

Report on HELLENIC ISSUES



Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues
History and Accomplishments

A Progress Report
from the Office of Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney

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I. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Established in 1996, the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues works to foster and improve relations between the United States and Greece. The Caucus brings a renewed congressional focus on key diplomatic, military, and human rights issues in a critical part of the world. The members of the Caucus introduce legislation, arrange briefings on current events, and disseminate information to interested parties. The topics on which the Caucus focuses include U.S. aid to Greece and Cyprus, the conflict in Cyprus, U.S. relations with the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the status of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, and developments in the Aegean. In the 110th Congress, the Caucus has more than 120 members.

II. BILLS INTRODUCED IN THE 110th CONGRESS

H.R. 2526, which deems Greece to be designated as a visa waiver country under the Immigration and Nationality Act. Introduced by Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY).

H.R. 1456, the “American Owned Property In Occupied Cyprus Claims Act,” will enable U.S. citizens to seek remedies in the following three different ways:

1. The bill authorizes the President to cause a claims program to be opened under which the claims of U.S. nationals who Turkey has excluded from their property in occupied Cyprus can be adjudicated by the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission (referred to as FCSC) and compensated through government-to-government negotiations between the United States and Turkey.
2. The bill empowers the United States district courts to hear causes of action asserted by U.S. nationals who have been excluded from property in occupied Cyprus against private persons or entities that occupy or use the property of U.S. nationals in occupied Cyprus.
3. The bill empowers the United States district courts to hear causes of action asserted by U.S. nationals who have been excluded from property in occupied Cyprus against Turkey without having to assert those causes of action under the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act of 1976 as amended.

Introduced by Rep. Frank Pallone (D-NJ).

H.R. 1313, To direct the Joint Committee on the Library to obtain a statue of Constantino Brumidi for display in the Capitol Visitor Center. Introduced by Rep. Gus Bilirakis (R-FL).

H. Res. 1024 Recognizing the 187th anniversary of the independence of Greece and celebrating Greek and American democracy. Introduced by Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL). Passed the House of Representatives by voice vote on March 11, 2008.

H. Res. 629 Extending the condolences and sympathy of the House of Representatives to the Government and the people of Greece for the grave loss of life and vast destruction caused by the devastating fires raging through Greece since June 2007. Introduced by Rep. John Sarbanes (D-MD). Passed the House of Representatives on September 5, 2007, 407-0.

H. Res. 627 Supporting the removal of Turkish occupation troops from the Republic of Cyprus. Introduced by Rep. Gus Bilirakis (R-FL).

H. Res. 620 Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Turkey should end its military occupation of the Republic of Cyprus, particularly because Turkey's pretext has been refuted by over 13,000,000 crossings by Turkish-Cypriots and Greek-Cypriots into each other's communities without incident. Introduced by Rep. Albio Sires (D-NJ).

H. Res. 407 Expressing the strong support of the House of Representatives for the positive actions by the Government of the Republic of Cyprus aimed at opening additional crossing points along the cease-fire line, thereby contributing to efforts for the reunification of the island. Introduced by Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY).

H. Res. 405 Expressing the strong support of the House of Representatives for implementation of the July 8, 2006, United Nations-brokered agreement between President of the Republic of Cyprus Tassos Papadopoulos and Turkish Cypriot leader Mehmet Ali Talat relating to the reunification of Cyprus. Introduced by Rep. Gus M. Bilirakis (R-FL). Passed the House of Representatives by voice vote on October 9, 2007.

H. Res. 373 Urging Turkey to respect the rights and religious freedoms of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. Introduced by Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY).

H. Res. 356 Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) should stop the utilization of materials that violate provisions of the United Nations-brokered Interim Agreement between the FYROM and Greece regarding "hostile activities or propaganda" and should work with the United Nations and Greece to achieve longstanding United States and United Nations policy goals of finding a mutually-acceptable official name for the FYROM. Introduced by Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY).

H. Res. 228 Recognizing the 186th anniversary of the independence of Greece and celebrating Greek and American democracy. Introduced by Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL). Passed the House of Representatives on March 13, 2007, 413-0. Passed the Senate on March 15, 2007, by unanimous consent.

H. Res. 148 To recognize and appreciate the historical significance and the heroic human endeavor and sacrifice of the people of Crete during World War II and commend the PanCretan Association of America. Introduced by Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY).

H. Con. Res. 199 Expressing the sense of the Congress regarding Turkey's claims of sovereignty over islands and islets in the Aegean Sea. Introduced by Rep. Robert Andrews (D-NJ).

H. Con. Res. 71 Commemorating the 85th Anniversary of the founding of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA), a leading association for the Nation's 1.3 million American citizens of Greek ancestry, and Philhellenes. Introduced by Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney

(D-NY). Passed the House of Representatives by voice vote on April 16, 2007. Passed the Senate by unanimous consent on March 19, 2007.

III. BILLS INTRODUCED IN THE 109th CONGRESS

H.R. 5562 To direct the Joint Committee on the Library to obtain a statue of Constantino Brumidi for display in the Capitol Visitor Center. Introduced by Rep. Michael Bilirakis (R-FL)

H.R. 3138 To award posthumously a Congressional gold medal to Constantino Brumidi. Introduced by Rep. John Mica (R-FL)

H.R. 857, the “American Owned Property In Occupied Cyprus Claims Act,” will enable U.S. citizens to seek remedies in the following three different ways:

1. The bill authorizes the President to cause a claims program to be opened under which the claims of U.S. nationals who Turkey has excluded from their property in occupied Cyprus can be adjudicated by the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission (referred to as FCSC) and compensated through government-to-government negotiations between the United States and Turkey.
2. The bill empowers the United States district courts to hear causes of action asserted by U.S. nationals who have been excluded from property in occupied Cyprus against private persons or entities that occupy or use the property of U.S. nationals in occupied Cyprus.
3. The bill empowers the United States district courts to hear causes of action asserted by U.S. nationals who have been excluded from property in occupied Cyprus against Turkey without having to assert those causes of action under the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act of 1976 as amended.

