

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 17

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Congratulating the people of Guatemala on the success of the recent negotiations to establish a peace process for Guatemala.

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Whereas on December 29, 1996, the Government of Guatemala and the representatives of the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemala signed an historic peace accord ending 36 years of armed confrontation;

Whereas the peace accord includes the creation of a commission to implement a wide range of reforms to the political, economic, social, and judicial systems of Guatemala,

including an enhanced respect for human rights and the rule of law, improved health and education services, attention to the needs of refugees and displaced persons, and the role of the military in a democratic society;

Whereas the peace accord represents the completion of a long and important negotiation process with the goal of achieving lasting peace, national reconciliation, political stability, and renewed economic growth in Guatemala; and

Whereas lasting peace, political stability, and economic development in Guatemala is in the best interest of all nations of the Western Hemisphere, including the United States: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That the Congress—

3 (1) congratulates the Guatemalan Government
4 of President Alvaro Arzu for its extraordinary ac-
5 complishments in negotiating an end to hostilities
6 and beginning the process of national reconciliation
7 and reconstruction;

8 (2) recognizes the commitment of the Unidad
9 Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemala in Guatemala to
10 agree to end the devastating warfare and to resolve
11 their differences in a peaceful manner within a
12 democratic political arena;

13 (3) commends all of the people of Guatemala
14 for their determination to achieve a lasting peace

1 and encourages their strong commitment to demo-
2 cratic principles and social justice for all; and

3 (4) affirms the commitment of the United
4 States to help support a sustainable peace and devel-
5 opment of strong democratic institutions in Guate-
6 mala.

Passed the House of Representatives March 5,
1997.

Attest:

Clerk.