

State of South Dakota

NINETY-FIRST SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2016

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HOUSE ENGROSSED NO. **HCR 1014** - 02/23/2016

Introduced by: Representatives Craig, Anderson, Bolin, Brunner, Campbell, DiSanto, Feickert, Gosch, Greenfield (Lana), Haggar (Don), Haugaard, Heinemann (Leslie), Holmes, Hunt, Klumb, Langer, Latterell, Marty, May, McCleerey, Munsterman, Partridge, Peterson (Kent), Qualm, Rasmussen, Russell, Schoenfish, Stalzer, Tulson, Verchio, Werner, Westra, Wiik, and Zikmund and Senators Haggar (Jenna), Curd, Greenfield (Brock), Heineman (Phyllis), Holien, Jensen (Phil), Monroe, Novstrup (David), Olson, and Van Gerpen

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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