

MAR 14 2012

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO CONTINUE TO ENSURE THAT UNITED STATES ADVISORY FORCES REMAIN IN UGANDA UNTIL JOSEPH KONY IS REMOVED AND STABILITY IS BROUGHT TO THE COUNTRY.

1 WHEREAS, we live in a world disjointed by bodies of water
2 but connected by streams of information over various platforms;
3 and
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5 WHEREAS, these platforms share stories of stride and strife
6 in our home and lands all over the world; and
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8 WHEREAS, Joseph Kony is one of the world's worst war
9 criminals, taking over leadership of an existing rebel group in
10 1987 and renamed it the lord's resistance army, which has earned
11 a reputation for its cruel and brutal tactics; and
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13 WHEREAS, when Joseph Kony found himself running out of
14 fighters, he started abducting children to be soldiers in his
15 army or to become "wives" for his officers; and
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17 WHEREAS, the lord's resistance army is encouraged to rape,
18 mutilate, and kill civilians, often with blunt weapons; and
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20 WHEREAS, the lord's resistance army is no longer active in
21 Northern Uganda, where it originated, but it continues its
22 campaign of violence in Democratic Republic of Congo, Central
23 African Republic, and South Sudan; and
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25 WHEREAS, in its twenty-six year history, the lord's
26 resistance army has abducted more than 30,000 children and
27 displaced at least 2.1 million people; and
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29 WHEREAS, Invisible Children, Inc., a nonprofit organization
30 dedicated to one cause in Uganda, has utilized social media as a
31 platform to bring awareness to children soldiers captured at
32 young ages and forced to fight; and
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1 WHEREAS, Invisible Children, Inc., has been working for
2 nine years to end Africa's longest-running armed conflict; and

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4 WHEREAS, United States military advisers are currently
5 deployed in Central Africa on a "time-limited" mission to stop
6 Joseph Kony and disarm the lord's resistance army; and

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8 WHEREAS, if Joseph Kony is not captured this year, the
9 window of opportunity to do so may forever be lost; and

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11 WHEREAS, Invisible Children, Inc.'s Kony 2012 Campaign aims
12 to make Joseph Kony famous, not to celebrate him, but to raise
13 support for his arrest and set a precedent for international
14 justice; and

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16 WHEREAS, in this case, notoriety translates to public
17 support and if people know about the crimes that Joseph Kony has
18 been committing for twenty-six years, they will unite to stop
19 him; now, therefore,

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21 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth
22 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012,
23 that the President of the United States and the United States
24 Congress are requested to continue to ensure that United States
25 advisory forces remain in Uganda until Joseph Kony is removed
26 and stability is brought to the country; and

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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
29 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States,
30 the United States Secretary of Defense, the Majority Leader of
31 the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House
32 of Representatives, members of Hawaii's congressional
33 delegation, and Invisible Children, Inc.

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