

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3402, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE APPROPRIATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEARS 2006 THROUGH 2009

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. EMERSON). The pending business is the vote on adoption of House Resolution 462 on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 330, nays 89, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 498]

YEAS—330

Abercrombie	Davis (CA)	Hooley
Aderholt	Davis (IL)	Houstettler
Akin	Davis (KY)	Hulshof
Alexander	Davis (TN)	Hyde
Allen	Davis, Tom	Inglis (SC)
Andrews	Deal (GA)	Issa
Baca	DeGette	Istoek
Bachus	Delahunt	Jackson (IL)
Baker	DeLauro	Jackson-Lee
Barrett (SC)	DeLay	(TX)
Bartlett (MD)	Dent	Jenkins
Barton (TX)	Diaz-Balart, L.	Jindal
Bass	Diaz-Balart, M.	Johnson (CT)
Beauprez	Dicks	Johnson (IL)
Berman	Dingell	Johnson, Sam
Berry	Doolittle	Jones (NC)
Biggert	Doyle	Jones (OH)
Bilirakis	Drake	Kanjorski
Bishop (GA)	Dreier	Keller
Bishop (UT)	Duncan	Kelly
Blackburn	Edwards	Kennedy (MN)
Blunt	Ehlers	Kennedy (RI)
Boehlert	Emanuel	Kildee
Boehner	Emerson	Kilpatrick (MI)
Bonilla	Engel	Kind
Bonner	English (PA)	King (IA)
Bono	Eshoo	King (NY)
Boozman	Etheridge	Kingston
Boren	Everett	Kirk
Boucher	Feeney	Kline
Boustany	Ferguson	Knollenberg
Boyd	Fitzpatrick (PA)	Kolbe
Bradley (NH)	Flake	Kuhl (NY)
Brady (PA)	Foley	LaHood
Brady (TX)	Forbes	Larsen (WA)
Brown (OH)	Ford	Larson (CT)
Brown (SC)	Fortenberry	Latham
Brown, Corrine	Fossella	LaTourette
Brown-Waite,	Foxx	Leach
Ginny	Franks (AZ)	Levin
Burgess	Frelinghuysen	Lewis (CA)
Burton (IN)	Gallegly	Lewis (KY)
Butterfield	Garrett (NJ)	Linder
Buyer	Gerlach	LoBiondo
Calvert	Gibbons	Lungren, Daniel
Camp	Gilchrest	E.
Cannon	Gillmor	Lynch
Cantor	Gingrey	Mack
Capito	Gohmert	Manzullo
Capuano	Goode	Marchant
Cardin	Goodlatte	Marshall
Cardoza	Gordon	Matheson
Carnahan	Granger	McCaull (TX)
Carter	Graves	McCotter
Case	Green (WI)	McCryer
Castle	Green, Al	McHenry
Chabot	Green, Gene	McHugh
Chandler	Gutknecht	McKeon
Chocola	Hall	McMorris
Clay	Harris	McNulty
Cleaver	Hart	Mica
Coble	Hastings (WA)	Michaud
Cole (OK)	Hayes	Millender-
Conaway	Hayworth	McDonald
Cooper	Hefley	Miller (FL)
Costa	Hensarling	Miller (MI)
Cramer	Herger	Miller (NC)
Crenshaw	Herseth	Miller, Gary
Cubin	Hinojosa	Mollohan
Cuellar	Hobson	Moore (KS)
Cunningham	Hoekstra	Moore (WI)
Davis (AL)	Holden	Moran (KS)

