

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 610

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the people of the Republic of Mozambique are to be commended for their commitment to rebuilding their nation after years of civil war, their willingness to live together harmoniously despite sharp political differences, and their ability to overcome poverty, health crises, and refugee outflows to build a growing economy and a positive future for their country.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 20, 1998

Ms. MCKINNEY submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the people of the Republic of Mozambique are to be commended for their commitment to rebuilding their nation after years of civil war, their willingness to live together harmoniously despite sharp political differences, and their ability to overcome poverty, health crises, and refugee outflows to build a growing economy and a positive future for their country.

Whereas the Republic of Mozambique suffered from armed conflict for 30 years, first against Portuguese colonialism and then a brutal civil war between the FRELIMO government and RENAMO rebels;

Whereas up to one-third of Mozambique's 17,000,000 people were forced to flee their homes as refugees or internal displaced persons as a result of the civil war;

Whereas the two sides to the civil conflict reached a peace accord in 1992 and democratic elections were held in 1994 with the participation of all major political groups;

Whereas both the government of President Joaquim Alberto Chissano and opposition parties have participated positively in Mozambique's representative democracy;

Whereas both the government and the opposition have made considerable strides in building a defense force that is representative of the Mozambican people;

Whereas Mozambique has rejected its communist economic policies, embraced free market principles, privatized many state enterprises, encouraged foreign investment and now enjoys one of Africa's highest economic growth rates at 8 percent per year; and

Whereas Mozambique is a fertile market for United States investment and trade: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) recognizes the achievements of the
3 Mozambican people in overcoming political and eco-
4 nomic obstacles to become a model of reconciliation
5 and development;

6 (2) applauds those who have led Mozambique
7 toward political reconciliation and away from armed
8 conflict;

1 (3) commends the people of Mozambique for
2 continuing to support democracy and democratic in-
3 stitutions;

4 (4) calls upon United States Government agen-
5 cies to continue to work with their Mozambican
6 counterparts in forging a close bilateral relationship;

7 (5) calls on the Government of Mozambique to
8 continue to be a model of democracy, economic liber-
9 alization, and respect for human rights; and

10 (6) calls those nations in the world torn by civil
11 strife to look toward the example of Mozambique for
12 the benefits of political reconciliation and peaceful
13 economic development.

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