Introduced by Rep. Frank Pallone (D-NJ).

H.Res. 999 Urging Turkey to respect the rights and religious freedoms of the Ecumenical Patriarch. Introduced by Representative Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY).

H.Res. 953 Commending the Republic of Cyprus and thanking the Cypriot people for their support and assistance in the evacuation of Americans evacuating from Lebanon. Introduced by Representative Bilirakis (R-FL).

H.Res. 603 Supporting the removal of Turkish occupation troops from the Republic of Cyprus. Introduced by Representative Robert Andrews (D-NJ).

H.Res. 521 Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) should cease its distribution of negative and nationalist propaganda and should work with the United Nations and Greece to find a mutually acceptable official name for the FYROM. Introduced by Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY).

H.Res. 411 Urging the Republic of Turkey to comply with all European Union standards and criteria prior to its accession to the European Union. Introduced by Rep. Robert Menendez (D-NJ).

H.Res. 325 Honoring the spiritual leadership of Archbishop Iakovos to Greek Orthodox Christians in the Western Hemisphere. Introduced by Rep. Vito Fossella (R-NY).

H.Res. 322 Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives in support of the European Court of Human Rights for its decisions in the Loizidou v. Turkey and Xenides-Arestis v. Turkey cases and for admitting similar cases before the Court. Introduced by Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY).

H. Res. 290 To recognize and appreciate the historical significance and the heroic human endeavor and sacrifice of the people of Crete during World War II and commend the PanCretan Association of America. Introduced by Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY).

H. Res. 166, which urges Turkey to respect the rights and religious freedoms of the Ecumenical Patriarch. Introduced by Rep. Robert Menendez (D-NJ).

H. Con. Res. 493, urges the Republic of Turkey to comply with all European Union standards and criteria prior to its accession to the European Union. Introduced by Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY).

H. Con. Res. 306, encourages The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) and Greece to continue negotiations to determine a mutually acceptable official name for the FYROM. Introduced by Rep. David Price (D-NC).

H. Con. Res. 202, which permits the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony to honor Constantino Brumidi on the 200th anniversary of his birth. Introduced by Rep. Bill Pascrell (D-NJ). Passed the House of Representatives by voice vote on July 20, 2005.

H. Con. Res. 137, expresses the sense of Congress regarding Turkey's claims of sovereignty over islands and islets in the Aegean Sea. Introduced by Rep. Robert Andrews (D-NJ).

IV. BILLS INTRODUCED IN THE 108th CONGRESS

H.R. 5071, the "American Owned Property In Occupied Cyprus Claims Act," will enable U.S. citizens to seek remedies in the following three different ways:

1. The bill authorizes the President to cause a claims program to be opened under which the claims of U.S. nationals who Turkey has excluded from their property in occupied Cyprus can be adjudicated by the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission (referred to as FCSC) and compensated through government-to-government negotiations between the United States and Turkey.
2. The bill empowers the United States district courts to hear causes of action asserted by U.S. nationals who have been excluded from property in occupied Cyprus against private persons or

entities that occupy or use the property of U.S. nationals in occupied Cyprus.

3. The bill empowers the United States district courts to hear causes of action asserted by U.S. nationals who have been excluded from property in occupied Cyprus against Turkey without having to assert those causes of action under the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act of 1976 as amended.

Introduced by Rep. Frank Pallone (D-NJ).

H.RES.774 Commending the people and Government of Greece for the successful completion of the 2004 Summer Olympic Games. Introduced by Rep. Martin Meehan (D-MA).

H.RES. 244 To recognize and appreciate the historical significance and the heroic human endeavor and sacrifice of the people of Crete during World War II and commend the PanCretan Association of America. Introduced by Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY).

H.RES. 165 This bill expresses that it is the sense of the Congress that:

(1) expresses its appreciation for the efforts of the United Nations Secretary General to seek a peaceful, just, and lasting settlement of the Cyprus problem for the benefit of the Greek and Turkish Cypriots and the region;

(2) expresses its strong disappointment that the Secretary General's efforts to bring his plan for a comprehensive settlement to a referendum by the Greek and Turkish Cypriots has been rejected;

(3) expresses its very strong regret that Turkish Cypriot leader, Mr. Denktash, rejected the comprehensive settlement offered by the Secretary General and, by refusing to offer the settlement proposal to referendum, denied the Turkish Cypriot community the opportunity to determine their own future;

(4) remains committed, despite the recent setback, to giving any assistance necessary for finding a just and durable settlement for the Cyprus problem and urges the maximum effort by the United States Government and others to redouble their efforts to seek a just and lasting settlement to the Cyprus problem;

(5) encourages both Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders to renew their efforts to find a settlement to the Cyprus problem on the basis of the Secretary General's framework for a comprehensive settlement;

(6) urges the Governments of Turkey and Greece to do everything possible to support the search for a settlement, including actions by the Government of Turkey helping to persuade the Turkish Cypriot leader to reach an agreement which would reunite the island and which would serve the interests of both Greek and Turkish Cypriots; and

(7) encourages both sides, upon completion of a comprehensive settlement, to consider putting such

an agreement to referenda, if necessary, in order that the will of the Greek and Turkish Cypriots can be democratically expressed.

Introduced by Rep. Doug Bereuter (R-NE).

H.RES. 37 This bill congratulates the Republic of Cyprus on its recent completion of the accession process into the European Union. Introduced by Rep. Robert Andrews (D-NJ).

H.CON.RES. 530 This bill encourages The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) and Greece to continue negotiations to determine a mutually acceptable official name for the FYROM. Introduced by Rep. David Price (D-NC).

