

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY  
OF THE  
BAHÁ'ÍS OF THE UNITED STATES

1320 Nineteenth St., N.W., Suite 701 • Washington, D.C. 20036-1610 • (202) 833-8990 Fax: (202) 833-8988

Office of External Affairs  
Email: BahaisUS@usbnc.org

September 22, 2006

The Honorable Mark Steven Kirk  
House of Representatives  
1717 Longworth HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20505

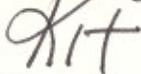
Dear Mr. Kirk:

On behalf of the Bahá'ís of the United States, we wish to **express our deep and sincere gratitude** for your **commitment to human rights, and,** in particular for your strong defense of the right of the Bahá'ís of Iran to live in freedom from persecution and fear. With the passage of H.Con.Res.415, which you introduced into Congress, the United States government has once again affirmed its dedication to the dignity of all people.

We wish to acknowledge, likewise, the many initiatives you have undertaken to ensure that the resolution passed by such a large margin. We recall the Dear Colleague letter, cosigned with Representative Lantos; your powerful statements in support of the resolution on May 24 and September 19; your leadership in arranging for Assistant Secretary of State Barry F. Lowenkron to brief the Congressional Iran Working Group on the situation of the Bahá'ís; and your efforts to schedule the vote on September 19, the day President Ahmadinejad spoke before the UN General Assembly. We gratefully recall, also, the work and skill of Mr. Jeffrey K. Phillips at every step in this process.

The scrutiny and support of the international community remain virtually the only tools for the protection of innocent people in Iran. This demonstration of international concern has played a critical role in moderating the actions of the Iranian authorities towards the Bahá'í community. We thank you for the passion with which you have raised your voice on behalf of people whose own voices are being silenced.

With warm regards,



Kit Bigelow  
Director