

10 A RESOLUTION CONCERNING RELATIONS WITH SOMALIA

20 **WHEREAS:** The United States' embassy in Mogadishu was closed in 1991 following
30 the collapse of the Ziad Barre regime, and the resulting civil war, and;

40 **WHEREAS:** in 2009 Sharif Ahmed, lifelong Somali politician, was elected in a three
50 round parliamentary election, to the position of President of the Transitional Federal
60 Government. He won the third "run-off" round with a vote of 293-126. There was no
70 reporting of corruption associated with this election, and;

80 **WHEREAS:** The U.S. already exercises military influence in the region as evidenced by
90 the successful September 14th helicopter raid, and the April 2009 Navy rescue operations,
100 and;

110 **WHEREAS:** Somalia's economy, with a per capita GDP of \$600, is second lowest in the
120 region, but not by much. Widespread poverty due to development woes, has not been
130 helped despite massive amount of aid pledged by U.N. countries. And;

140 **WHEREAS:** African Union troops struggle to maintain order in the South, against Al-
150 Shabaab, radical remnants of the Islamic Courts Union. The humanitarian crisis in the
160 area, declared by the United Nations in 2007, occupies most of the resources donated by
170 relief groups. And;

180 **WHEREAS:** This has resulted in the northern half of the country, Somaliland and
190 Puntland, being handed a deficit in aid and International abuse. And;

200 **WHEREAS:** A U.S. embassy would mean the renewal of peacecorp missions in
210 Somalia, as well as renewed investment and international aid and oversight.

220 **Therefore be it resolved:** The Maryland Student Legislature urges the White House, the
230 Senate, and the Department of State to nominate and confirm an ambassador to Somalia.
240 And;

250 **Therefore be it further resolved:** the mandates establish the diplomatic mission an
260 Embassy in Bossaso, Puntland, in northern Somalia.

270 **MANDATES:**
280 Barrack Obama, President of the United States
290 Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House
300 Harry Reid, Senate Majority Leader

310 Mitch McConnell, Senate Minority Leader
320 Hillary Clinton, Secretary of State

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