

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 471

Calling for the redoubling of diplomatic efforts by the United States and its international partners to help achieve a negotiated, Haitian-led solution to the current impasse in Haiti that paves the way for broadly representative interim government to oversee the return to constitutional rule through free and fair elections.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 6, 2023

Mr. LAWLER (for himself, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Ms. SALAZAR, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, and Mr. GIMENEZ) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Calling for the redoubling of diplomatic efforts by the United States and its international partners to help achieve a negotiated, Haitian-led solution to the current impasse in Haiti that paves the way for broadly representative interim government to oversee the return to constitutional rule through free and fair elections.

Whereas the close proximity of Haiti to the shores of the United States, in conjunction with the common bond of mutual values, family, and commitment to democracy, ensures lasting comity between our nations and continued trade and diplomatic relations;

Whereas over 1,000,000 persons of Haitian descent live throughout the United States and contribute to social, economic, cultural, and political life in the United States;

Whereas Haiti's stability has significant economic and security implications for the United States and the region;

Whereas the assassination of President Jovenel Moïse in 2021 has only accelerated Haiti's spiral of unprecedented political and economic instability;

Whereas the current caretaker government of Acting Prime Minister Ariel Henry is being run extra-constitutionally with a non-functioning Parliament and few viable public institutions;

Whereas Haitians need to be able to choose their government through free and fair elections;

Whereas citizen security in Haiti is virtually non-existent, with half of the country living under the control of criminal gangs with strong political connections;

Whereas the resulting dire economic situation is affecting most directly the most impoverished and vulnerable citizens, including children;

Whereas the international community's immediate humanitarian and economic responses will only marginally address the underlying factors behind the collapse of governance in Haiti;

Whereas the current crisis has led to increased outflow of desperate Haitians making the dangerous trek through South and Central America and contributing to the migration surge at the United States southern border;

Whereas the current stalemate among Haiti's principal actors is no longer viable; and

Whereas the most immediate needs in Haiti are citizen security and a consensus roadmap for policymakers in Haiti with the support of the international community, that responds to the current crisis: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) urges the redoubling of diplomatic efforts
3 by the United States and international partners to
4 help achieve a negotiated, Haitian-led solution to the
5 current impasse in Haiti leading to the establish-
6 ment of a broadly representative interim govern-
7 ment;

8 (2) calls for the expansion of individual sanc-
9 tions against any Haitian political actor or private
10 sector individual with ties to violence, particularly
11 the financing and directing of gangs;

12 (3) supports the review and revision of all
13 United States assistance programs to the Haitian
14 National Police to enhance their capability to im-
15 prove citizen security by neutralizing Haitian gangs;

16 (4) calls for stronger action from the relevant
17 United States agencies to address illegal arms traf-
18 ficking and illicit financial flows that are sustaining
19 the current crisis in Haiti; and

- 1 (5) encourages the Senate to swiftly confirm a
- 2 new ambassador to Haiti to serve as a key interloc-
- 3 utor between the various parties.