H.CON.RES. 165 This bill expresses that it is the sense of the Congress that the government of the United Kingdom should enter into negotiations with the Government of Greece as soon as possible to facilitate the return of the Parthenon Marbles to Greece before the Olympics in 2004. Introduced by Rep. Donald Payne (D-NJ).

H.CON.RES. 87 This bill expresses the sense of Congress regarding Turkey's claims of sovereignty over islands and islets in the Aegean Sea. Introduced by Rep. Robert Andrews (D-NJ).

V. BILLS INTRODUCED IN THE 107th CONGRESS

H.CON.RES.345 This bill expresses the sense of the Congress that the Orthodox Theological School of Halki in the Republic of Turkey be reopened in order to promote religious freedom. Introduced by Rep. Michael Bilirakis (R-FL).

H.CON.RES.269 This bill calls for a United States effort to end restrictions on the freedoms and human rights of the enclaved people in the occupied area of Cyprus. Introduced by Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL).

H.CON.RES. 164 This bill expresses the United States' support for Cyprus' admission to the EU. The resolution follows the Helsinki Conclusions of 1999 which state that while a solution to the political crisis in Cyprus is preferable prior to EU accession, it is not a precondition for entry. On July 24, 2002, the Subcommittee on Europe approved this bill by voice vote. Introduced by Rep. Michael Bilirakis (R-FL).

H.CON.RES.97 This bill expresses the sense of the Congress regarding Turkey's claims of sovereignty over islands and islets in the Aegean Sea. Introduced by Rep. Robert Andrews (D-NJ).

VI. BILLS INTRODUCED IN THE 106th CONGRESS

H.RES. 361 This bill urges the President to condition discussions about Turkey's foreign military finances on resolution of that nation's hostile occupation of the Republic of Cyprus. Introduced by Representatives Michael Bilirakis (R-FL) and Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY).

H.CON.RES. 294 Urges the Government of the United Kingdom to seek to enter into negotiations with the Government of Greece to facilitate the return of the Parthenon Marbles to Greece before the Olympics in 2004. Introduced by Rep. Donald Payne (D-NJ).

H.CON.RES. 159 (Updated version of H. Con. Res. 100) A concurrent resolution that commends President Clerides for his decision to cancel the deployment of the S-300 anti-aircraft missiles in Cyprus and also urges the President to persuade Turkey to comply with United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1217 and 1218 and to cooperate for a solution to the Cyprus problem. Introduced by Representatives Michael Bilirakis (R-FL) and Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY).

H.CON.RES. 100 A concurrent resolution that urges the compliance by Turkey with United Nations resolutions relating to Cyprus and for other purposes. Introduced by Representatives Michael Bilirakis (R-FL) and Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY).

H.CON.RES. 80 A concurrent resolution that calls for a United States effort to end restrictions on the freedoms and human rights of the enclaved people in the occupied area of Cyprus. Introduced by Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL).

H.CON.RES. 36 A concurrent resolution that expresses the sense of Congress regarding Turkey's claim of sovereignty to the islets in the Aegean Sea called Imia by Greece and Kardak by Turkey. Introduced by Representative Frank Pallone (D-NJ).

VII. BILLS INTRODUCED IN THE 105th CONGRESS

H. Con. Res. 259 Recognizing and honoring the people of the Dodecanesian Islands for their stance in fighting fascism and preserving democratic values and beliefs. Introduced by Representative Thomas Manton (D-NY).

H. Con. Res. 252 Relating to a United States initiative to help resolve the situation in Cyprus. Introduced by Representative Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY).

H. Con. Res. 188 A concurrent resolution commending Greece and Turkey for their mutual and swift response to earthquakes in both countries by providing each other humanitarian assistance and rescue relief. It also encourages both countries to expand on the good will displayed during the earthquakes in the continuing talks between the two countries to resolve their issues of disagreement. Introduced by Rep. Bilirakis (R-FL) and Rep. Maloney (D-NY).

H. Con. Res. 181 Calling for a United States effort to end restrictions on the freedoms and human rights of the enclaved people in the occupied area of Cyprus. Introduced by Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL).

H.Con.Res.148 Commemorating the 75th anniversary of the burning of Smyrna and honoring the memory of its civilian victims. Introduced by Representative Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY).

H. Con. Res. 81 Calling for a United States initiative seeking a just and peaceful resolution of the situation in Cyprus. Introduced by Representative Benjamin Gilman (R-NY).

VIII. BILLS INTRODUCED IN THE 104th CONGRESS

H. Con. Res. 50 Concerning the protection and continued livelihood of the Eastern Orthodox Ecumenical Patriarchate. Introduced by Representative Michael Bilirakis (R-FL).

H. Con. Res. 42 A concurrent resolution that specifies projects aimed at reunification of Cyprus. This resolution welcomes the appointment of a Special Presidential Emissary for Cyprus and supports efforts by the United Nations and the U.S. Government to resolve the Cyprus problem. Introduced by Representative Eliot Engel (D-NY).

H. Con. Res. 31 Expressing the sense of the Congress that the United States should support the efforts of Greece, in its negotiations with the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, to find a solution which promotes a solid, cooperative relationship between these two neighboring countries and that the United States should not establish formal diplomatic relations with the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia until this relationship is established. Introduced by Representative Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY).

IX. ACCOMPLISHMENTS - BILLS ENACTED

H.R. 1609 To award posthumously a Congressional gold medal to Constantino Brumidi. Introduced by Rep. Bill Pascrell (D-NJ). S. 254, the Senate companion bill, passed the Senate by unanimous consent on May 21, 2007, and the House of Representatives by voice vote on June 10, 2008. S. 254 was signed into law on July 1, 2008 (P.L. 110-259).

