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The Honorable John Kerry
Secretary of State
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

This letter is in response to the Administration's recent announcement to re-designate the U.S. Interests Section in Havana, Cuba as a U.S. Embassy and funding proposals associated with such action. The decision to re-designate the mission is deeply concerning, and I object to rewarding the Cuban regime with full diplomatic recognition at this time.

I note that funding for a U.S. Embassy in Havana was not requested in the President's fiscal year 2015 budget, nor was it provided in the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2015 (division J of Public Law 113-325). I object to the obligation of any funds contained in Congressional Notification 15-050 for the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs to support a U.S. diplomatic presence in Cuba beyond that which was in existence prior to December 17, 2014. My objections extend to any program changes related to infrastructure improvements, staffing, and other operational expenses.

Thank you for keeping the Committee informed of organizational and funding plans of the Department of State.

Sincerely,



Kay Granger
Chairwoman
Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations
and Related Programs