

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. CON. RES. 26

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 28, 2011

Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Supporting the goals and ideals of the designation of the year of 2011 as the International Year for People of African Descent.

Whereas the year of 2011 is recognized as the “International Year for People of African Descent”;

Whereas the African Diaspora is expansive, spanning the globe from Latin America and the Caribbean to Asia, with persons of African descent living on every continent, including Europe;

Whereas in recognition of the African Diaspora, on December 18, 2009, the United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 64/169, designating the year of 2011 as the “International Year for People of African Descent”;

Whereas the historical bonds and shared experiences that tie the African continent with the world must be recalled;

Whereas the global contributions of people of African descent must be recognized as a means of preserving that heritage;

Whereas a central goal of recognizing the year of 2011 as the International Year for People of African descent is to strengthen national actions and regional and international cooperation for the benefit of people of African descent in relation to—

(1) the full enjoyment of economic, cultural, social, civil, and political rights for people of African descent;

(2) the participation and integration of people of African descent in all political, economic, social, and cultural aspects of society; and

(3) the promotion of greater knowledge of, and respect for, the diverse heritage and culture of people of African descent; and

Whereas the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, done at Helsinki August 1, 1975, states that “participating States will respect human rights and fundamental freedoms . . . for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion”: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*
2 *concurring), That Congress—*

3 (1) supports the goals and ideals of the des-
4 ignation of the year of 2011 as the International
5 Year for People of African Descent;

6 (2) encourages the recognition and celebration
7 of the collective history and achievements made by
8 people of African descent;

1 (3) reaffirms the importance of inclusion and
2 the full and equal participation of people of African
3 descent around the world in all aspects of political,
4 economic, social, and cultural life;

5 (4) recognizes bilateral and multilateral efforts
6 to promote democracy, human rights, and rule of
7 law, including those efforts that target the eradi-
8 cation of poverty, hunger, and inequality; and

9 (5) reaffirms the commitment of Congress to
10 address racism, discrimination, and intolerance in
11 the United States and around the globe.

Passed the Senate

Attest:

NANCY ERICKSON,
Secretary.