H.R. 2578 Visa Waiver Pilot Program Amendment. This amendment of the Visa Waiver Pilot Program Reauthorization Act passed on March 25, 1998, due in large part to the work of Rep. Maloney and the Hellenic Caucus. The amendment was signed by the President into Public Law 105-173 on April 27, 1998.

H.R. 2248 Authorized a gold medal from Congress to Patriarch Bartholomew. Rep. Maloney worked to help get the 290 cosponsors before the Patriarch Bartholomew's visit in October 1997. Rep. Leach introduced the legislation, in which Rep. Maloney was a cosponsor. The bill passed unanimously. Signed by the President into Public Law 105-51 on October 6, 1997.

H.R. 2826 A bill to provide for an investigation of the whereabouts of the U.S. citizens and others who have been missing from Cyprus since 1974. Introduced by Rep. Engel and cosponsored by Rep. Maloney. Signed into Public Law 103-372 on October 19, 1994.

H.J. Res. 10 A joint resolution designating March 25, 1993 as "Greek Independence Day: A National Day of Celebration of Greek and American Democracy". Introduced by Rep. Bilirakis and Rep. Maloney. Related to S.J. Res. 22 which was signed into Public Law 103-8 on March 22, 1993.

X. PASSED HOUSE AND/OR SENATE

H. Res. 405 Expressing the strong support of the House of Representatives for implementation of the July 8, 2006, United Nations-brokered agreement between President of the Republic of Cyprus Tassos Papadopoulos and Turkish Cypriot leader Mehmet Ali Talat relating to the reunification of Cyprus. Introduced by Rep. Gus M. Bilirakis (R-FL). Passed the House of Representatives by voice vote on October 9, 2007.

H. Res. 629 Extending the condolences and sympathy of the House of Representatives to the Government and the people of Greece for the grave loss of life and vast destruction caused by the devastating fires raging through Greece since June 2007. Introduced by Rep. John Sarbanes (D-MD). Passed the House of Representatives on September 5, 2007, 407-0.

H. Con. Res. 71 Commemorating the 85th Anniversary of the founding of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA), a leading association for the Nation's 1.3 million American citizens of Greek ancestry, and Philhellenes. Introduced by Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY). Passed the House of Representatives on April 16, 2007, by voice vote. Passed the Senate (S.Con.Res. 14) by unanimous consent on March 19, 2007.

H. Res. 228 Recognizing the 186th anniversary of the independence of Greece and celebrating Greek and American democracy. Introduced by Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL). Passed the House of Representatives on March 13, 2007, 413-0. Passed the Senate (S.Res. 95) by unanimous consent on March 13, 2007.

H. Con. Res. 202 which permits the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony to honor Constantino Brumidi on the 200th anniversary of his birth. Introduced by Rep. Bill Pascrell (D-NJ). Passed the House of Representatives by voice vote on July 20, 2005.

H. Res. 774 This resolution commends the people and Government of Greece for the successful completion of the 2004 Summer Olympic Games. Introduced by Rep. Meehan and cosponsored by Rep. Maloney. Passed the House of Representatives by voice vote on October 4, 2004.

H. Res. 165 expresses the appreciation of the House of Representatives for the efforts of the United Nations Secretary General to seek a peaceful, just, and lasting settlement of the Cyprus problem for the benefit of the people of Cyprus and the region. Passed the House of Representatives on April 9, 2003, 422-0.

H.CON.RES. 188 A concurrent resolution commending Greece and Turkey for their mutual and swift response to earthquakes in both countries by providing each other humanitarian assistance and rescue relief. It also encourages both countries to expand on the good will displayed during the earthquakes in the continuing talks between the two countries to resolve their issues of disagreement. Introduced by Rep. Bilirakis and Rep. Maloney. Unanimously passed the House on October 26, 1999.

H.CON.RES. 81 A concurrent resolution calling for a United States initiative seeking a just and peaceful resolution of the situation on Cyprus. Introduced by former representative Benjamin Gilman (R-NY). Passed the House on July 22, 1997, 417-4.

H.CON.RES. 42 A concurrent resolution that specifies projects aimed at reunification of Cyprus. This resolution welcomes the appointment of a Special Presidential Emissary for Cyprus and supports efforts by the United Nations and the U.S. Government to resolve the Cyprus problem. Introduced by Representative Eliot Engel (D-NY). Passed the House on September 18, 1995, by voice vote.

XI. LETTERS

Letter to Secretary Chertoff, June 2008

Reps. Wexler, Bilirakis, Maloney, and thirty-nine of their House colleagues sent a letter to Secretary Chertoff urging the Department of Homeland Security to move forward with Greece's participation in the Visa Waiver Program.

Letter to Secretary Rice, May 2008

Reps. Maloney and Bilirakis sent a letter to Secretary Rice asking her to invite the president of Cyprus, President Dimitris Christofias, to the United States for an official state visit.

Letters to Chairwoman Lowey and Ranking Member Wolf, March 2008

Rep. Sarbanes, Rep. Maloney, and six of their House colleagues sent letters to Chairwoman Lowey and Ranking Member Wolf of the Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations requesting the inclusion of \$480,000 for the Voice of America's Greek Desk Service in the FY09 appropriations bill.

Letter to the Greek Minister of Foreign Defense and Greek Minister of Foreign Affairs, February 2008

Reps. Space, Bilirakis, Maloney, and ten of their House colleagues sent a letter to the Greek Minister of Foreign Defense and Greek Minister of Foreign Affairs expressing support for the temporary exhibition of the *H.N. Olympias* in the United States.

Letter to Deputy Secretary of State Negroponte, October 2007

Reps. Space, Sarbanes, Maloney, and Bilirakis sent a letter to Deputy Secretary of State Negroponte urging additional support for Greece to rebuild from the wildfires.

Letter to Secretary Rice, September 2007

Reps. Maloney, Bilirakis, Space, Sarbanes, and forty-two of their House colleagues sent a letter to Secretary Rice urging the continued support of the U.S. Government to Greece following the wildfires.

