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April 18, 1986

The Honorable Howard Wolpe Chairman Subcommittee on Africa Committee on Foreign Affairs U.S. House of Representatives 705 House Annex I Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As you know, on February 5, 1986, I introduced H. Res. 373 calling on President Reagan to urge the Government of South Africa to begin meaningful political negotiations with that country's Black majority.

The resolution specifically asks that we seek to have the Pretoria Government show its willingness to begin such talks by freeing Nelson Mandela and by recognizing the African National Congress as a legitimate representative of the Black South Africa community.

H. Res. 373 has been pending before the Subcommittee on Africa for some time now, and I would respectfully urge its consideration as soon as possible. It would seem to be germane to the present series of hearings the Subcommittee is holding to ascertain new initiatives the U.S. should undertake to get the Pretoria Government to end the racist system of apartheid.

I am sure that you will agree that the freeing of Nelson Mandela and the beginning of talks for peaceful change in South Africa are important steps that could lead to the speedy end of apartheid.

I appreciate your immediate consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Geo. W. Crockett, Jr. Member of Congress

GWC:tj/jtw