

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: In the nature of a substitute.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—117th Cong., 1st Sess.

S. Res. 97

Calling on the Government of Ethiopia, the Tigray People’s Liberation Front, and other belligerents to cease all hostilities, protect human rights, allow unfettered humanitarian access, and cooperate with independent investigations of credible atrocity allegations pertaining to the conflict in the Tigray Region of Ethiopia.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE intended
to be proposed by Mr. RISCH

Viz:

- 1 Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the fol-
- 2 lowing: “That the Senate—
- 3 (1) calls for the immediate cessation of hos-
- 4 tilities in the Tigray Region of Ethiopia;
- 5 (2) condemns in the strongest terms all violence
- 6 against civilians;
- 7 (3) calls on the Government of Eritrea to im-
- 8 mediately and fully withdraw its military forces from
- 9 Ethiopia;

1 (4) strongly disapproves of the escalation of po-
2 litical tensions between the Government of Ethiopia
3 and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF)
4 into armed conflict;

5 (5) calls for the swift and complete restoration
6 of electricity, banking, telephone, and internet serv-
7 ices throughout the Tigray Region and other parts
8 of Ethiopia where communications have been re-
9 stricted;

10 (6) appreciates the willingness of Sudan to wel-
11 come refugees fleeing the conflict in the Tigray Re-
12 gion;

13 (7) calls on the Government of Ethiopia to—

14 (A) ensure that any apprehensions of
15 TPLF members are carried out with the least
16 possible use of force and that the rights to
17 which those detained are entitled under Ethio-
18 pian and international law are fully respected;

19 (B) require the immediate and full with-
20 drawal of Eritrean forces from Ethiopia;

21 (C) release all opposition leaders, sup-
22 porters, and activists detained on the basis of
23 their political activity and views as well as jour-
24 nalists detained on the basis of their reporting,
25 and respect the rights of all Ethiopians to free

1 expression and political participation, without
2 discrimination based on ethnicity, ideology, or
3 political affiliation; and

4 (D) convene a credible and countrywide
5 process of national dialogue and reconciliation
6 inclusive of all nonviolent political parties, eth-
7 nic communities, religious groups, and civil so-
8 ciety organizations in Ethiopia to work toward
9 the sustainable resolution of grievances and
10 chart a democratic and peaceful path forward
11 for the country;

12 (8) urges all parties to the conflict to—

13 (A) cease all hostilities, commit to a polit-
14 ical solution for resolving existing differences,
15 fully comply with international humanitarian
16 law, and refrain from actions that could con-
17 tinue, spread, or escalate the conflict, particu-
18 larly attacks on civilian targets;

19 (B) make demonstrable progress to guar-
20 antee unfettered and immediate humanitarian
21 access, for personnel and supplies, to areas af-
22 fected by the conflict, and take all possible
23 steps to protect the safety of civilians, including
24 refugees, displaced persons, and humanitarian
25 aid workers; and

1 (C) allow for, and cooperate with, inde-
2 pendent and transparent investigations of any
3 alleged human rights abuses committed in the
4 course of the conflict in the Tigray Region and
5 other conflicts across Ethiopia, and hold per-
6 petrators to account in a credible process; and

7 (9) urges the Secretary of State, the Secretary
8 of the Treasury, and the Administrator of the
9 United States Agency for International Develop-
10 ment, in coordination with the heads of other rel-
11 evant Federal departments and agencies, to—

12 (A) engage at the highest levels with lead-
13 ers of the Government of Ethiopia, the Govern-
14 ment of Eritrea, and the TPLF to encourage
15 the full cessation of hostilities and the with-
16 drawal of Eritrean forces, mitigate the humani-
17 tarian crisis that has emerged from the conflict,
18 and support an inclusive process of national
19 dialogue and reconciliation;

20 (B) immediately establish criteria to end
21 the pause of all non-life-sustaining assistance to
22 Ethiopia and support programming to meet im-
23 mediate humanitarian needs, including of refu-
24 gees and internally displaced persons, advance
25 nonviolent conflict resolution and reconciliation

1 throughout the country, and aid a democratic
2 transition in Ethiopia;

3 (C) take continued actions to ensure that
4 a “full, independent, international investigation
5 into all reports of human rights violations,
6 abuses, and atrocities” committed in the course
7 of the conflict as called for by Secretary of
8 State Blinken on February 27, 2021, is con-
9 ducted, and impose strict accountability meas-
10 ures on those found responsible;

11 (D) use all diplomatic, developmental, and
12 legal tools to prevent further ethnic-based vio-
13 lence and mass atrocities, including by non-
14 state armed groups, and promote competitive
15 multi-party democracy in Ethiopia; and

16 (E) maintain close coordination with inter-
17 national allies and multilateral organizations re-
18 garding efforts to address the conflict in the
19 Tigray Region and other regions of Ethiopia
20 and bring attention to the conflict in inter-
21 national fora, including the United Nations Se-
22 curity Council.