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## RESOLUTION Reaffirming United States-Liberia Partnership Passed; Calls for Free, Fair, Credible and Peaceful Elections in October

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Washington, U.S.A.: The United States Congress this week passed a Resolution – calling for free, fair and peaceful elections in Liberia come the October polls. The Resolution was introduced by Senator Christopher Andrew Coons of Delaware and Senator Cory Anthony Booker from New Jersey.

According to a dispatch from Washington, the Resolution states: "Whereas the United States and Liberia share broad and deep bilateral ties over the course of a nearly 200-year



relationship; Whereas the United States established diplomatic relations with Liberia in 1864."

The resolution asserts: "Whereas it is estimated that hundreds of thousands of Liberians died in the country's two interconnected civil wars from 1989 to 2003 and many more fled as refugees;

Whereas today the United States is home to an estimated 80,000 people of Liberian ancestry in vibrant communities across the country, many of whom sought refuge from the violence during the civil wars."

The dispatch continues: Whereas the people and Government of the United States have a deep and abiding interest in Liberia's democratic stability and post-conflict development; Whereas United States assistance to Liberia since the end of its second civil war in 2003 has supported post-conflict recovery and a subsequent sustained transition toward broad-based economic growth, improved access to high- quality education, health system strengthening, enhanced socioeconomic welfare for the people of Liberia, the professionalization of the country's military and civilian security forces, efforts to foster the capacities, accountability, and transparency of government institutions, and the consolidation of participatory democracy."

"Whereas in 2005, and again in 2011, the citizens of Liberia elected Ellen Johnson Sirleaf as their President, making her the first woman to be elected president of an African nation; Whereas President Sirleaf was awarded the United States Presidential Medal of Freedom on November 5, 2007, for defending and advancing the democratic rights of her fellow citizens, in the face of house arrest, foreign exile, death threats, and imprisonment, and the Noble Peace Prize on October 7, 2011, for contributing to the nonviolent struggle for the security and rights of women; - Resolution noted." Click here to get a copy or read full press release =====>>> [1]

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