

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1014

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Calling for the United States to save Christians, Yazidis and people of other faiths from persecution and genocide.

WHEREAS, Christians and Yazidis are targets of genocide by ISIS in Iraq, Syria, and Libya and are targets for persecution in many other parts of the world; and

WHEREAS, Christians, Jews, and people of other faiths throughout the world are persecuted for practicing their faith; and

WHEREAS, Christians, Jews, and those of other faiths are being personally attacked, kidnapped, injured, enslaved, and killed in large numbers; and

WHEREAS, Christians, Yazidis, and other faiths are being forcibly removed from their ancestral homelands which they have occupied since ancient times; and

WHEREAS, Christian churches and other places of worship are attacked, burned, ransacked, and destroyed throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, such destruction to Christians and people of other faiths is taking place in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, and Europe:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Ninety-First Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that the Legislature recognizes that Christians and Yazidis in Iraq, Syria, Pakistan, Iran, and Libya are targets of persecution and encourages other nations to likewise recognize the ongoing threat of genocide to these people; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the persecution of Christians and members of other faiths as targets of genocide should be exposed and condemned by our President and Secretary of State; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the persecution of Yazidis and Christians in Iraq, Syria, Pakistan, Iran, and Libya constitutes an unforeseen emergency refugee situation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the secretary of Homeland Security shall consider the expedited processing of visas for Yazidis and Christians and shall consider that such applications receive priority status; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Legislature supports H.R. 4017, currently before the United States Congress which would provide emergency admission of refugees and immigrants to persecuted Yazidis, Christians, and other faiths; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the chief clerk of the House of Representatives prepare and forward appropriate copies of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, the speaker and clerk of the United States House of Representatives, and the president and secretary of the United States Senate.

Adopted by the House of Representatives,  
Concurred in by the Senate,

February 23, 2016  
February 25, 2016

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Dean Wink  
Speaker of the House

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Arlene Kvislen  
Chief Clerk of the House

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Matt Michels  
President of the Senate

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Kay Johnson  
Secretary of the Senate