

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON
H.R. 2419, FOOD AND ENERGY SECURITY ACT OF 2007

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the Chair appoints the following conferees:

From the Committee on Agriculture, for consideration of the House bill (except title XII) and the Senate amendment (except secs. 12001, 12201–12601, and 12701–12808), and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. PETERSON of Minnesota, HOLDEN, MCINTYRE, ETHERIDGE, BOSWELL, BACA, CARDOZA, SCOTT of Georgia, GOODLATTE, LUCAS, MORAN of Kansas, HAYES, Mrs. MUSGRAVE, and Mr. NEUGEBAUER.

From the Committee on Education and Labor, for consideration of secs. 4303 and 4304 of the House bill, and secs. 4901–4905, 4911, and 4912 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, and Mr. PLATTS.

From the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for consideration of secs. 6012, 6023, 6024, 6028, 6029, 9004, 9005, and 9017 of the House bill, and secs. 6006, 6012, 6110–6112, 6202, 6302, 7044, 7049, 7307, 7507, 9001, 11060, 11072, 11087, and 11101–11103 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. DINGELL, PALLONE, and BARTON of Texas.

From the Committee on Financial Services, for consideration of sec. 11310 of the House bill, and secs. 6501–6505, 11068, and 13107 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Mr. KANJORSKI, Ms. WATERS, and Mr. BACHUS.

From the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for consideration of secs. 3001–3008, 3010–3014, and 3016 of the House bill, and secs. 3001–3022, 3101–3107, and 3201–3204 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. BERMAN, SHERMAN, and Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.

From the Committee on the Judiciary, for consideration of secs. 11102, 11312, and 11314 of the House bill, and secs. 5402, 10103, 10201, 10203, 10205, 11017, 11069, 11076, 13102, and 13104 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. CONYERS, SCOTT of Virginia, and SMITH of Texas.

From the Committee on Natural Resources, for consideration of secs. 2313, 2331, 2341, 2405, 2607, 2607A, 2611, 5401, 6020, 7033, 7311, 8101, 8112, 8121–8127, 8204, 8205, 11063, and 11075 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Mr. RAHALL, Ms. BORDALLO, and Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS.

From the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for consideration of secs. 1501 and 7109 of the House bill, and secs. 7020, 7313, 7314, 7316, 7502, 8126, 8205, and 10201 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. WAXMAN, TOWNS, and JORDAN of Ohio.

From the Committee on Science and Technology, for consideration of secs.

4403, 9003, 9006, 9010, 9015, 9019, and 9020 of the House bill, and secs. 7039, 7051, 7315, 7501, and 9001 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. GORDON of Tennessee, LAMPSON, and McCAUL of Texas.

From the Committee on Small Business, for consideration of subtitle D of title XI of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Messrs. SHULER, and CHABOT.

From the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for consideration of secs. 2203, 2301, 6019, and 6020 of the House bill, and secs. 2604, 6029, 6030, 6034, and 11087 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Mr. OBERSTAR, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. GRAVES.

From the Committee on Ways and Means, for consideration of sec. 1303 and title XII of the House bill, and secs. 12001–12601, and 12701–12808 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. RANGEL, POMEROY, and MCCREERY.

For consideration of the House bill (except title XII) and the Senate amendment (except secs. 12001, 12201–12601, and 12701–12808), and modifications committed to conference: Ms. DELAURO and Mr. PUTNAM.

There was no objection.

MR. CARTER—DON'T MEET WITH
HAMAS

(Mr. KIRK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, yesterday Al-Hayat reported that former President Carter will visit Syria to meet with Hamas leader Khaled Meshal.

The State Department lists Hamas as a foreign terrorist organization. It is responsible for the murder of at least 26 American citizens, some of them teenagers, children, and infants, like David Applebaum of Ohio, Nava Applebaum of Ohio, Alan Beer of Ohio, Maria Bennet of California, Benjamin Blutstein of Pennsylvania, David Boim of New York, Yael Botwin of California, Dina Carta of North Carolina, Janis Ruth Coulter of Massachusetts, Sara Duker of New Jersey, Matthew Eisenfeld of Connecticut, Tzvi Goldstein of New York, Judith Greenbaum of New Jersey, David Gritz of Massachusetts, Dina Horowitz of Florida, Rabbi Eli Horowitz of Illinois, Tehilla Nathanson, age 3, of New York, Malka Roth of New York, Mordechai Reinitz of New York, Yitzhak Reinitz of New York, Leah Stern of New Jersey, Goldie Taubenfeld of New York, Shmuel Taubenfeld of New York, Nachshon Wachsmann of New York, Ira Weinstein of New York, and Yitzhak Weinstock of California.

President Carter, the voices of these victims in the grave beseech you: Do not meet with the man who ordered their murders.

DO NOT REWARD COLOMBIA WITH
A FAIR TRADE AGREEMENT

(Mr. HARE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HARE. Mr. Speaker, if I had been born in Colombia, I would probably be dead. As a former president of my labor union, my fight for higher wages, better working conditions, and secure pension could have cost me my life.

Thirty-nine trade unionists were murdered in Colombia in 2007, and they are being killed at a rate of over one per week this year. Even more alarming is only around 3 percent of cases result in convictions, illustrating the culture of violence that has existed in Colombia for decades. Inexplicably, President Bush wants to reward Colombia with a free trade agreement. Not on my watch.

The right to organize and bargain collectively is essential to human freedom and the passage of the U.S.-Colombia Free Trade Agreement would greatly diminish our Nation's reputation as a leader in the fight to end human rights abuses worldwide. We should not even consider this agreement until Colombia puts a stop to the violence against union organizers.

THE COLOMBIA FREE TRADE
AGREEMENT IS UNFAIR

(Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the Colombia Free Trade Agreement for four main reasons. One, the agreement will flood Colombia's market with subsidized U.S. produce. This will force Colombian farmers to turn to a more profitable crop, coca, thereby fueling the drug trade and threatening U.S. national security.

Second, this agreement will aggravate Colombia's horrendous human rights record. It will take away incentives to reduce child labor or protect union members, and the movement to improve workers' rights will languish in the face of international corporations' profits.

Third, the pact will worsen the plight of the Afro-Colombians. They will continue to be forced off their territories, which are prime for oil palm and natural gas exploitation.

And fourth, this free trade agreement is harmful to American workers. Its passage will make it more profitable for U.S. companies to move their operations to Colombia where labor is cheaper and environmental standards are lower.

Everyone agrees that free trade is good but only when it's fair. The Colombia Free Trade Agreement is transparently unfair, and I urge my colleagues to oppose it.