Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly
2026 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Joint Resolution 9 (Delegate Acevero, *et al.*)
Rules and Executive Nominations

Condemning Violence and Violations of Law - Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gaza, and Sudan

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This joint resolution (1) condemns all acts of violence against civilians and violations of international humanitarian and human rights law occurring in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gaza, and Sudan; (2) expresses grave concern over reports of war crimes, crimes against humanity, and the risk of genocide in these regions; (3) reaffirms the commitment of the State to the values of human dignity, justice, and the equal worth of all human life; (4) affirms that the protection of civilian life, humanitarian access, and accountability under international law must be upheld without exception or selectivity; and (5) calls for an immediate and sustained ceasefire or cessation of hostilities where necessary to protect civilians, unhindered humanitarian access to affected populations, the release of all unlawfully detained civilians, and independent investigations and accountability mechanisms for violations of international law. The joint resolution also urges the U.S. government to use its resources to prevent further atrocities, support humanitarian relief efforts, ensure that U.S. foreign assistance is consistent with international humanitarian law, and work with international partners to pursue peaceful resolutions to these conflicts. A copy of the resolution must be forwarded to specified officials.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The joint resolution does not directly affect State finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: None.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 5, 2026
jg/jkb

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