6 governments to develop, implement, and enforce a
7 comprehensive peace process for the region;

8 (3) notes that the adoption of the Framework,
9 the appointment of Mary Robinson as United Na-
10 tions Special Envoy to the Great Lakes, and the ex-
11 panded MONUSCO mandate provide an opportunity
12 to make meaningful and sustained progress toward
13 ending the recurrent cycles of violence in the Demo-
14 cratic Republic of the Congo, especially in eastern
15 Congo;

16 (4) urges the signatories of the Framework and
17 the international community to engage and consult
18 with representatives of the Government of the
19 Democratic Republic of the Congo and civil society
20 representatives engaged in the ongoing effort to con-
21 vene an inclusive national forum and dialogue;

22 (5) welcomes the announcement by World Bank
23 President Jim Yong Kim of \$1,000,000,000 in pro-
24 posed new funding to help the Democratic Republic
25 of the Congo and other countries in the Great Lakes

1 region to provide better health and education serv-
2 ices, generate more cross-border trade, and to fund
3 hydroelectricity projects in support of the Frame-
4 work agreement;

5 (6) welcomes the appointment of Russ Feingold
6 as the United States Special Envoy for the African
7 Great Lakes region and the Democratic Republic of
8 the Congo and urges him to advance United States,
9 international, and regional efforts to end the conflict
10 and secure sustainable peace, stability, and safety
11 for the people of the Democratic Republic of the
12 Congo by—

13 (A) working with United Nations Special
14 Envoy Mary Robinson and the broader inter-
15 national community to promote a transparent
16 and inclusive process to implement the regional
17 and national commitments under the Frame-
18 work, including the development of clear bench-
19 marks for progress and appropriate follow-on
20 measures;

21 (B) strengthening international efforts to
22 mobilize and support justice for victims and ac-
23 countability for perpetrators of sexual and gen-
24 der based violence and other human rights

1 abuses in the Democratic Republic of the
2 Congo;

3 (C) expanding efforts to develop conflict-
4 free and responsible mining and supply chains
5 for the region's vast mineral resources, in co-
6 ordination with other government, private in-
7 dustry, and international and local organiza-
8 tions;

9 (D) coordinating with international and re-
10 gional partners to expand unhindered access to
11 life-saving humanitarian assistance to popu-
12 lations in need, particularly displaced persons
13 and conflict-affected communities;

14 (E) pressing for fulfillment of the commit-
15 ment of the Government of the Democratic Re-
16 public of the Congo, as well as other regional
17 actors, to ending the threat posed by the M23,
18 the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), the Demo-
19 cratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda
20 (FDLR), and other armed groups in the Great
21 Lakes region, and to facilitate enhanced coordi-
22 nation of regional efforts to counter these
23 groups; and

24 (F) mobilizing and facilitating United
25 States and international support for electoral

1 reforms in the Democratic Republic of the
2 Congo, with the goal of encouraging free, fair,
3 and credible provincial and local elections in the
4 near-term, and presidential elections in 2016;

5 (7) calls on the President, in close coordination
6 with international and regional partners, to work
7 with the Government of the Democratic Republic of
8 the Congo to develop and implement recommenda-
9 tions to improve accountability for serious violations
10 of international humanitarian law and human rights
11 abuses in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in-
12 cluding by considering imposition of sanctions au-
13 thorized under section 1284 of the National Defense
14 Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law
15 112-239; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note);

16 (8) calls on governments of the Great Lakes re-
17 gion of Africa to immediately halt and prevent any
18 and all forms of support to non-state armed groups,
19 including support provided by individuals inde-
20 pendent of government policy;

21 (9) calls on all relevant nations, including des-
22 tination and transit countries, to increase coopera-
23 tion on ending the illicit trade in conflict minerals,
24 wildlife, and wildlife parts, which continues to fuel
25 and fund violence and to deprive citizens of economic

1 opportunity in the Democratic Republic of the
2 Congo and the broader region;

3 (10) calls on the signatories of the Framework
4 to cooperate in the arrest and prosecution of those
5 responsible for violating international humanitarian
6 law and for serious human rights violations, includ-
7 ing gender-based violence;

8 (11) calls on the Government of the Democratic
9 Republic of the Congo to engage in meaningful and
10 inclusive electoral reforms, prepare and hold impar-
11 tially administered local and provincial elections as
12 soon as technically possible, continue to participate
13 in ongoing efforts to provide a platform for inclusive
14 dialogue within the Democratic Republic of the
15 Congo to address critical internal political issues at
16 the local and national levels, and strengthen proc-
17 esses of state institution building;

18 (12) calls on the Government of the Democratic
19 Republic of the Congo, in coordination with the
20 international community, to undertake significant
21 security sector reform, which is a necessary compo-
22 nent for lasting stability, and renewed disarmament,
23 demobilization, and reintegration (DDR) efforts that
24 ensure that any rebel troops, especially commanders,
25 responsible for human rights violations are held ac-

1 countable and not reintegrated into the Armed
2 Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo
3 (FARDC); and

4 (13) urges the Government of the Democratic
5 Republic of the Congo to improve efforts to protect
6 civilians from armed groups, in cooperation with
7 MONUSCO and the African Union's Regional Co-
8 operation Initiative on the LRA.