

stated, "at this hour, the world is witnessing terrible suffering and horrible crimes in the Darfur region of Sudan, crimes my government has concluded are genocide"; and

WHEREAS, On September 25, 2006, the United States Congress reaffirmed that "the genocide unfolding in the Darfur region of Sudan is characterized by acts of terrorism and atrocities directed against civilians, including mass murder, rape, and sexual violence committed by the Janjaweed and associated militias with the complicity and support of the National Congress Party-led faction of the Government of Sudan"; and

WHEREAS, On September 26, 2006, the United States Congress stated that "an estimated 300,000 to 400,000 people have been killed by the Government of Sudan and its Janjaweed allies since the Darfur crisis began in 2003, more than 2,000,000 people have been displaced from their homes, and more than 250,000 people from Darfur remain in refugee camps in Chad"; and

WHEREAS, The Darfur crisis represents the first time the United States Government has labeled ongoing atrocities a genocide; and

WHEREAS, The federal government has imposed sanctions against the Government of Sudan since 1997, that are monitored through the United States Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC); and

WHEREAS, According to a former chair of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), "the fact that a foreign company is doing material business with a country, government, or entity on OFAC's sanctions list is, in the SEC staff's view, substantially likely to be significant to a reasonable investor's decision about whether to invest in that company"; and

WHEREAS, In response to the financial risk posed by investments in companies doing business with a terrorist-sponsoring state, the SEC established its Office of Global Security Risk to provide for enhanced disclosure of material information regarding such companies; and

WHEREAS, Despite significant pressure from the United States government, the Republic of Sudan fails to take necessary actions to disassociate itself from its ties to terrorism and genocide; and

WHEREAS, Companies supporting such ties with terrorism and genocide present further material risk to remaining investors of these companies; and

WHEREAS, It is a fundamental responsibility of the State to decide where, how, and by whom financial resources in its control should be invested, taking into account numerous pertinent factors; and