

House Resolution 2017

By: Representatives Scott of the 76th, Brooks of the 63rd, Heard of the 114th, Beasley-Teague of the 65th, Taylor of the 55th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Department of Justice to intervene in the death of Trayvon Martin in Sanford,
2 Florida; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Trayvon Martin, a 17 year old African American high school student in Florida,
4 was shot and killed in February of 2012 outside his stepmother's house by a self-appointed
5 neighborhood watchman; and

6 WHEREAS, Trayvon was walking home from the store carrying a bag of candy and a can
7 of iced tea when he was approached by Mr. Zimmerman; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Zimmerman made a nonemergency call to the police before fatally shooting
9 Trayvon, in which he told a dispatcher, "This guy looks like he is up to no good, on drugs
10 or something"; and

11 WHEREAS, the dispatcher is heard trying to discourage Mr. Zimmerman asking, "Are you
12 following him?... Okay, we don't need to do that"; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Zimmerman got out of his vehicle and approached Trayvon and a struggle
14 broke out, during which time 911 calls were being made to police reporting the fight between
15 the man and the child; and

16 WHEREAS, the neighbors called frantically, saying the child was calling for help, then a
17 shot was fired; and

18 WHEREAS, the Sanford Police Department ignored the calls of the witnesses and did not
19 arrest or take Mr. Zimmerman in for questioning; and

20 WHEREAS, over 500,000 people have signed a petition for the arrest of Mr. Zimmerman.

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
22 the members of this body urge the Department of Justice to investigate the senseless killing
23 of Trayvon Martin in Sanford, Florida.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
25 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the public and the press.