

ENROLLED SENATE
RESOLUTION NO. 77

By: Johnson (Constance), Adelson,
Aldridge, Anderson, Ballenger,
Barrington, Bass, Bingman, Branan,
Brogdon, Brown, Burrage, Coates,
Coffee, Corn, Crain, Crutchfield,
Easley, Eason McIntyre, Ford,
Garrison, Gumm, Ivester, Johnson
(Mike), Jolley, Justice, Lamb,
Laster, Laughlin, Leftwich,
Lerblance, Mazzei, Morgan, Myers,
Nichols, Paddack, Rabon, Reynolds,
Rice, Riley, Schulz, Sparks,
Sweeden, Wilcoxson, Williamson,
Wilson and Wyrick

A Resolution memorializing Congress and the President to promote the formation of democratic institutions, multiparty participation, progressive social change, and respect for human rights in Ethiopia; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, the noble people of Ethiopia have developed and nourished a proud and distinguished culture that has endured for three millennia; and

WHEREAS, Ethiopia and the United States have maintained a long and productive friendship; and

WHEREAS, over the past three decades, the brave and gentle people of Ethiopia have been devastated by famine, wars and political instability; and

WHEREAS, the people of the United States have provided substantial humanitarian and economic aid to the people of Ethiopia; and

WHEREAS, Ethiopia, poised at a crucial juncture in its history, is making a dramatic effort to replace tyranny with democracy; and

WHEREAS, the people of Ethiopia are aspiring to resolve their political problems through democratic dialogue and a free electoral process; and

WHEREAS, the basic underpinnings of democratic institutions in the new Ethiopia should be the supremacy of the will of people and the guarantee of the rule of law; and

WHEREAS, the Ethiopian government should adhere to the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights conventions and the principles set forth in its own constitution, including free speech, assembly, religion and press, and basic human rights guarantees; and

WHEREAS, the Ethiopian government should strive to avoid ethnocentric politics; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States and Congress will play a crucial role in promoting the peaceful resolution of the immense problems facing Ethiopia.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 51ST OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate memorializes Congress and the President to promote the formation of democratic institutions, multiparty elections and respect for human rights in Ethiopia, and to play a mediatory role in peaceful resolution.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to President George W. Bush and the members of the Oklahoma Congressional Delegation.

Adopted by the Senate the 22nd day of May, 2008.

Presiding Officer of the Senate