Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

June 1, 2009

REBUILD THE GULF COAST REGION Cosponsor H.R. 2269, the Gulf Coast Civic Works Act

CoSponsors: Alexander, Cao, Conyers, Filner, Gonzalez, Hastings, Lee, Lewis, Melancon, Rangel, Stark, Taylor, Thompson

Dear Colleague:

June 1 marks the beginning of hurricane season. In light of this, please join us in cosponsoring H.R. 2269, the Gulf Coast Civic Works Act of 2009. While most districts are far from the Gulf Coast, it is the responsibility of every Member of Congress to ensure that the federal government responds to the needs of all Americans. The Gulf Coast Civic Works Act (H.R. 4048 in the 110th) ensures that real progress is made toward rebuilding and sustaining the Gulf Coast region.

H.R. 2269 establishes the Gulf Coast Civic Works Commission within the Department of Homeland Security Office of the Federal Coordinator of Gulf Coast Rebuilding to coordinate multiple recovery projects, rebuild key infrastructure, and revitalize the region's workforce.

The Gulf Coast Civic Works Act provides at least 100,000 job opportunities, job training and financial security for residents of the Gulf Coast to participate in the rebuilding of their communities. It creates opportunities for local businesses and national partners to participate in rebuilding and development projects and protects local businesses and resident competitive contract bidding.

H.R. 2269 supports sustainable industrial and commercial development of the Gulf Coast region by:

- Establishing the Gulf Coast Civic Works Commission to implement and coordinate the necessary federal response to the devastation of the Gulf Coast;
- Authorizing the Gulf Coast Civic Works Project to rebuild vital infrastructure through workforce development programs for residents and local businesses; and
- Coordinating existing local, state, and federal programs to ensure rapid, effective, and efficient recovery.

The Gulf Coast Civic Works Act of 2009 requires accountability through community oversight and participation in all recovery projects. It authorizes funding for project review boards and regular financial audits and requires regular reports on project accomplishments and solvency.

For more information or to join on as a cosponsor please contact Kate Christensen in Congresswoman Lofgren's office at x5-3072 or kate.christensen@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,

Rodney Alexander

Anh "Iosenh" Cao

'harlie Melancon

Gene Taylor

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