

95th CONGRESS  
1st SESSION

# H. CON. RES.

(Original signature of Member)

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

September 26, 1977

Mr. Markey (for himself, Mr. Downey, and Mr. Maguire) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was

referred to the Committee on International Relations

## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),*

Whereas, the circumstances surrounding the death of Steven Biko have shocked the American public and the world community at large; and

Whereas, the South African Government to date has not released all relevant facts and data based on medical examinations on the cause of his death; and

Whereas, numerous and persistent reports of torture and inhuman treatment of persons in detention can no longer be ignored; and

Whereas, international law, in particular the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights, prohibits the arbitrary deprivation of life, torture, and cruel and inhuman treatment of persons;

Therefore be it resolved, that it is the sense of the U.S. Congress that the President should directly request the South African Government to permit an impartial international organization to investigate the particular circumstances surrounding the death of Steven Biko;

Be it further resolved, that this organization be empowered to investigate also the circumstances and conditions of all South Africans currently being held under the provisions of the Terrorism Act and the Internal Security Act to ensure that their human rights are not being violated;

Be it further resolved, that this organization should review and report upon the entire question of the nature and application of South African laws relating to the detention of political prisoners.