Moran (VA)	Rangel	Sodrel
Murphy	Regula	Souder
Murtha	Rehberg	Spratt
Musgrave	Reichert	Stearns
Myrick	Reyes	Sullivan
Napolitano	Reynolds	Sweeney
Neugebauer	Rogers (AL)	Tancredo
Ney	Rogers (KY)	Tanner
Northup	Rogers (MI)	Taylor (MS)
Norwood	Rohrabacher	Taylor (NC)
Nunes	Ros-Lehtinen	Terry
Nussle	Ross	Thomas
Oberstar	Rothman	Thompson (CA)
Orey	Royce	Thornberry
Ortiz	Ruppersberger	Tiahrt
Osborne	Ryan (OH)	Tiberi
Otter	Ryan (WI)	Turner
Owens	Ryun (KS)	Udall (CO)
Oxley	Sabo	Upton
Pascarella	Salazar	Visclosky
Paul	Sanders	Walden (OR)
Pearce	Saxton	Walsh
Pence	Schmidt	Wamp
Peterson (MN)	Schwarz (MI)	Weiner
Peterson (PA)	Scott (GA)	Weldon (FL)
Petri	Scott (VA)	Weldon (PA)
Pickering	Sensenbrenner	Weller
Pitts	Sessions	Westmoreland
Platts	Shadegg	Wexler
Poe	Shaw	Whitfield
Pombo	Sherwood	Wicker
Pomeroy	Shimkus	Wilson (NM)
Porter	Shuster	Wilson (SC)
Price (GA)	Simmons	Wolf
Price (NC)	Simpson	Wu
Pryce (OH)	Skelton	Wynn
Putnam	Smith (NJ)	Young (AK)
Radanovich	Smith (TX)	Young (FL)
Rahall	Smith (WA)	
Ramstad	Snyder	

NAYS—89

Ackerman	Israel	Royal-Allard
Baird	Jefferson	Rush
Baldwin	Johnson, E. B.	Sánchez, Linda
Barrow	Kaptur	T.
Bean	Kucinich	Sanchez, Loretta
Becerra	Langevin	Schakowsky
Berkley	Lantos	Schiff
Bishop (NY)	Lee	Schwartz (PA)
Capps	Lewis (GA)	Serrano
Carson	Lipinski	Sherman
Clyburn	Lofgren, Zoe	Slaughter
Conyers	Lowey	Solis
Costello	Maloney	Stark
Crowley	Markey	Strickland
Cummings	Matsui	Stupak
DeFazio	McCarthy	Tauscher
Doggett	McDermott	Thompson (MS)
Evans	McGovern	Tierney
Farr	McIntyre	Towns
Fattah	McKinney	Udall (NM)
Filner	Meehan	Van Hollen
Frank (MA)	Meek (FL)	Velázquez
Gonzalez	Meeks (NY)	Wasserman
Grijalva	Menendez	Schultz
Hastings (FL)	Miller, George	Waters
Higgins	Nadler	Watson
Hinchey	Neal (MA)	Watt
Holt	Olver	Waxman
Honda	Pallone	Woolsey
Hoyer	Pastor	
Inslee	Payne	

NOT VOTING—14

Blumenauer	Gutierrez	Melancon
Boswell	Harman	Pelosi
Culberson	Hunter	Renzi
Davis (FL)	Lucas	Shays
Davis, Jo Ann	McCollum (MN)	

□ 1248

Mr. MEEHAN changed his vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 2360, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2006

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. EMERSON). Without objection, the Chair appoints the following conferees on H.R. 2360: Messrs. ROGERS of Kentucky, WAMP, LATHAM, Mrs. EMERSON, Messrs. SWEENEY, KOLBE, ISTOOK, LAHOOD, CRENSHAW, CARTER, LEWIS of California, SABO, PRICE of North Carolina, SERRANO, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Messrs. BISHOP of Georgia, BERRY, EDWARDS, and OBEY.

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later today.

ASSISTANCE FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES AFFECTED BY HURRICANE KATRINA OR RITA ACT OF 2005

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3864) to provide vocational rehabilitation services to individuals with disabilities affected by Hurricane Katrina or Hurricane Rita, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3864

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities Affected by Hurricane Katrina or Rita Act of 2005”.

SEC. 2. ASSISTANCE FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) AFFECTED STATE.—The term “affected State” means a State that contains an area, or that received a significant number of individuals who resided in an area, in which the President has declared that a major disaster exists.

(2) COMMISSIONER.—The term “Commissioner” means the Commissioner of the Rehabilitation Services Administration.

(3) INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY.—The term “individual with a disability” has the meaning given the term in section 7(20)(A) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 705(20)(A)).

(4) INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY AFFECTED BY HURRICANE KATRINA.—The term “individual with a disability affected by Hurricane Katrina” means an individual with a disability who resided on August 22, 2005, in an area in which the President has declared that a major disaster related to Hurricane Katrina exists.

(5) INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY AFFECTED BY HURRICANE RITA.—The term “individual with a disability affected by Hurricane Rita” means an individual with a disability who resided in an area on the date that was 7 days

before the date on which the President declared that a major disaster related to Hurricane Rita exists in such area.

