

**Suspend the Rules And Agree to the Resolution, H.Res. 922 with
Amendments**

**(The amendments consist of a new preamble and a complete new
text)**

117TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. RES. 922

Condemning the use of hunger as a weapon of war and recognizing the
effect of conflict on global food security and famine.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 9, 2022

Ms. JACOBS of California (for herself, Mr. MEIJER, Mr. RUSH, and Mr.
MANN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the
Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Condemning the use of hunger as a weapon of war and
recognizing the effect of conflict on global food security
and famine.

Whereas, in 2021, 193,000,000 people experienced crisis lev-
els of food insecurity, with nearly 139,000,000 people liv-
ing in environments where conflict was the main driver
of this crisis, and the COVID–19 pandemic has worsened
rising global food insecurity;

Whereas conflict acutely impacts vulnerable populations such
as women and children, persons with disabilities, refu-
gees, and internally displaced persons;

Whereas armed conflict's impacts on food security can be direct, such as displacement from land, destruction of livestock grazing areas and fishing grounds, or destruction of food stocks and agricultural assets, or indirect, such as disruptions to food systems, leading to increased food prices, including water and fuel, and the breakdown of a government's ability to enforce regulations or perform its judiciary functions;

Whereas aerial bombing campaigns targeting agricultural heartlands, scorched earth methods of warfare, and the use of landmines and other explosive devices have direct impacts on the ability of vulnerable populations to feed themselves;

Whereas effective humanitarian response in armed conflict, including in the threat of conflict-induced famine and food insecurity in situations of armed conflict, requires respect for international humanitarian law by all parties to the conflict, and allowing and facilitating the rapid and unimpeded movement of humanitarian relief to all those in need;

Whereas efforts to restrict humanitarian aid and the operational integrity and impartiality of humanitarian aid works and distribution efforts, including through blockades, security impediments, or irregular bureaucratic requirements is another means by which combatants employ starvation and food deprivation as a weapon of war; and

Whereas the United States Government has the tools to fight global hunger, provide and protect lifesaving assistance, and promote the prevention of conflict, including through the Global Fragility Act of 2019 (title V of division J of Public Law 116–94), the Global Food Security Act of

2016 (Public Law 114–195), and the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–334), and has the potential to hold accountable those using hunger as a weapon in conflict through the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (subtitle F of title XII of Public Law 114–328) and other means: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) condemns—

3 (A) the use of starvation of civilians as a
4 weapon of warfare;

5 (B) the intentional and reckless destruc-
6 tion, removing, looting, blocking, or rendering
7 useless objects necessary for food production
8 and distribution such as farmland, markets,
9 mills, food processing and storage areas, such
10 as ports and hubs containing grain terminals,
11 foodstuffs, crops, livestock, agricultural assets,
12 waterways, water systems, drinking water in-
13 stallations and supplies, and irrigation works;

14 (C) the denial of humanitarian access and
15 the deprivation of objects indispensable to peo-
16 ple’s survival, such as food supplies and nutri-
17 tion resources; and

18 (D) the willful interruption of market sys-
19 tems to affected populations in need in conflict

1 environments by preventing travel and manipu-
2 lating currency exchange;

3 (2) calls on the United States Government to—

4 (A) prioritize diplomatic efforts to call out
5 and address instances where hunger and inten-
6 tional deprivation of food is being utilized as a
7 weapon of war, including efforts to ensure that
8 security operations do not undermine livelihoods
9 of local populations to minimize civilian harm;

10 (B) continue efforts to address severe food
11 insecurity through humanitarian and develop-
12 ment response efforts, including in-kind food
13 assistance, vouchers, and other flexible modali-
14 ties, and long-term programming focused on ag-
15 riculture support and resilient livelihoods;

16 (C) ensure existing interagency strategies,
17 crisis response efforts, and ongoing programs
18 consider, integrate, and adapt to address con-
19 flict by utilizing crisis modifiers in United
20 States Agency for International Development
21 programming to respond to rapid shocks and
22 stress such as the willful targeting of food sys-
23 tems; and

24 (D) ensure that the use of hunger as a
25 weapon in conflict is considered within the em-

1 ployment of tools to hold individuals, govern-
2 ments, militias, or entities responsible such as
3 the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Account-
4 ability Act (22 U.S.C. 2656), where appro-
5 priate, and taking into consideration the need
6 for humanitarian exemptions and the protection
7 of lifesaving assistance.