

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 191

To urge the Secretary of State to actively engage in negotiations with the signatories of the United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees to establish international first safe haven procedures for aliens claiming political asylum.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 22, 1993

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. REGULA) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge the Secretary of State to actively engage in negotiations with the signatories of the United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees to establish international first safe haven procedures for aliens claiming political asylum.

Whereas the United States continues to recognize the need to ensure asylum for individuals who legitimately face persecution on account of their race, religion, nationality, or political beliefs;

Whereas there are strong economic incentives for claiming asylum in the United States;

Whereas political asylum requests last year were higher than ever before in American history and have already ex-

ceeded 100,000 this year, up from less than 5,000 in 1980;

Whereas asylum applications have already amassed a 300,000 case backlog and continue to increase at a rapid rate;

Whereas the increase in asylum applications in the United States has rendered current procedures insufficient to ensure protection for American citizens from the dangers of terrorism;

Whereas the number of fraudulent claims and prevalence of asylum abuse greatly hampers the ability of the United States to assist individuals who present legitimate claims;

Whereas aliens who are most in need of political asylum should logically seek safe haven where it is most immediately available; and

Whereas the European Asylum Convention (drafted in Dublin on June 15, 1990) is a suitable framework for achieving uniform procedures for processing asylum applications:
Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of the Congress that the
3 Secretary of State should actively engage in negotiations
4 with the signatories of the United Nations Convention Re-
5 lating to the Status of Refugees to establish uniform inter-
6 national procedures limiting asylum requests to the first
7 nation a refugee passes through that is a signatory to the
8 United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of
9 Refugees.

