

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H. RES. 922
OFFERED BY MS. JACOBS OF CALIFORNIA

Strike the preamble and insert the following:

Whereas, in 2021, 193,000,000 people experienced crisis levels of food insecurity, with nearly 139,000,000 people living 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, refugees, 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

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

- 1 That the House of Representatives—
- 2 (1) condemns—
- 3 (A) the use of starvation of civilians as a
- 4 weapon of warfare;

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

10 (C) the denial of humanitarian access and
11 the deprivation of objects indispensable to peo-
12 ple's survival, such as food supplies and nutri-
13 tion resources; and

14 (D) the willful interruption of market sys-
15 tems to affected populations in need in conflict
16 environments by preventing travel and manipu-
17 lating currency exchange;

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

19 (A) prioritize diplomatic efforts to call out
20 and address instances where hunger and inten-
21 tional deprivation of food is being utilized as a
22 weapon of war, including efforts to ensure that
23 security operations do not undermine livelihoods
24 of local populations to minimize civilian harm;

1 (B) continue efforts to address severe food
2 insecurity through humanitarian and develop-
3 ment response efforts, including in-kind food
4 assistance, vouchers, and other flexible modali-
5 ties, and long-term programming focused on ag-
6 riculture support and resilient livelihoods;

7 (C) ensure existing interagency strategies,
8 crisis response efforts, and ongoing programs
9 consider, integrate, and adapt to address con-
10 flict by utilizing crisis modifiers in United
11 States Agency for International Development
12 programming to respond to rapid shocks and
13 stress such as the willful targeting of food sys-
14 tems; and

15 (D) ensure that the use of hunger as a
16 weapon in conflict is considered within the em-
17 ployment of tools to hold individuals, govern-
18 ments, militias, or entities responsible such as
19 the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Account-
20 ability Act (22 U.S.C. 2656), where appro-
21 priate, and taking into consideration the need
22 for humanitarian exemptions and the protection
23 of lifesaving assistance.

