



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF VIETNAMESE AMERICANS

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Founded 1986

Executive Committee
Nguyen Quoc Hung (VA)
President

February 24, 2003

Jackie Bong-Wright (VA)
Bui Vu Duc (MD)
Hoang Quoc Tuan (VA)
Huynh Si Nghi (MN)
Pham Van Nam (MA)
Tran Tu Thanh (VA)

RE: Virginia HB 2829

Lu Anh-Thu (VA)
Secretary
Pham Cong Tu (MD)
Deputy Secretary

Dear Secretary Powell,

Le Huu Em (VA)
Treasurer
Nguyen Dinh Ky (VA)
Deputy Treasurer

The National Congress of Vietnamese Americans (NCVA), a nonpartisan and nonprofit organization, advocates the civic participation of all Vietnamese Americans and Asian Pacific Americans. We commend you for your continued efforts of being a harbinger of peace. NCVA aims to improve living conditions and economic self-sufficiency of Asian Pacific Americans by heeding President Bush's call to volunteer and to participate more actively in all facets of our communities.

Board of Directors
2002-2004

During this period of heightened security when American values of freedom, democracy and entrepreneurship are being attacked, Americans should speak with one voice. Unfortunately, the State Department's interference in the legislative process of Virginia's House Bill 2829 goes against the unified voice necessary against all powers foreign and domestic.

Nguyen-mau Trinh (MD)
Chairperson

As an organization, we encourage active civic participation and involvement of Vietnamese Americans in the legislative process. This participation is a hallmark of what it means to be an American. As reported in the media, your letter to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam's Foreign Ministry assuring them that "HB 2829 will be killed" disturbs us. It disturbs us as American citizens when the State Department supports the opinion of a foreign regime that does not support American values nor is it a partner in the fight against terror and all those who harbor them.

Nguyen An Phong (CA)
Southwest Region
Pham Thu Dang (CA)
Northwest Region
Nguyen Cao Quyen (MD)
Northeast Region
Nguyen Van Thiet (MN)
Central Region
Tran-Truong Van-Lan (TX)
Southern Region
Dr. Dao Thi Hoi (VA)
General Administrator

The 1.2 million voting taxpayers have the right to exercise free speech and to support legislation that they find amiable. This is an example of democracy being exercised. Voters organize and elected officials respond to their constituents. We respectfully request that the State Department does not undermine our efforts of participating in local initiatives and being more active as the President of the United States has asked us to do in our continued efforts of building a better democratic America.

Advisory Board

Hon. Bui Diem
Mary Chi Ray
Giap Ngoc Phuc
Le Van Ba
Gen. Linh Quang Vien
Dr. Nguyen Manh Hung
Nguyen Ngoc Bich
Pham Dinh De
Hon. Tran Kim Phuong

Sincerely,

Hung Quoc Nguyen
President