

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
April 1, 2008

Contact: Josh Rogin  
Phone: (202) 225-3001

## **Wexler Praises Passage of House Resolution Urging NATO to Provide a Membership Action Plan for Ukraine and Georgia**

*Passage of Wexler Resolution Comes on the Eve of NATO Summit in Bucharest*

(Washington, DC) Today, Congressman Robert Wexler (D-FL), Chairman of the Subcommittee on Europe and a senior member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, praised unanimous passage of H. Res. 997 a resolution urging the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) to enter into a Membership Action Plan (MAP) with Georgia and Ukraine at the Bucharest Summit which takes place this week on Wednesday, April 2, 2008.

Wexler introduced H. Res. 997 along with Europe Subcommittee Ranking Member Congressman Elton Gallegly (R-CA), and Congresswoman Allyson Schwartz (D-PA). Wexler, Gallegly, Schwartz and supporters of the bipartisan resolution strongly believe that important steps have been taken by the Ukrainian and Georgian governments in the areas of human rights, security and rule of law that merit NATO providing a MAP to Tbilisi and Kiev at Bucharest. By passing H. Res. 997 the House of Representatives joined the Bush Administration and the Senate in expressing strong support for providing a MAP to Ukraine and Georgia at the Bucharest Summit.

"Today we sent a clear message to our NATO allies that the United States Congress unequivocally supports providing a MAP to Georgia and Ukraine at the Bucharest Summit this week. Given the daunting global challenges facing the transatlantic alliance it essential that NATO continues to grow and embraces emerging democracies, such as Ukraine and Georgia," Congressman Wexler said. "The leaders of Ukraine and Georgia have clearly expressed their desire to join NATO and we must not miss an opportunity in Bucharest this week to further strengthen this critical security institution and enhance democracy and freedom in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus region."

###

*Congressman Wexler is Chairman of the Europe Subcommittee and a senior member of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs and the House Judiciary Committee; and he also sits on the Financial Services Committee.*