

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 16

Commending the people and government of Kenya for the recent free elections and the orderly and democratic transfer of power.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 7, 2003

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Commending the people and government of Kenya for the recent free elections and the orderly and democratic transfer of power.

Whereas Mr. Mwai Kibaki recently took the oath of office as Kenya's third president;

Whereas President Daniel Moi peacefully transferred power after 24 years in office;

Whereas the election of the new president was supported by 63 percent of the voters, reflecting the decided will of the people;

Whereas in spite of unseasonably heavy rains, the elections for president, parliament, and more than 2,000 local councilors were described by local and international ob-

servers as the most free and fair in Kenya's 39-year history as an independent nation;

Whereas the presidents of Uganda, Tanzania, and Zambia, as well as the prime minister of Rwanda and the wife of South African President Thabo Mbeki, in a strong show of solidarity by the people and countries in the region, with the newly elected government, witnessed the swearing-in ceremony of President Kibaki; and

Whereas the recent elections represent an example for other countries in the region: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) commends the people of Kenya and its
3 newly elected president, members of parliament, and
4 local councilors for their extraordinary conduct in
5 the practice of and commitment to the principles of
6 free elections and a democratic form of government;

7 (2) expresses full support for the new govern-
8 ment of Kenya as it begins the difficult transition to
9 new leadership and addresses the issues of the econ-
10 omy and raised expectations of its citizens for a gov-
11 ernment more responsive the the needs of its people;

12 (3) urges patience on the part of the people of
13 Kenya as the new government confronts the chal-
14 lenges that lay ahead; and

15 (4) urges the President of the United States to
16 look with favor upon requests for assistance that
17 may be presented to the United States by the new

1 government of Kenya, as it moves forward to ad-
2 dress the many concerns of the people of this most
3 important African country.