(6) MAJOR DISASTER.—The term “major disaster” means a major disaster declared by the President in accordance with the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.), related to Hurricane Katrina or Rita.

(b) REALLOTMENTS OF AMOUNTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In reallotting amounts to States under section 110(b)(2) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 730(b)(2)) for fiscal year 2005, the Commissioner shall give preference to affected States.

(2) WAIVERS.—If the Commissioner reallocates amounts under section 110(b)(2) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to an affected State for fiscal year 2005, or returns to the State of Louisiana for fiscal year 2005 the funds that Louisiana had previously relinquished pursuant to section 110(b)(1) of that Act (29 U.S.C. 730(b)(1)) due to an inability to meet the non-Federal share requirements requiring Louisiana to contribute \$3,942,821 for fiscal year 2005, the Commissioner may grant a waiver of non-Federal share requirements for fiscal year 2005 for the affected State or Louisiana, respectively.

(3) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term “non-Federal share requirements” means non-Federal share requirements applicable to programs under title I of such Act (29 U.S.C. 720 et seq.).

(c) USE OF AMOUNTS REALLOTTED UNDER TITLE I OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973.—An affected State that receives amounts reallocated under section 110(b)(2) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 730(b)(2)) for fiscal year 2005 (as described in subsection (b)) or returned under subsection (b) may use the amounts—

(1) to pay for vocational rehabilitation services described in section 103 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 723) (which may include training, mentoring, or job shadowing opportunities), for individuals with disabilities affected by Hurricane Katrina or individuals with disabilities affected by Hurricane Rita, that contribute to the economic growth and development of communities;

(2) to enable—

(A) individuals with disabilities affected by Hurricane Katrina to participate in reconstruction or other major disaster assistance activities in the areas in which the individuals resided on August 22, 2005; and

(B) individuals with disabilities affected by Hurricane Rita to participate in reconstruction or other major disaster assistance activities in the areas in which the individuals resided on the date that was 7 days before the date on which the President declared that a major disaster related to Hurricane Rita exists in such areas;

(3) to pay for vocational rehabilitation services described in section 103 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 for individuals with disabilities affected by Hurricane Katrina, or individuals with disabilities affected by Hurricane Rita, who do not meet the affected State’s order of selection criteria for the affected State’s order of selection under section 101(a)(5) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 721(a)(5)); or

(4) to carry out other activities in accordance with title I of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 720 et seq.).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. BOUSTANY) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. BOUSTANY).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 3864.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Louisiana?

There was no objection.

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3864. H.R. 3864, the Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities Affected by Hurricane Katrina or Rita Act of 2005, is a bill that I introduced to provide immediate and critical assistance to individuals with disabilities affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Since I introduced H.R. 3864 last week, I have worked with my colleagues in the Senate to revise the language to create an even better bill, and the amendment I am introducing today reflects the agreement we were able to reach.

I urge my colleagues to adopt this commonsense legislation that will allow individuals with disabilities greater access to vocational rehabilitation services so they may return to work in the aftermath of these devastating hurricanes.

The measure that we are considering today deals with the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, a law that provides job training and other services designed to increase employment options for individuals with disabilities. The bill will provide greater flexibility to the United States Department of Education and the Rehabilitation Services Administration so sufficient funds are made available to States impacted by these hurricanes.

Specifically, this legislation requires the commissioner of the Rehabilitation Services Administration to give preference to States like Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, Texas, and others that have taken in large numbers of evacuees when unused vocational rehabilitation services funds are reallocated at the end of this fiscal year under the Rehabilitation Act.

It also assists impacted States by providing a one-time waiver of the requirement that those States match the reallocated funds they receive with non-Federal sources. This will provide the impacted States the necessary flexibility to maximize the use of both State and Federal funds to serve the citizens of those States during the critical months ahead.

The bill also ensures that States like Louisiana will continue to have access to funds under the Rehabilitation Act that had been relinquished to the Department of Education prior to the hurricane. Finally, the measure encourages affected States that receive a reallocation of vocational rehabilitation funds to use those funds to provide services to individuals with disabilities

affected by the hurricanes. This will give these residents an opportunity to contribute to the economic development of their communities and participate in the reconstruction efforts.

As everyone knows, my State of Louisiana has suffered through two major hurricanes this last month. I spent this past weekend in my district as we prepared for and dealt directly with the aftermath of Hurricane Rita. Those affected by this hurricane and Hurricane Katrina continue to display tremendous courage, and I appreciate all that the American people and this Congress have done to assist our region.

