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DELEGATION

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

September 22, 1986

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Honorable George W. Crockett, Jr.
U.S. House of Representatives
1531 Longworth HOB
Washington, D. C. 20515

qwc

Dear George:

I enclose a copy of a bill which failed to pass on suspension relative to South Africa and have suggested some changes that I believe would very much change the vote favorably because I believe that most people who vote negatively on this bill did so because of an implication in their minds at least that the particular organization named was singled out as the only representative, or certainly the principal representative, while I understand from you that was not your real intention. Is there anything I can do to help with regard to this?

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,



Charles E. Bennett

CEB/rwh
Enclosure

*Joan,
Blank five and
send from copy of
the explanatory
letter that was
circulated.*

SEP 23 1986

99TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 373

To urge the Government of South Africa to indicate its willingness to engage in meaningful political negotiations with that country's black majority.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 5, 1986

Mr. CROCKETT (for himself, Mr. SAVAGE, Mr. GRAY of Pennsylvania, Mr. DYMALLY, Mr. OWENS, Mr. HAYES, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. FAUNTROY, Mr. DIXON, Mr. HAWKINS, Mr. DELLUMS, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. LELAND, Mr. TOWNS, Mrs. COLLINS, Mr. WHEAT, Mr. WOLPE, Mr. PEPPER, Mr. FISH, Mr. STOKES, Mr. FORD of Tennessee, and Mr. RANGEL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

To urge the Government of South Africa to indicate its willingness to engage in meaningful political negotiations with that country's black majority.

Whereas since September 1984, a mounting unrest against racial oppression in the Republic of South Africa has led to the violent death of more than 1,000 individuals, most of them black, the detention without charge of thousands more, and a declared state of emergency in several areas of that country;

Whereas a peaceful resolution to this violence and conflict in the Republic of South Africa is unlikely unless the Government of that country moves to end its abhorrent system of apart-

heid which denies the country's black majority the right to vote, the right to own land, and the right to freedom of movement;

Whereas the Government of the United States, the United Nations, and virtually every country in the world has condemned the practice of apartheid by the Government of South Africa and its enactment of the repressive measures that have led to the current violence;

Whereas the Government of the United States has sought to use its influence and leverage to promote peace and peaceful change through diplomatic appeals and the imposition of limited economic sanctions;

Whereas the 98th Congress adopted the "Mandela Freedom Resolution", calling for the unconditional release of Nelson Mandela, the black South African leader who has been imprisoned for 23 years, and his wife, Winnie Mandela, who has been a "banned" person in South Africa for the past 21 years;

Whereas the President has called for the South African Government to end its practice of detention without trial and lengthy imprisonment of black leaders, in addition to calling for the establishment of a government based on the consent of the governed;

Whereas the Secretary of State has urged the release of Nelson Mandela and indicated the need for the South African Government to meet with leaders of the black majority, including Mandela and the outlawed African National Congress;

Whereas the African National Congress, which was banned in 1960, is today the oldest and most prominent of the organizations of resistance against the apartheid system of South

Africa and is highly regarded by that country's black majority;

Whereas representatives of the South African business community, clergy, and university student organizations have met or attempted to meet with officials of the African National Congress to establish lines of communications for future discussions on the problems of their country;

Whereas Nelson Mandela, who has been in South African prisons since 1962 and who is still considered the leader of the banned African National Congress, is regarded by many black South Africans as one of the most respected symbols of resistance against apartheid;

Whereas it is evident that an end to South Africa's racial turmoil is impossible if the Government of that country does not begin a meaningful dialogue with the leaders of the black majority;

Whereas the continued turmoil and unrest in the Republic of South Africa threaten the peace, security, and stability of the other nations of Southern Africa and has led to cross-border violence in the region; and

Whereas the urgent moment has arrived for the Government of South Africa to initiate bold steps to end apartheid and the current unrest and to achieve peace and peaceful change: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Repre-
- 2 sentatives that the President should use his good offices to
- 3 urge the Government of the Republic of South Africa to indi-
- 4 cate its willingness to engage in meaningful political negotia-
- 5 tions with that country's black majority—

1 (1) by immediately granting unconditional freedom
2 to Nelson Mandela;

3 (2) by recognizing the African National Congress
4 as a legitimate representative ^{among others,} for the country's black
5 majority; and

6 (3) by establishing the framework for the political
7 talks which hopefully could lead to a negotiated settle-
8 ment with the black majority.

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