



<http://www.hr2003.org>

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**For Immediate Release**

July 13, 2007

**PAYNE SCHEDULES  
H.R. 2003 FOR MARK-UP!**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 18, 2007  
10:15 A.M**

**RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING,  
ROOM 2172**

**WE'RE BACK IN THE SADDLE AGAIN!**

**Zenawi's Tricks a "Small Bump in the Road"**

**Congressman Donald Payne has re-scheduled mark-up of H.R. 2003 for July 18, 2007, at 10:15 a.m. We thank Don Payne for his commitment to freedom, democracy and human rights in Ethiopia.**

On June 26, 2007, (the initial scheduled date for mark-up of H.R. 2003), Zenawi tried to pull the usual "fast one" on Congress by threatening to take the Kality political prisoners hostage. He effectively blackmailed the members of the Committee by threatening to indefinitely jail the Kality prisoners should the bill be marked-up. At the time, Zenawi's regime had requested a 2-week postponement of the mark-up so that a negotiated release

of the Kality prisoners could be effected. The regime had calculated that it could derail the bill by removing it from the June 26 calendar.

**Liar, Liar...**

The Kality prisoners were supposed to have been released on or before July 9, 2007, the date set for their “sentencing” by Zenawi’s Kangaroo Kourt. That date, as usual was continued to July 16. With the re-scheduled mark-up date, it appears crystal clear that both Payne and the numerous co-sponsors of the bill are no longer willing to put up with Zenawi’s “horsefeathers.”

**Our Grassroots Advocacy Efforts Are Working!**

**Don’t Stop Calling! Don’t Stop Writing! Let’s Get One-Half of the Members of the House to Co-sponsor! There Has Been a Dramatic Increase in the Number of Co-sponsors This Week!**

**DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE ZENAWI’S DETERMINATION TO DEFEAT H.R. 2003!**

The massive telephone call and letter writing campaign we started this week is WORKING. DON’T STOP CALLING, WRITING!

Zenawi will spend millions to defeat H.R. 2003, and deny the people of Ethiopia the opportunity to enjoy freedom, democracy and human rights. He has already spent countless millions to defeat this bill and influence American policy makers. He has unlimited amount money to pay lobbyists and others to defeat H.R. 2003.

Supporters of H.R. 2003 do not have millions of dollars to lobby in support of the bill. The only things we have in our struggle for human rights and freedom in our homeland are: TRUTH, JUSTICE AND THE HOLY CAUSES OF LIBERTY AND HUMAN RIGHTS.

We are standing up against the giant lobbying firm of DLA Piper. As David has defeated Goliath, we shall also defeat the mighty lobbying firm of DLA Piper. But we must struggle in every way to win.

**Our grassroots efforts in Congress are working! But we can not afford to let up!** Zenawi’s boys are working double overtime to defeat H.R. 2003.

We must work harder than ever to defeat the merchants of misery who will lobby as long as they are paid a hefty sum for their services.

**KEEP CALLING ALL OF THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE. ASK THEM TO CO-SPONSOR H.R. 2003. WORK CLOSELY WITH THE OFFICE OF YOUR CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND GET THEM TO CO-SPONSOR THE BILL. ASK ALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO VOTE FOR H.R. 2003 IN COMMITTEE, AND RECOMMEND IT TO THE FLOOR FOR PASSAGE.**

### **To Those Who Have Not Joined the Struggle for Human Rights in Ethiopia**

If you are sitting on the fence thinking that your participation or contribution will not make a difference, or feel success in this legislation is unattainable, take heart in what President Abraham Lincoln said: “The probability that we may fail in the struggle ought not to deter us from the support of a cause we believe to be just.”

The cause of freedom, democracy and human rights in Ethiopia is a Just Cause. Embrace it for yourself! Uphold and preserve it for generations yet unborn! Treasure it forever!