Letter to Secretary Rice, July 2007

Reps. Maloney, Bilirakis, and twenty four of their House colleagues sent a letter to Secretary Rice requesting her to formally nominate Greece for the Visa Waiver Program.

Letters to President Bush and Secretary Rice, May 2007

Reps. Bilirakis and Maloney sent letters to President Bush and Secretary Rice expressing concerns with the continued violations of religious, human, and property rights by Turkey against the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

Letters to Secretary of State Rice and Secretary of Homeland Security Chertoff, May 2007

Reps. Maloney, Bilirakis, Space, Sarbanes, Wexler, and Berkley sent letters to Secretary Rice and Secretary Chertoff to follow up on a February 2007 letter regarding the Visa Waiver Program, and to announce their intention to introduce a bill to include Greece in the VWP.

Letters to Chairmen and Ranking Members of House and Senate Foreign Affairs and Relations Committees, March 2007

Rep. Maloney and Rep. Bilirakis sent letters to the Chairmen and Ranking Members of the House and Senate Foreign Affairs and Relations Committees urging the inclusion of Senate language regarding the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in the final version of the "NATO Freedom Consolidation Act."

Letters to Chairwoman Lowey and Ranking Member Wolf, March 2007

Rep. Sarbanes, Rep. Maloney, Rep. Bilirakis, and three of their House colleagues sent letters to Chairwoman Lowey and Ranking Member Wolf of the Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations requesting the inclusion of \$480,000 for the Voice of America's Greek Desk Service in the FY08 appropriations bill.

Letters to Secretary of State Rice and Secretary of Homeland Security Chertoff, February 2007

Rep. Space, Rep. Maloney, Rep. Bilirakis, and eighteen of their House colleagues sent a letter to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Chertoff urging them to extend the Visa Waiver Program to Greece.

Letter to Cypriot President Tassos Papadopoulos, August 2006

Rep. Bilirakis, Rep. Maloney, and 109 of their House colleagues sent a letter to Cypriot President Tassos Papadopoulos expressing gratitude for Cyprus's assistance in evacuating American citizens from Lebanon.

Letter to House Appropriations Subcommittee on Science-State-Justice-Commerce, June 2006

Rep. Bilirakis, Rep. Maloney, Rep. Wexler, and Rep. Whitfield sent a letter to the Chairman and Ranking Member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Science-State-Justice-Commerce urging funding in the FY07 SSJC appropriations bill for the Voice of America Greek and Turkish Services.

Letters to House Committee on Armed Services and House Committee on International Relations, May 2006

Rep. Bilirakis, Rep. Maloney, Rep. Pallone, and Rep. Radanovich sent letters to the Chairmen and Ranking Members of the House Committee on Armed Services and House Committee on International Relations requesting a thorough reexamination of the proposed sale of SLAM-ER missiles to Turkey.

Letter to Secretary of State Rice, December 2005

Rep. Bilirakis, Rep. Maloney, and sixty-two of their colleagues sent a letter to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice expressing concerns about the formal invitation extended to Mehmet Ali Talat, the so-called president of the self-declared “Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus,” and requesting an explanation of the long-term plan of the United States toward Cyprus.

Letter to Secretary of State Rice, December 2005

Rep. Costa, Rep. Bilirakis, Rep. Maloney, and fifty-seven of their colleagues sent a letter to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice asking her to address several concerns related to Turkey including its blockade against Armenia, the occupation of Cyprus, and human rights issues.

Letter to Chairman Kolbe and Ranking Member Lowey (Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee), October 2005

Rep. Bilirakis, Rep. Maloney, Rep. Menendez, Rep. Ros-Lehtinen, Rep. Lincoln Diaz-Balart, Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart, and Rep. McCotter sent a letter to Chairman Kolbe and Ranking Member Lowey urging them to support the inclusion of language in the FY06 Foreign Operations Appropriations Conference Report regarding funds for Cyprus.

Letter to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, July 2005

Rep. Bilirakis, Rep. Maloney, and thirty of their House colleagues sent a letter to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice expressing deep concern about the legality of travel by U.S. citizens to northern Cyprus and seeking clarification about the U.S. government’s position on the matter.

Letters to President Bush and Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, July 2005

Rep. Bilirakis, Rep. Maloney, and twenty-one of their House colleagues sent letters to President Bush and Secretary of State Rice urging them to play active roles in the UN-sponsored negotiations between Greece and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), and specifically to address the compromise proposal recently made by United Nations mediator, Matthew Nimetz.

Letter to Secretary of State Colin Powell, November 2004

Rep. Bilirakis, Rep. Maloney, Rep. Ros-Lehtinen, Rep. Berkley, and 66 of their House colleagues sent a letter to Secretary of State Colin Powell expressing their concerns with the decision by the State Department that the United States will now refer to the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) as the “Republic of Macedonia.” The signers of this letter request that the State Department return to the longstanding policy of referring to FYROM as such.

Letter to Secretary of State Colin Powell, November 2004

Rep. Bilirakis and Rep. Maloney sent a letter to Secretary of State Colin Powell expressing their concerns with actions taken by the State Department and USAID toward Cyprus. First, a

reprogramming notice from USAID to Congress indicated that it would provide support to institutions including the Ministry of Finance which is not recognized by the United States. Additionally, the notice failed to detail any safeguards to ensure that U.S. funds do not inadvertently support businesses using illegally occupied properties. Second, the Federal Aviation Administration is exploring ways to designate areas in the northern, occupied territory as open for civil aviation, a divergence in U.S. policy of abiding by international obligations and UN Security Council resolutions. Finally, the State Department has revised its longstanding policy for allocating scholarships for Turkish-Cypriot and Greek-Cypriot students on a roughly equal basis by changing the allocations to 57% for Turkish-Cypriot students and 43% for Greek-Cypriot students.

