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Wexler Expresses Strong Support for Georgia Humanitarian Aid Bill

Urges Russia to remove its troops from Georgia and fully implement ceasefire obligations

(Washington, DC) Congressman Robert Wexler (D-FL), Chairman of the Europe Subcommittee in the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, expressed his strong support for the Stand for Georgia Act of 2008 (H.R. 6911), legislation authorizing close to \$500 million in critical humanitarian aid to the Republic of Georgia, which was attacked by Russian forces in August. H.R. 6911 passed by a strong majority during a vote today in the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. The legislation also expresses strong support for Georgia's sovereignty and territorial integrity, condemns Russia's illegal recognition of the breakaway regions of S. Ossetia and Abkhazia, and calls on Moscow to withdraw all of its troops to their pre-conflict positions. Congressman Wexler is an original sponsor of H.R. 6911.

"I strongly support this legislation, which is a clear signal of America's support for the Georgian people as they rebuild their nation following Russia's devastating military invasion in August. It is essential that the United States, our allies in Europe and the international community meet the humanitarian needs of Georgians and provide aid that will assist this fledgling democracy on its path towards democracy and further integration with Euro-Atlantic institutions. It is also critical that the Russian government fulfill its commitments and implement the ceasefire agreement that includes a withdrawal of Russian soldiers to their pre-conflict positions," Wexler said.

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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.