## **SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING NOTICE**

### *Committee on Foreign Affairs*

*U.S. House of Representatives*

*Washington, D.C. 20515-0128*

**Donald M. Payne (NJ), Chairman**

**July 12, 2007**

**TO: MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

You are respectfully requested to attend an OPEN meeting of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, to be held in **Room 2172 of the Rayburn House Office Building**, for the purpose of marking up the following legislation:

**DATE:** Wednesday, July 18, 2007

**TIME:** 10:15 a.m.

**MARKUP OF:** H.R. 2003, Ethiopia Democracy and Accountability Act of 2007

NOTE: Measures may be added.

**By Direction of the Chairman**

*The Committee on Foreign Affairs seeks to make its facilities accessible to persons with disabilities. If you are in need of special accommodations, please call 202/225-5021 at least four business days in advance of the event, whenever practicable. Questions with regard to special accommodations in general (including availability of Committee materials in alternative formats and assistive listening devices) may be directed to the Committee. <<070718\_HR2003.doc>>*

July..., 2007

BY FAX

The Honorable [Name of Member]  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

**Attention: Foreign Affairs**

Dear Representative [name of member]:

I am writing to ask you to co-sponsor H.R. 2003 ("Ethiopia Freedom and Accountability Act of 2007) and to help place it on the next mark-up calendar of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. I also respectfully ask that following committee consideration, you vote to recommend the bill as amended do pass.

(Personalize the letter in the next paragraph. Research the member's legislative history on Google or by going to their website. If you are in their congressional district mention that also. Mention your line of work, expertise, special things about yourself, if you want.)

Example: Over the years, I have been one of your greatest admirers in the area of human rights, and I very much aware of your leading role in promoting human rights through the Cuban Democracy Act. It gives me great pleasure to write to you on H.R. 2003, (Ethiopia Freedom and Accountability Act of 2007) as I am sure you will appreciate the gravity of the human rights situation in Ethiopia. I am presently ... describe your work, responsibilities etc, briefly)

As you may recall, on June 26, 2007, the scheduled mark-up action on H.R. 2003 was delayed because the ruling regime in Ethiopia, through its official representatives, communicated to the Committee that mark-up action on the bill on that date will adversely affect the release of the prisoners of conscience held in Kality prison.

I have learned that the Committee, in the face of such unprecedented challenge to its institutional integrity, nonetheless agreed to delay mark-up action for 2 weeks, which occurs this week.

As you know, H.R. 2003 (Ethiopia Freedom and Accountability Act of 2007) is not merely about the release of political prisoners in Kality prison. It is fundamentally about reclaiming, revitalizing and advancing human rights as a central pillar of American foreign policy.

To that end, H.R. 2003 aims to institute accountability and democratic reforms in Ethiopia, aid in the restoration of the democratic rights of the people, strengthen human rights and civic society organizations, increase the independence of the judiciary, assist in bringing to justice human rights abusers are brought to justice, ensure fraud free-elections, and removing press censorship, among many others. Simply stated, it is a bill that aims to institutionalize the rule of law in Ethiopia.

H.R. 2003 is presently co-sponsored by Chairman Lantos, and thirteen other members. I respectfully request your co-sponsorship because I take great pride in the fact that my representative from the great state of \_\_\_\_\_ stood up to defend freedom, democracy and human rights in Ethiopia, where most of my relatives and friends still live. I also appreciate your help in expediting the mark-up of the bill by requesting that it be placed on the next calendar of the Committee.

I would like to thank you in advance for your help.

I will call your office in the next day to follow up on this letter.