This bill represents yet another step we will take to provide needed resources to the people of the gulf coast, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I would like to thank also the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. BOUSTANY), my colleague and friend, for introducing this commonsense hurricane relief bill that will offer relief to his constituents and many other Americans with disabilities in the gulf region.

This bill offers additional funds to gulf region vocational rehabilitation programs and offers the flexibility needed to continue services.

Madam Speaker, Louisiana is in a difficult position of not having met their Federal share for funds already allotted. Under H.R. 3864, Louisiana can apply for a waiver of that requirement. I commend the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. BOUSTANY) for introducing this legislation to take care of that.

In the reallocation of unused funds from the previous fiscal year, this bill will give priority to those affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Impacted States can then apply for waivers in meeting their non-Federal share of the reallocated funds as well.

Madam Speaker, impacted gulf coast States can use these funds to pay for vocational rehabilitation services that allow individuals with disabilities to contribute to the rebuilding of their local communities. I am pleased to support this bill, which not only offers relief from previous obligations but also provides additional resources necessary to continue services. Moreover, it reinforces the value of having community members participate in the revitalization of their neighborhoods.

Again, I thank the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. BOUSTANY) for introducing this very much-needed legislation, and I encourage my colleagues to support its swift passage.

Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to thank the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE). He has been quite an ally in this process.

This is a very important piece of legislation, a small piece of legislation, but important, that will help us get back on our feet; and I urge passage of H.R. 3864.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3864, which provides needed assistance to individuals with disabilities who are affected by the recent hurricanes. The bill requires the Commissioner of the Rehabilitation Services Administration to give preference to States affected by Hurricanes Katrina and/or Rita with respect to the re-allotment of funds for vocational rehabilitation services. This provision is a necessary step in channeling monies to enable individuals with disabilities affected by either hurricane to participate in reconstruction or other major disaster assistance activities.

A strength of this legislation is that it permits affected States to use these re-allotted funds to pay for vital vocational rehabilitation services. This includes important activities such as training, mentoring, or job shadowing that contribute to the economic growth and development of communities. H.R. 3864 also grants needed flexibility to the States in providing the vocational services to individuals with disabilities by allowing the Commissioner to waive a state's matching requirement for funds from non-Federal sources.

These proposals will help the affected States as well as individuals with disabilities. The affected States will not have to draw upon their already depleted funds to pay for these critical services, and individuals with disabilities will be able to participate in the rebuilding of their towns and cities, which in turn will gain from the valuable services that individuals with disabilities can provide.

In my district I have seen the amazing work that disabled individuals are capable of. The Chicago Lighthouse for the Blind employs blind individuals to build clocks for the Federal Government. I am glad to support a bill that recognizes and encourages the contributions of this population.

Mr. BOEHNER. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this bill to ensure that individuals with disabilities may gain access to the vocational rehabilitation services they need in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. I thank my colleague on the Education and the Workforce Committee, Mr. BOUSTANY, for his work on this bill and other legislation to bring additional flexibility and resources to the Gulf Coast region. He and another of my Committee colleagues, Mr. JINDAL, continue to work tirelessly on behalf of their constituents and all Gulf Coast residents to ensure that we act where necessary to assist in the recovery efforts.

This bill is critical for individuals with disabilities who are seeking to re-enter the workforce in the aftermath of the two hurricanes. Under the Rehabilitation Act, States must return unused vocational rehabilitation funds at the end of each fiscal year to the Rehabilitation Services Administration, RSA. The RSA then reallocates those funds to States based on the needs of their respective residents. H.R. 3864 directs the Commissioner of the RSA to give consideration to States affected by the hurricanes in this year's reallocation of those unused funds.

This bill also provides significant flexibility for States impacted by the hurricanes. Under the Rehabilitation Act, States that receive a re-

allocation are required to match those funds with non-federal sources. This bill provides a reasonable, one-time waiver of that requirement for States affected by Hurricane Katrina or Hurricane Rita. This recognizes the unique circumstances faced by these States and ensures that State officials will not have their hands tied as they seek to take advantage of these additional resources.

Madam Speaker, in the month since Hurricane Katrina, the House has approved a variety of legislation to cut through bureaucratic red tape and enhance flexibility in the affected regions. We've addressed the needs of college students, workers, and their families. With this bill, we turn our attention to the needs of individuals with disabilities as well. As many of these individuals seek to return to work in and around the Gulf Coast region, I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this measure to ensure they may do just that.

