



CONGRESSMAN VERN BUCHANAN  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THIRTEENTH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

May 9, 2007

**PROTECT OUR CHILDREN FROM  
CRIMINAL ILLEGAL ALIENS**

**Cosponsor The "Clay Moore Kidnapping  
Prevention Act of 2007"**

Dear Colleague:

I wanted to share with you a recent newspaper article that appeared in the *Sarasota (FL) Herald Tribune* (on the back).

My legislation, H.R. 1735, the "Clay Moore Kidnapping Prevention Act of 2007," would increase penalties against criminal illegal aliens who seek to harm our children.

If you would like to become a cosponsor of my legislation or have any questions, please contact Christian Ziegler in my office at 5-5015 or [Christian.Ziegler@mail.house.gov](mailto:Christian.Ziegler@mail.house.gov).

Sincerely,

Vern Buchanan  
Member of Congress



OVER

 SARASOTA  
**Herald-Tribune**

03/27/07

## **Buchanan proposes 'Clay Moore' law**

By FRANK GLUCK  
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**PALMETTO --** Kidnapping victim Clay Moore is again being lauded as a hero and may soon join the ranks of children with laws named after them.

U.S. Rep. Vern Buchanan said Monday that he will introduce legislation that would impose an additional 10 years in federal prison on illegal immigrants convicted of kidnapping a child.

The "Clay Moore Kidnapping Prevention Act of 2007" would create a 30-year mandatory minimum sentence for kidnapping minors. U.S. citizens convicted of the same offense would still face the current 20-year sentence.

Buchanan, R-Longboat Key, said the bill was prompted by the February abduction of 13-year-old Clay at a Parrish bus stop.

Such a law would send a message to illegal immigrants that kidnapping, now prevalent in Latin America, is unacceptable here, Buchanan said.

"We cannot let it get started in America," he said. "I want to cut it off now."

Illegal immigration was a key issue in Buchanan's race for Congress.

He opposes so-called amnesty programs for undocumented workers and has proposed a secure fence along the border with Mexico to keep out illegal immigrants.

Buchanan announced the bill at a press conference at the Manatee County Sheriff's Office in Palmetto. He was flanked by Clay and his family, and Sheriff Charlie Wells.

Clay's stepfather, Stephen Kelle, spoke for the family:

"We're grateful Clay is home," he said. "For it to be named after him is a great honor. If it saves one other kid, then it's worth it."

This is not Clay's first press appearance with a politician. Gov. Charlie Crist met with the boy earlier this month to announce his "Safe to School" initiative.

Clay's accused abductor, Vicente Ignacio Beltran-Moreno, was arrested March 7 after agreeing to return from Mexico to turn himself in. Beltran-Moreno had been living in the United States illegally, authorities said.