

A resolution

memorializing the President concerning the implementation of the World Summit Outcome of the United Nations General Assembly.

WHEREAS, in 2005, the World Summit Outcome of the United Nations General Assembly adopted the principle of the "responsibility to protect"; and

WHEREAS, this principle means that each state has the responsibility to protect its populations from atrocity crimes, such as genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crime against humanity and that the international community should encourage and help states to exercise this responsibility and support the United Nations in establishing an early warning capability; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations, and all its member nations, agreed to take action through the Security Council if peaceful means are inadequate and national governments are unable to protect their populations from atrocity crimes; and

WHEREAS, since 1945 efforts by the United Nations and individual nations to protect populations from atrocity crimes either have failed or have not been attempted, and millions upon millions of innocent civilians have lost their lives or been wounded and displaced, their property and livelihoods destroyed; and

WHEREAS, the legislators of the State of Minnesota acknowledge the moral imperative of the right to protect all citizens from atrocity crimes; this reflects the highest values of freedom, care, and preservation of the lives of innocent civilians; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Minnesota elect members of Congress and, with other citizens, the President and Vice President of the United States; and

H.F. No. 1732, as introduced - 85th Legislative Session (2007-2008)

2.1 WHEREAS, we believe that these officials have a responsibility to use every legal means
2.2 to protect people from atrocity crimes; NOW, THEREFORE,

2.3 BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota that it urges the President
2.4 and the Congress of the United States to commit to implementation and global leadership of the
2.5 World Summit Outcome on the responsibility to protect innocent civilians through the strategies
2.6 in the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document and the 2006 Security Council Resolution 167.

2.7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it urges the President to develop strategies to implement
2.8 the responsibility to protect in coordination with the governments of the North Atlantic Treaty
2.9 Organization, the European Union, the African Union, the Organization of American States, and
2.10 the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

2.11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President and Congress take every possible action
2.12 to safeguard the security of innocent noncombatant men, women, and children in Darfur, Sudan,
2.13 where the United States has declared a genocide to be occurring.

2.14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State of the State of Minnesota
2.15 is directed to prepare copies of this memorial and transmit them to the President and Vice
2.16 President of the United States, the United States Secretary of State, the United States Secretary of
2.17 Defense, the United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations, the President and the
2.18 Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and the Clerk of the United States House of
2.19 Representatives, and Minnesota's Senators and Representatives in Congress.