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. BOUSTANY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3864, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to assist individuals with disabilities affected by Hurricane Katrina or Rita through vocational rehabilitation services."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1300

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES REGARDING JULY 2005 MEASURES OF EXTREME REPRESSION ON PART OF CUBAN GOVERNMENT

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 388) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the July, 2005, measures of extreme repression on the part of the Cuban Government against members of Cuba's prodemocracy movement, calling for the immediate release of all political prisoners, the legalization of political parties and free elections in Cuba, urging the European Union to re-examine its policy toward Cuba, and calling on the representative of the United States to the 62d session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights to ensure a resolution calling upon the Cuban regime to end its human rights violations, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 388

Whereas the European Union instituted measures on the Cuban Government after the Cuban Government exercised extreme repression on peaceful prodemocracy activists in 2003, but in January 2005 the European Union suspended its measures;

Whereas on July 13, 2005, the Cuban Government detained 24 human rights activists

who were participating in a solemn event in remembrance of the victims of the tugboat massacre of innocent civilians by the Cuban government of July 13, 1994;

Whereas human rights activists Rene Montes de Oca, Emilio Leiva Perez, Camilo Cairo Falcon, Manuel Perez Soira, Roberto Guerra Perez, and Lazaro Alonso Roman remain incarcerated from the July 13, 2005, event and face trumped up charges of "disorderly conduct";

Whereas on July 14, 2005, the Government of France invited the Cuban regime's Foreign Minister to the French Embassy in Havana for a "Bastille Day" celebration;

Whereas members of the prodemocracy opposition in Cuba sought, on July 22, 2005, in Havana, to demonstrate in front of the French Embassy in a peaceful and orderly manner, on behalf of the liberation of all Cuban political prisoners, and to protest the current policy of the European Union toward the Cuban Government;

Whereas the Cuban regime mobilized its repressive state security apparatus to intimidate and harass the peaceful demonstrators in order to prevent prodemocracy activists from reaching the French Embassy;

Whereas the Cuban regime arrested and detained many who were planning on attending the peaceful protest of July 22 in front of the French Embassy, including Martha Beatriz Roque Cabello, Félix Antonio Bonne Carcassés, Rene Gómez Manzano, Jose Javier Baeza Dis, María de los Angeles Borrego, Ernesto Colás García, Emma María Alonso Del Monte, Jose Escuredo Marrero, Uldarico García, Yusimi Gil Portel, Oscar Mario González Pérez, Humberto Guerra, Luis Cesar Guerra, Julio Cesar López Rodríguez, Miguel López Santos, Jacqueline Montes de Oca, Raul Martínez Prieto, Ricardo Medina Salabaria, Francisco Moure Saladrigas, Georgina Noa Montes, Niurka María Peña Rodríguez, Luis Manuel Peñalver, Pastor Pérez Sánchez, Jesús Adolfo Reyes Sánchez, Gloria Cristina Rodríguez González, Juan Mario Rodríguez Guillen, Miguel Valdés Tamayo, Santiago Valdeolla Pérez, and Jesús Alejandro Victore Molina;

Whereas Rene Gómez Manzano, a distinguished leader of the struggle for freedom in Cuba, and other prodemocracy activists, continue to be detained without cause;

Whereas hundreds of political prisoners and prisoners of conscience languish in the Cuban regime's prisons for the crime of seeking democracy for Cuba;

Whereas thousands of others languish in Cuba's totalitarian prisons accused of "common crimes", such as illegally attempting to leave the country and violating the norms of the totalitarian economic system, who should be recognized as prisoners of conscience because they are being jailed for attempting to exercise personal freedoms;

Whereas the Cuban regime has arrested more than 400 young Cubans, from late 2004 through June of 2005, and according to the Cuban regime, the arrests were carried out as a "measure of pre-delinquent security";

Whereas the Cuban regime has continued to repress attempts by the Cuban people to bring democratic change to the island and denies universally recognized liberties, including freedom of speech, association, movement, and the press;

Whereas the Cuban Government remains designated as one of 6 state sponsors of terrorism by the United States Department of State;

Whereas the Cuban Government continues to provide safe harbor to fugitives from United States law enforcement agencies and to international terrorists;

Whereas the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which establishes global human rights standards, asserts that all