Sincerely,

Your Name

Give your address and telephone number where you can be reached

**Sample Letter to FAX:**

**FAX FAX FAX FAX**

**Three Members YOU MUST contact by PHONE and FAX Letter**

**Tom Lantos, Chairman, House Foreign Affairs Committee**  
**Phone 202-225-3531 Fax: 202-226-4183**

**Donald Payne, Chairman, Subcommittee on Africa**  
**Phone: 202-225-2436 Fax: 202-225-4160**

**Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, Ranking Member,**  
**Phone: 202-225-3931 Fax: 202-225-5620**

**HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**Special Note: For persons living in the following states and districts, please make special effort to contact your members.**

**All Others: Please contact as many members as you possibly can.**

**To find your representative: <http://www.house.gov/writerep/>**

<b><u>STATE/District</u></b>		<b><u>TELEPHONE</u></b>	<b><u>FAX</u></b>
<b>American Samoa</b>			
Eni Faleomavaega	Amer. Samoa	202-225-8577	202-225-8757
<b>Arizona</b>			
Jeff Flake	6 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-2635	202-226-4386
Gabrielle Giffords	8 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-2542	202-225-0378

## Arkansas

John Boozman	3 <sup>rd</sup>	202-225-4301	202-225-5713
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## California

<b>Tom Lantos (Chair)</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>202-225-3531</b>	<b>202-226-4183</b>
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Lynn Woolsey	6 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-5161	202-225-5163
Jim Costa	20 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-3341	202-225-9308
Elton Gallegly	24 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-5811	202-225-1100
Brad Sherman	27 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-5911	202-225-5879
Howard Berman	28 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-4695	202-225-3196
Diane E. Watson	33 <sup>rd</sup>	202-225-7084	202-225-2422
Linda Sanchez	39 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-6676	202-226-1012
Ed Royce	40 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-4111	202-226-0335
Dana Rohrabacher	46 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-2415	202-225-0145

## Colorado

Tom Tancredo	6 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-7882	202-226-4623
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## Florida

Gus M. Bilirakis	9 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-5755	202-225-4085
Connie Mack	14 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-2536	202-226-0439
Ileana Ros-Lehtinen	18 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-3931	202-225-5620
Robert Wexler	19 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-3001	202-225-5974
Ron Klein	20 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-3026	202-225-8398

## Georgia

David Scott	13 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-2939	202-225-4628
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## Illinois

Don Manzullo	16 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-5676	202-225-5284
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## Indiana

Dan Burton	5 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-2276	202-225-0016
Mike Pence	6 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-3021	202-225-3382

## Massachusetts

Bill Delahunt	10 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-3111	202-225-5658
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**Missouri**

Russ Carnahan	3 <sup>rd</sup>	202-225-2671	202-225-7452
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**Nebraska**

Jeff Fortenberry	1 <sup>st</sup>	202-225-4806	202-225-5686
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**New Jersey**

Christopher Smith	4 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-3765	202-225-7768
Donald M. Payne	10 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-2436	202-225-4160
Albio Sires	13 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-7919	202-226-0792

**New York**

Gary L. Ackerman	5 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-2601	202-225-1589
Gregory W. Meeks	6 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-3461	202-226-4169
Joseph Crowley	7 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-3965	202-225-1909
Eliot L. Engil	17 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-2474	202-225-5513

**North Carolina**

Brad Miller	13 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-3032	202-225-0181
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**Ohio**

Steve Chabot	1 <sup>st</sup>	202-225-2216	202-225-3012
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**Puerto Rico**

Luis G. Fortuno	Puerto Rico	202-225-2615	202-225-2154
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**Oregon**

David Wu	1 <sup>st</sup>	202-225-0855	202-225-9497
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**South Carolina**

Joe Wilson	2 <sup>nd</sup>	202-225-2452	202-225-2455
Gresham Barrett	3 <sup>rd</sup>	202-225-5301	202-225-3216
Bob Inglis	4 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-6030	202-226-1177

**Tennessee**

John Tanner	8 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-4714	202-225-1765
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**Texas**

Ted Poe	2 <sup>nd</sup>	202-225-6565	202-225-5547
Michael McCaul	10 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-2401	202-225-5955
Ron Paul	14 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-2831	202-226-6553
Ruben Hinojosa	15 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-2531	202-225-5688
Sheila Jackson Lee	18 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-3816	202-225-3317

**Virginia**

Jo Ann Davis	1 <sup>st</sup>	202-225-4261	202-225-4382
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**Washington**

Adam Smith	9 <sup>th</sup>	202-225-8901	202-225-5893
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