Letter to Prime Minister Constantinos Karamanlis, July 2004

Rep. Bilirakis, Rep. Maloney, and 22 members of the Hellenic Caucus sent a letter to Prime Minister Karamanlis expressing congratulations to the Greek soccer team for winning the 2004 European Soccer Championship.

Letters to President Bush, Secretary of State Colin Powell, and UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, June 2004

Rep. Bilirakis, Rep. Maloney, and 95 members of the U.S. House of Representatives sent letters to President Bush, Secretary Powell, and Secretary General Annan encouraging that they continue to work toward a peaceful resolution to end the division of Cyprus.

Letters to U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell and United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan, March 2004

Rep. Bilirakis, Rep. Maloney and 44 members of the Hellenic Caucus sent letters to Secretary Powell and Secretary General Annan to express concerns with the Annan Plan to end the division of Cyprus.

Letter to Constantinos Simitis, Prime Minister of Greece, December 2003

Rep. Maloney, Berkley, and Kirk sent a letter to Prime Minister Simitis outlining the steps that Greece has taken to improve security for the 2004 Olympics in Athens.

Letter to President Papadopoulos, March 2003

Rep. Maloney and Rep. Bilirakis sent a letter to the Honorable Tassos Papadopoulos to offer their congratulations on his election and Inauguration as the fifth President of the Republic of Cyprus.

Letter to President Bush, July 2002

Rep. Maloney, Rep. Bilirakis, Rep. Gilman and Rep. Berkley along with 152 cosigners sent a letter to President Bush bringing to his attention an important issue to many Greeks around the world – the recognition of the Patriarch of Jerusalem, His Beatitude Irineos. Greek Orthodox and Jewish leaders in the United States have been acting in concert with respect to this matter. They brought it to the attention of Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, but no progress has yet developed.

Letter to President Bush, March 2002

Rep. Maloney and Rep. Bilirakis, along with 9 cosigners sent a letter to President Bush urging that

he oppose the unconditional relief of Turkey's \$5 billion Foreign Military Financing debt as compensation for its participation in the war against terrorism. Such a relief should be considered by the United States only under the condition that Turkey agrees to a just solution on Cyprus, a final settlement in accordance to the related existing UN resolutions.

Letter to Greek Prime Minister Constantinos Simitis, October 2001

Rep. Maloney and Rep. Bilirakis, along with 29 cosigners sent a letter to Prime Minister Simitis thanking him for Greece's support of the United States after September 11.

Letter to President Bush, February 2001

Rep. Maloney and Rep. Bilirakis, along with 60 cosigners sent a letter to President Bush urging that he make the reunification of Cyprus a high and urgent priority of your Administration.

Letter to President Clinton, July 2000

Rep. Maloney sent a personal letter to President Clinton highlighting his commitment to Cyprus and the region while also urging him to devote his attention and involvement to find a resolution to the Cyprus problem.

Letter to President Clinton, June 2000

Rep. Maloney, Rep. Bilirakis and Members of the Hellenic Caucus sent a letter to President Clinton urging his utmost attention and involvement in the Cyprus settlement talks in order to reach a resolution to the Cyprus conflict to the benefit of all the people of Cyprus.

Letter to President Clinton, April 2000

Rep. Maloney, Rep. Bilirakis and Members of the Hellenic Caucus sent a letter to President Clinton urging him to deny an export license to any U.S. manufacturer that would allow Turkey to purchase 145 attack helicopters.

Letter to President Clinton, October 1999

Rep. Maloney and Rep. Bilirakis sent a letter to President Clinton urging him to build on his meeting with Prime Minister of Turkey, Bulent Ecevit, to press Turkey to come to a just and final solution on Cyprus and the Aegean.

Letter to Attorney General Janet Reno, March 1999

Rep. Maloney sent a letter with Rep. Kennedy, Rep. Pombo, and Rep. Frank to Attorney General Janet Reno asking for prompt action in implementing the Visa Waiver Pilot Program Reauthorization Act which passed into law April 27, 1998. While the law passed in April, people coming from Greece still have to get a visa because it is still awaiting approval by the justice department.

Letter to President Clinton and Secretary Albright, November 1997

Rep. Maloney and other members wrote to Secretary of State Albright as a follow-up to the February letter to request that additional Seahawk Helicopters not be sold to Turkey. Rep. Maloney sent an individual letter to President Clinton discouraging the sale of the helicopters.

Letter to President Clinton, February 1997

Rep. Maloney and 81 other members sent a letter to President Clinton to stop the sale of Seahawk Helicopters to Turkey.

Letter to President Clinton, September 1996

Rep. Bilirakis, Rep. Menendez, Rep. Maloney, and twenty-eight of their colleagues sent a letter to President Clinton about a natural gas deal between Turkey and Iran and the killings of Greek Cypriots on Cyprus.

Letter to President Clinton, June 1996

Rep. Engel, Rep. Porter, Rep. Maloney, and fifty-nine of their colleagues sent a letter to President Clinton supporting his efforts to promote a just and viable solution to the Cyprus dispute.

Letter to Secretary of State Christopher, May 1996

Rep. Menendez, Rep. Bilirakis, Rep. Maloney, and eleven of their colleagues sent a letter to Secretary of State Warren Christopher urging him to seek and promote a peaceful resolution to the dispute between Greece and Turkey over the ownership of the Imia islet.

Letter to President Clinton, April 1996

Rep. Maloney led the members of the Hellenic Caucus in sending a letter to President Clinton to stop the sale of Super Cobra attack helicopters to Turkey. The sale was successfully stopped.

