



CONGRESSMAN BOBBY L. RUSH
1ST DISTRICT, ILLINOIS



Darfur Conflict

“Besides the war in Iraq, there is no international issue that concerns me more than the genocide that has been taking place in the Darfur region of Sudan.”

Did You Know?

- Since 2003, over **2 million** people have been displaced
 - Over **400,000 men, women, and children have lost their lives** in the brutal fighting that has ravaged that war-torn country.

Letters By Congressman Rush

- **10/25/05 - Letter to Secretary Rice** asking for clarification of the U.S. government’s policy with regard to the Government of Sudan.
- **3/16/06 - Co-signed letter to appropriators** to increase funds in the Peacekeeping Operations (PKO) account in the FY06 supplemental appropriations bill (HR 4939) for civilian protection in Darfur.
- **4/7/06 - Letter to Secretary Rice** asking for a special envoy to be sent to Darfur.
- **6/21/06 - Letter to Secretary Rice** asking that “immediate action” be taken in Darfur.
- **6/28/06 - Letter to President Bush** asking for immediate Special Envoy in Darfur.
- **9/28/06 - Letter to Chinese Ambassador** requesting more pressure on Sudan to end violence.
- **9/28/06 - Letter to Arab League** requesting immediate action.
- **12/1/06 - Letter to University of Chicago** urging them to divest from Sudan.
- **5/1/07 - Resent the letter to University of Chicago**
- **5/9/07 - Signed onto letter with 107 other Members** demanding that China uses its trade influence to stop the genocide in Sudan.

A Word From Congressman Rush on the Conflict in Darfur

In July 2004, I joined with several of my Congressional colleagues to protest the genocide by demonstrating at the Sudanese Embassy and consulate in Washington and in Chicago. My subsequent arrest and detention was but a small price to pay to bring attention to the disturbing and inhumane atrocities being committed. Since that time I have made it a priority to bring this issue out into the public dialogue by demanding action on the local, state, and national levels.

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A number of my colleagues and I have sent letters to President Bush and Secretary Rice expressing our concern over the massacre taking place in the Sudan and requesting that our government intervene to

help end the violence there.

Additionally, I have also written to Chinese President Hu Jintao, urging him to use his government’s economic and diplomatic influence to

call for an end to the hostilities in the Sudan.

In Congress, I worked with my colleagues from the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) and others to introduce various pieces of legislation regarding Darfur. The Darfur Peace and

Accountability Act of 2005 identified the atrocities in Darfur as genocide. The Darfur Accountability and Divestment Act first introduced in 2005 and reintroduced in 2007 urges American companies, as well as foreign governments, to divest from the region and stop conducting business with the Sudanese govern-

ment until the atrocities have ended.

Currently, I am involved in an effort to compel the University of Chicago, which is in my district and which I have always supported, to divest from companies conducting business in the Sudan. Besides writing a letter directly to the university president outlining my concerns, I have also conducted demonstrations, rallies, and marches in Chicago to highlight this issue. I have so far been unsuccessful in persuading the school to change its policy. Therefore, I urge all of my constituents, and all of those who find this genocide unacceptable and deplorable to join me in calling for the University of Chicago to follow the lead of other prominent Illinois institutions, such as Northwestern and the University of Illinois, and stop financing this horrendous tragedy.

Current Legislation Co-sponsored by Congressman Rush

I have co-sponsored a plethora of legislation addressing the Darfur Conflict in the 110th Congress such as:
H.R.180: Darfur Accountability and Divestment Act of

2007.
H.Con.Res.7: Calling on the League of Arab States and each Member State individually to acknowledge the genocide in the Darfur region of Sudan and to step up their efforts to stop the genocide in Darfur.

H.Res.422: Calling on the Government of the People’s Republic of China to use its unique influence and economic leverage to stop genocide and violence in Darfur, Sudan.

Darfur Timeline

