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Members of U.S. Congress Express Support for Armenian-Turkish Plan to Normalize Relations

(Washington, DC) The Co-Chairs of the Congressional Caucus on U.S.-Turkish Relations in the U.S. House of Representatives, Rep. Robert Wexler (D-FL), Rep. Ed Whitfield (R-KY) and Rep. Kay Granger (R-TX), issued the following statement in support of yesterday's announcement by Armenian and Turkish officials on the normalization of bilateral relations. The joint statement was released by the Ministries of Foreign Affairs from Armenia, Turkey and Switzerland, which has mediated the negotiations between Ankara and Yerevan.

"As Co-Chairs of the Congressional Caucus on US-Turkish Relations, we want to express our unequivocal support for Armenian and Turkish efforts to normalize bilateral relations and open the door to successful rapprochement.

"We join the Obama Administration in welcoming yesterday's historic announcement that Armenian and Turkish officials reached a 'comprehensive framework for the normalization of bilateral relations.' Armenian and Turkish leaders should be praised for their courage and leadership as they seek to remove barriers that have separated their nations and people for far too long. We stand ready to assist the governments of Armenia and Turkey as they take further steps on the road to reconciliation, peace and enhanced cooperation."