Letter to President Clinton and Letter to Secretary of State Warren Christopher, February 1996

Rep. Maloney wrote letters to President Clinton and Secretary Christopher asking them to intervene in the dispute over Imia

XII. STATEMENTS

September 25, 2008 - Statement by Congresswoman Maloney regarding Cyprus Independence Day

September 25, 2008 - Statement by Congresswoman Maloney regarding Oxi Day

July 22, 2008 - Statement by Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney commemorating the Black Anniversary

June 10, 2008 - Statement by Congresswoman Maloney regarding S. 254, to award posthumously a Congressional Gold Medal to Constantino Brumidi.

April 1, 2008 - Statement by Congresswoman Maloney regarding the name dispute between Greece and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

March 11, 2008 - Statement by Congresswoman Maloney regarding H. Res. 1024, Recognizing the 187th anniversary of the independence of Greece and celebrating Greek and American democracy.

October 25, 2007 - Statement by Congresswoman Maloney regarding Oxi Day

October 25, 2007 - Statement by Congresswoman Maloney regarding visit of Mr. Alexis Galanos, mayor of Famagusta, Cyprus, to Washington, D.C.

October 10, 2007 - Statement by Congresswoman Maloney regarding H. Res. 405, which expresses the strong support of the House by Representatives for the implementation of the July 8, 2006, U.N.-brokered agreement between President of the Republic of Cyprus Tassos Papadopoulos and Turkish Cypriot leader Mehmet Ali Talat relating to the reunification of Cyprus.

September 27, 2007 - Statement by Congresswoman Maloney regarding Cyprus Independence Day

July 18, 2007 - Statement by Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney commemorating the Black Anniversary

May 17, 2007 - Statement by Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney commemorating the 66th Anniversary of the Battle of Crete

April 16, 2007 - Statement by Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney regarding H.Con.Res. 71, commemorating the 85th Anniversary of the Founding of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association

March 13, 2007 - Statement by Congresswoman Maloney regarding H.Res. 228, Recognizing the 186th anniversary of the independence of Greece and celebrating Greek and American democracy.

September 29, 2006 - Statement by Congresswoman Maloney regarding Cyprus Independence Day

September 29, 2006 - Statement by Congresswoman Maloney regarding Oxi Day

July 19, 2006 - Statement by Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney commemorating the Black Anniversary

May 23, 2006 - Statement by Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney commemorating the 65th Anniversary of the Battle of Crete

March 26, 2006 – Statement by Congresswoman Maloney commemorating Greek Independence Day

October 26, 2005 – Statement by Congresswoman Maloney on Oxi Day

September 29, 2005 – Statement by Congresswoman Maloney regarding Cyprus Independence Day

July 20, 2005 - Statement by Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney commemorating the Black Anniversary

July 20, 2005 - Statement by Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney in strong support of H. Con. Res. 202, which will permit the use of the Rotunda for a ceremony honoring Constantino Brumidi on the 200th anniversary of his birth.

May 19, 2005 - Statement by Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney commemorating the 64th Anniversary of the Battle of Crete

April 15, 2005 - Statement by Congresswoman Maloney in remembrance of Archbishop Iakovos

April 6, 2005- Statement by Congresswoman Maloney commemorating Greek Independence Day

November 17, 2004 - Statement by Congresswoman Maloney in recognition of Greece's outstanding performance in hosting the 2004 Summer Olympics

October 6, 2004 - Statement by Congresswoman Maloney Regarding Cyprus Independence Day

October 6, 2004 - Statement by Congresswoman Maloney on Oxi Day

October 4, 2004 - Statement by Congresswoman Maloney on H.Res. 774, commending the people and government of Greece for successful completion of the 2004 Summer Olympic Games

July 22, 2004 - Statement by Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney Commemorating the Black Anniversary

May 21, 2004 - Statement by Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney commemorating the 63rd Anniversary of the Battle of Crete

April 21, 2004 - Statement by Congresswoman Maloney Regarding the Proposed Plan to Reunify Cyprus

March 25, 2004 - Statement by Congresswoman Maloney commemorating Greek Independence Day

October 28, 2003 - Statement by Congresswoman Maloney on Oxi Day

October 1, 2003 - Statement by Congresswoman Maloney Regarding Cyprus Independence Day

July 25, 2003 - Statement by Congresswoman Maloney Commemorating the 29th Black Anniversary for Cyprus

May 21, 2003 - Statement by Congresswoman Maloney Commemorating the 62nd Anniversary of the Battle of Crete

April 9, 2003 - Statement by Congresswoman Maloney expressing support for renewed efforts to find a peaceful, just, and lasting settlement to the Cyprus problem

March 25, 2003 - Statement by Congresswoman Maloney celebrating Greek Independence Day

March 13, 2003 - Statement by Congresswoman Maloney announcing disappointment about the failure of the talks between President Papadopolous and Turkish Cypriot leader, Rauf Denktash, which ended without an agreement due to the intransigence by Mr. Denktash

XIII. OTHER HELLENIC CAUCUS ACTIVITIES

Special Orders

Rep. Maloney and Rep. Bilirakis have organized Special Orders on the House commemorating the anniversary of the Turkish invasion of Cyprus, Greek Independence Day, and drawing public attention to hostile Turkish actions in the Aegean.

Hellenic Caucus Briefings

Rep. Maloney and Rep. Bilirakis have organized Hellenic Caucus briefings to keep Members of Congress abreast with the latest developments in Greece and Cyprus and their relations with Turkey.

