

Assembly Joint Resolution

No. 38

Introduced by Assembly Member Kaloogian

January 3, 2000

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 38—Relative to the Government of Sudan.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AJR 38, as introduced, Kaloogian. Religious persecution: Government of Sudan.

This resolution would condemn the Government of Sudan for its persecution of Christians and other non-Muslims and would commend the Sudanese people who continue to resist that persecution.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The “Government of Sudan,” as the
2 National Islamic Front government in the country of
3 Sudan is known, is currently engaged in a mass pogrom
4 targeting professed members of the Christian faith and all
5 those who will not support and participate in the forced
6 Islamization and Arabization throughout southern and
7 other marginalized areas of Sudan; and
8 WHEREAS, This pogrom began in earnest in 1983
9 when the Government of Sudan declared a jihad (holy
10 war) and implemented a number of discriminatory and
11 deplorable policies, including the forced conversion to
12 Islam and the forced Islamization of schools, universities,

1 television, and radio, thereby coercing all non-Muslims
2 into denying their culture and faith; and

3 WHEREAS, Over the past 16 years a brutal and
4 tyrannical government has waged war on its own people,
5 creating a land of murder, slavery, and manmade famine;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, The actions of the Government of Sudan
8 have created the world's longest running war and have
9 resulted in a holocaust-type genocide; and

10 WHEREAS, The government has made the abolition of
11 Christianity its highest priority, because Christianity is
12 seen as a rival to Islam to win the allegiance of Africans;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, The refusal by professed members of the
15 Christian faith to convert to Islam has resulted in the
16 severe persecution, including torture and threats of
17 crucifixion of Catholic priests, at the hands of Sudanese
18 authorities; and

19 WHEREAS, The government has even harassed and
20 attacked Muslims in the north and the south who do not
21 share in their extremist and discriminatory pogrom of
22 forced Islamization, and who choose to live peacefully
23 with those professing other faiths.

24 WHEREAS, This persecution of Christians, Muslims,
25 and non-Muslims alike has included daily military assaults
26 on their villages, scorched earth destruction, murder of
27 resistors, the capture and kidnapping of survivors, and
28 the selling of these captives into slavery; and

29 WHEREAS, These enslaved peoples are regularly
30 raped and brutalized by their Muslim captors, and outside
31 assistance in their plight has been remote and meager;
32 and

33 WHEREAS, These persecuted Sudanese are currently
34 engaged in a life-or-death campaign to defend their
35 families and faith from their oppressors despite inferior
36 numbers, supplies, medical training, and facilities; and

37 WHEREAS, Multilateral relief aid to the famine
38 stricken and diseased Sudanese population has not been
39 permitted, or has been intercepted by the government,
40 causing millions of deaths; and



1 WHEREAS, The United States Congress has
2 introduced the Sudan Peace Act to facilitate famine relief
3 efforts and a comprehensive solution to the war in Sudan;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, The act was introduced with clear
6 indications that the Government of Sudan intends to
7 intensify its prosecution of the war, which has already cost
8 nearly 2,000,000 lives and has displaced more than
9 4,000,000; and

10 WHEREAS, The act advocates that the United States
11 should use all nonmilitary means of pressure available to
12 facilitate a comprehensive solution to the war, including
13 the strengthening of sanctions against the Government of
14 Sudan and the strengthening of the mechanisms to
15 provide relief to persecuted areas; and

16 WHEREAS, Congress supports efforts to achieve
17 resolution of the conflict through the
18 Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD)
19 peace process; and

20 WHEREAS, The State of California has a duty to
21 denounce such flagrant abuses of human rights and
22 religious liberty by the Government of Sudan and should
23 support the Sudan Peace Act; now, therefore be it

24 *Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of*
25 *California, jointly,* That the Legislature condemns the
26 Government of Sudan for its flagrant and gross abuse of
27 international human rights, civil liberties and the
28 promotion of slavery in its persecution of Sudanese
29 Christians and those who practice other non-Muslim
30 faiths, and commends the persecuted Sudanese people
31 for their strength and endurance in continuing resistance
32 to the Government of Sudan and for risking their lives for
33 their faith; and be it further

34 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly
35 transmit copies of this resolution to the author for
36 distribution.

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