



## Legislation Text

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### Res. No. 177-A

Resolution supporting the Save Darfur Coalition's "Save Darfur: Rally to Stop Genocide," and declaring April 30, 2006 to be "Save Darfur Day"

By Council Members Brewer, Clarke, Comrie, Dickens, Foster, James, Koppell, Mark-Viverito, Martinez, McMahon, Nelson, Sanders Jr., Seabrook, Vallone Jr., Vann, Weprin, Gioia, Katz, Recchia Jr. and the Public Advocate (Ms. Gotbaum)

Whereas, According to Human Rights Watch, in early 2003, the government of Sudan, a West African country of more than 40 million residents, joined a group of ethnic militias in a brutal military campaign against rebel groups in the country's Darfur region; and

Whereas, The government's military operations have been accompanied by an organized campaign of "ethnic cleansing" aimed at civilians who are of the same ethnic background as the rebel groups; and

Whereas, Human Rights Watch estimates that by early 2006, the campaign had forced at least 1.8 million Sudanese to enter refugee camps, while another 220,000 have fled Sudan entirely; and

Whereas, The American Jewish World Service estimates that at least 400,000 civilians have been killed in the conflict since February, 2003; and

Whereas, In September of 2004, President Bush called the crisis in Darfur "genocide;" and

Whereas, Despite a ceasefire negotiated in April, 2004, by the African Union, and despite the presence of 7,000 African Union troops in the Darfur region, violence and attacks upon civilians have continued and have in fact spread into neighboring Chad; and

Whereas, The Save Darfur Coalition is organizing a demonstration in Washington, D.C. scheduled to take place on April 30, 2006, called the "Save Darfur: Rally to Stop Genocide;" and

Whereas, At the rally, the Save Darfur Coalition will call upon the United Nations to deploy an

international peacekeeping force to the region that will have a mandate to protect civilians; and

Whereas, It is clear that more needs to be done to stop the horrendous violence in Sudan and end the atrocities currently occurring in Darfur; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York supports the Save Darfur Coalition's "Save Darfur: Rally to Stop Genocide," and declares April 30, 2006 to be "Save Darfur Day"

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