XIV. MEMBERS - 110th CONGRESS

Co-Chairs: Representatives Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY) and Gus M. Bilirakis (R-FL)

1. Ackerman, Gary (D-NY)
2. Altmire, Jason (D-PA)
3. Andrews, Robert (D-NJ)
4. Baird, Brian (D-WA)
5. Baldwin, Tammy (D-WI)
6. Bean, Melissa (D-IL)
7. Becerra, Xavier (D-CA)
8. Berkley, Shelley (D-NV)
9. Berman, Howard (D-CA)
10. Bilirakis, Gus M. (R-FL)
11. Blumenauer, Earl (D-OR)
12. Boyda, Nancy (D-KS)
13. Brown, Henry (R-SC)
14. Calvert, Ken (R-CA)
15. Capito, Shelley Moore (R-WV)
16. Capps, Lois (D-CA)
17. Capuano, Michael (D-MA)
18. Cardoza, Dennis (D-CA)
19. Carnahan, Russ (D-MO)
20. Carter, John (R-TX)
21. Chabot, Steve (R-OH)
22. Chandler, Ben (D-KY)

23. Clay, Wm. Lacy (D-MO)
24. Conyers, John (D-MI)
25. Costa, Jim (D-CA)
26. Crenshaw, Ander (R-FL)
27. Crowley, Joseph (D-NY)
28. Davis, Danny (D-IL)
29. Davis, Susan (D-CA)
30. Diaz-Balart, Lincoln (R-FL)
31. Diaz-Balart, Mario (R-FL)
32. Doggett, Lloyd (D-TX)
33. Doyle, Michael (D-PA)
34. Drake, Thelma (R-VA)
35. Dreier, David (R-CA)
36. Duncan, John J. (R-TN)
37. Engel, Eliot (D-NY)
38. English, Phil (R-PA)
39. Eshoo, Anna (D-CA)
40. Ferguson, Michael (R-NJ)
41. Filner, Bob (D-CA)
42. Forbes, Randy (R-VA)
43. Fortuño, Luis (R-PR)
44. Fossella, Vito (R-NY)
45. Foxx, Virginia (R-NC)
46. Frank, Barney (D-MA)
47. Franks, Trent (R-AZ)
48. Garrett, Scott (R-NJ)
49. Gingrey, Phil (R-GA)
50. Granger, Kay (R-TX)
51. Green, Gene (D-TX)
52. Gutierrez, Luis (D-IL)
53. Harman, Jane (D-CA)
54. Hastings, Alcee (D-FL)
55. Hinchey, Maurice (D-NY)
56. Hinojosa, Ruben (D-TX)
57. Hodes, Paul (D-NH)
58. Holden, Tim (D-PA)
59. Holt, Rush (D-NJ)
60. Honda, Mike (D-CA)
61. Inglis, Bob (R-SC)
62. Israel, Steve (D-NY)
63. Jackson, Jr., Jesse (D-IL)
64. Johnson, Eddie Bernice (D-TX)
65. Kaptur, Marcy (D-OH)
66. Kennedy, Patrick (D-RI)
67. King, Peter (R-NY)

68. Kirk, Mark S. (R-IL)
69. Knollenberg, Joseph (R-MI)
70. Kucinich, Dennis (D-OH)
71. Langevin, James (D-RI)
72. Lee, Barbara (D-CA)
73. Levin, Sander (D-MI)
74. Lewis, Jerry (R-CA)
75. Lewis, John (D-GA)
76. Lipinski, Dan (D-IL)
77. LoBiondo, Frank (R-NJ)
78. Lofgren, Zoe (D-CA)
79. Lowey, Nita (D-NY)
80. Maloney, Carolyn B. (D-NY)
81. Manzullo, Donald (R-IL)
82. Markey, Edward (D-MA)
83. Matheson, Jim (D-UT)
84. McCarthy, Carolyn (D-NY)
85. McCotter, Thaddeus (R-MI)
86. McDermott, Jim (D-WA)
87. McGovern, James (D-MA)
88. McIntyre, Mike (D-NC)
89. McNulty, Michael (D-NY)
90. Meeks, Gregory (D-NY)
91. Miller, Gary (R-CA)
92. Moore, Dennis (D-KS)
93. Moran, Jim (D-VA)
94. Murphy, Tim (R-PA)
95. Myrick, Sue (R-NC)
96. Nadler, Jerrold (D-NY)
97. Napolitano, Grace (D-CA)
98. Norton, Eleanor Holmes (D-DC)
99. Pallone, Frank (D-NJ)
100. Pascrell, Bill (D-NJ)
101. Payne, Donald (D-NJ)
102. Pelosi, Nancy (D-CA)
103. Radanovich, George (R-CA)
104. Rangel, Charles (D-NY)
105. Roskam, Peter (R-IL)
106. Rothman, Steven (D-NJ)
107. Roybal-Allard, Lucille (D-CA)
108. Royce, Edward (R-CA)
109. Rush, Bobby (D-IL)
110. Ryan, Tim (D-OH)
111. Sanchez, Linda (D-CA)
112. Sanchez, Loretta (D-CA)

113. Sarbanes, John P. (D-MD)
114. Schakowsky, Jan (D-IL)
115. Schiff, Adam (D-CA)
116. Schwartz, Allyson (D-PA)
117. Scott, Robert (D-VA)
118. Shays, Christopher (R-CT)
119. Sherman, Brad (D-CA)
120. Sires, Albio (D-NJ)
121. Slaughter, Louise (D-NY)
122. Solis, Hilda (D-CA)
123. Space, Zachary T. (D-OH)
124. Spratt, John (D-SC)
125. Stark, Fortney Pete (D-CA)
126. Stearns, Cliff (R-FL)
127. Sullivan, John (R-OK)
128. Tanner, John (D-TN)
129. Terry, Lee (R-NE)
130. Tierney, John (D-MA)
131. Tsongas, Niki (D-MA)
132. Van Hollen, Chris (D-MD)
133. Visclosky, Peter (D-IN)
134. Wamp, Zack (R-TN)
135. Watson, Diane (D-CA)
136. Waxman, Henry (D-CA)
137. Weiner, Anthony (D-NY)
138. Wexler, Robert (D-FL)
139. Whitfield, Edward (R-KY)
140. Wilson, Joe (R-SC)
141. Woolsey, Lynn (D-CA)

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