

The Congressional Black Caucus

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 11, 1985

CONTACT: Amelia Parker (202) 226-7790

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS LOBBYS ANTI-APARTHEID BILL ON SENATE FLOOR

The twenty member Congressional Black Caucus today moved their battle of advocacy for an end to American support of apartheid to the floor of the United States Senate. Members of the Black Caucus made a rare appearance on the Senate floor during deliberation to consider the bipartisan anti-apartheid compromise bill.

The Chairman of the CBC, Texas Congressman Mickey Leland said, "The Congressional Black Caucus met today and unanimously elected to take our membership to the floor of the Senate as a demonstration of the resolve of the Congress to see an end to the repressive policy of apartheid. With our actions today, we are prepared to take the strongest possible measures to isolate them in their practice of racial oppression."

The Congressional Black Caucus rejects the Reagan executive order as a political ploy which substitutes rhetoric for substance and says to the international community that America is willing to abdicate its responsibility to stand firmly in support of justice and true democracy," explained Leland.

The situation in South Africa has become politically intolerable and we call on the Members of the Senate to act quickly and responsibly in passing the Anti-Apartheid Act of 1985," said Leland. "The Members of the Congressional Black Caucus will continue to bring their message to individual Senators and their constituents until the United States government is clearly on record in opposition to the replusive practices of apartheid."

#