

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. RES.

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Observing the 25th Anniversary of the genocide in Rwanda.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. KAINE, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. COONS, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. BOOKER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on

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# RESOLUTION

Observing the 25th Anniversary of the genocide in Rwanda.

Whereas 25 years ago, between April and June 1994, an estimated 800,000 Rwandans, most of them members of the minority Tutsi community along with some politically moderate Hutus, were killed in an organized campaign of genocide;

Whereas up to 2,000,000 people fled Rwanda as refugees, 1,000,000 were internally displaced, and of the survivors, 75,000 were children who lost one or both parents;

Whereas the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda was dramatically scaled back as the genocide occurred, with the United States and other nations failing to stop the killings;

Whereas the genocide forced Rwandans to confront core issues of ethnic and national identity, justice, peace, reconciliation, and security;

Whereas the people and Government of Rwanda have taken steps to foster peace and reconciliation;

Whereas Rwanda's position on the United Nations Development Program Human Development Index continues to steadily improve, although the nation remains one of the world's poorest, positioned at 158 out of 189 countries and territories requiring continued development assistance and support; and

Whereas the people and Government of the United States support the people of Rwanda in their aspirations for continued economic growth, improved food security, better health outcomes, protection of biodiversity, and fully accountable governance: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2               (1) solemnly observes the 25th Anniversary of  
3       the genocide in Rwanda, which began on April 6,  
4       1994;

5               (2) recognizes the failure of the international  
6       community, including the United States, to provide  
7       urgent assistance in preventing and stopping the  
8       genocide;

9               (3) reaffirms that the people of the United  
10       States will continue to stand with the people of  
11       Rwanda in their ongoing journey towards reconcili-

1 ation, peace, and open, inclusive, and accountable  
2 governance;

3 (4) reaffirms its commitment to the Convention  
4 on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of  
5 Genocide, done at Paris December 9, 1948;

6 (5) supports ongoing efforts to educate the peo-  
7 ple of the United States, and around the world,  
8 about the genocide in Rwanda, hoping to prevent the  
9 commission of any such future occurrences in Rwan-  
10 da or elsewhere;

11 (6) commits to continuing efforts to strengthen  
12 and support Rwandan, United States, and other  
13 international institutions and tribunals working to  
14 bring to justice those responsible for the genocide;  
15 and

16 (7) calls on the United States Government and  
17 the international community to seize on the occasion  
18 of this anniversary to focus attention on the future  
19 of Rwanda, cooperating to prevent and respond to  
20 genocide and crimes against humanity in nations  
21 across the globe, and to support the people of Rwan-  
22 da so that they may—

23 (A) be free from future ethnic violence;

24 (B) experience full civil and human rights,  
25 without fear of violence or intimidation;

- 1 (C) peacefully resolve disputes; and
- 2 (D) benefit from sustained economic
- 3 growth and development, which improves the
- 4 health, prosperity and standard of living of all.