

GUS M. BILIRAKIS
9TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY
RANKING MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON
MANAGEMENT, INVESTIGATIONS AND OVERSIGHT

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

CHAIRMAN, TASK FORCE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS
REPUBLICAN POLICY COMMITTEE

ASSISTANT REPUBLICAN WHIP



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0909

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
 1124 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0909
(202) 225-5755

DISTRICT OFFICES:

35111 U.S. HIGHWAY 19 NORTH
PALM HARBOR PROFESSIONAL CENTER
SUITE 301
PALM HARBOR, FL 34684
(727) 773-2871

10941 NORTH 56TH STREET
SHERWOOD FOREST PLAZA
TEMPLE TERRACE, FL 33617
(813) 985-8541

The Honorable Hillary Clinton
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20520

June 11, 2009

Dear Madam Secretary,

I am writing to express deep concern over activities here in the United States that are related to the presidential election to be held in Iran tomorrow. The United States and Iran share no diplomatic or economic ties. In addition, the law governing the travels of Iranian officials in the United States is very narrow and strict. Therefore, I am troubled that the Iranian regime is setting up ballot boxes in the United States for the purpose of allowing Iranian-Americans to vote in Iran's presidential elections. This raises serious questions with regard to how the U.S. can possibly participate in legitimizing these grossly illegitimate elections by a state sponsor of terror, and who will be overseeing these elections in our country.

According to the regime's own election website, at least 35 locations throughout the U.S. have been designated as polling sites so that Iranian-Americans can vote for any one of four mullah-backed presidential candidates. As such, representatives of the regime will be required to man the polling places to ensure the "legitimacy" of the elections. If the Iranian regime is sending over Iranian officials to the U.S. to monitor the polls, than this would be a gross violation of U.S. law. As you know, U.S. law prohibits Iranian officials from traveling beyond a 25 mile radius of official sites in New York City or Washington, D.C. Therefore; any Iranian official allowed to travel to any of the 35 polling places throughout the United States would be violating the Immigration and Nationality Act, and, therefore subject to arrest. As such, I ask that you monitor these polling sites vigilantly and remove Iranian diplomats illegally traveling throughout the United States.

Madame Secretary, I condemn any action that not only violates U.S. law but also sends a wrong message to the Islamic Republic. By allowing ballot boxes to be set up on American soil, we are signaling a tacit endorsement of this state sponsor of terror. We would do well to prevent any Iranian electioneering from taking place in our country.

Our national security depends on it. I look forward to your prompt reply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gus Bilirakis", written over a horizontal line.

Gus M. Bilirakis
Member of Congress