

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 8, 2011

**Ensure No Sources of Support for the Lord's
Resistance Army**
Cosponsor H.R. 895

Dear Colleague:

For over two decades, a group called the Lord's Resistance Army has terrorized northern Uganda and central Africa. Its followers have mutilated, abducted and forced individuals into sexual servitude, forcing as many as 65,000 children to fight as part of its force. These atrocities have gone on for far too long. We invite you to cosponsor legislation we have recently introduced, the Sudan Cessation of Support for the Lord's Resistance Army Certification Act of 2011.

This legislation requires the Obama Administration to certify to Congress that the Sudanese government is "no longer engaged in training, harboring, supplying, financing, or supporting in any way the Lord's Resistance Army, its leader Joseph Kony, or his top commanders" before Sudan could be removed from the state sponsor of terrorism list.

Last Congress, the Lord's Resistance Army Disarmament and Northern Uganda Recovery Act was signed into law. This bipartisan legislation required the Administration to devise a strategy to end the LRA's atrocities. The strategy promises to ensure the LRA "receives no support or safe haven."

Historically, however, Sudan has backed the LRA with arms and supplies, making it the only documented state-supporter of the group, which is on the State Department's "Terrorist Exclusion List." Joseph Kony, its leader, has been named a "specially designated global terrorist." According to a U.N. report released last fall, LRA commanders recently reached out to Sudan's military in Darfur for support. And former LRA abductees testify that Kony himself said he wanted to reestablish ties with Sudan's government.

The Obama Administration has started the process to take Sudan off the terrorism list as part of that country's peace process. This legislation will ensure that links between Sudan and the LRA are clearly severed before that can be done. To cosponsor, please contact Edward.Burrier@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,



EDWARD R. ROYCE



JAMES P. McGOVERN