HR 5A 2014A

House Resolution

A resolution condemning the abduction of more than 250 Nigerian girls by the Boko Haram terrorist group and calling for increased efforts worldwide to combat human trafficking, particularly of women and girls.

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WHEREAS, on April 14, 2014, in the small town of Chibok, Nigeria, more than 250 girls, aged 16 to 18, were captured and kidnapped from their boarding school by the Boko Haram terrorist group, and

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WHEREAS, Boko Haram has been accused of abducting numerous women and girls, some as young as 12 years of age, to traffic them as sex slaves or force them to marry combatants, and

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WHEREAS, according to the International Crisis Group, Boko Haram's 5-year insurgency has grown more ruthless, violent, and destructive, and has claimed the lives of more than 4,000 people and forced almost half a million others to flee their homes, and

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WHEREAS, more than 3 months have passed since the abductions but little progress has been made towards freeing the girls, and

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WHEREAS, Boko Haram has openly threatened to sell the abducted girls into slavery, and

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WHEREAS, this outrage demands a significant worldwide response to help rescue the abducted girls, combat Boko Haram in

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Africa, and stand against the broader threat of modern-day slavery, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Florida:

That the horrific abductions of the Nigerian girls by the Boko Haram terrorist group are condemned and that the Florida House of Representatives calls for their immediate release in order to *Bring Back our Daughters* and also calls for increased efforts worldwide to combat human trafficking, particularly of women and girls.

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