

Report of the Cyprus and Hellenic Affairs Committee
2008 AHEPA Supreme Convention
Athens, Greece
July 2, 2008

The following report was approved by the General Session of the 2008 Supreme Convention on July 2, 2008:

- 1) The Order of AHEPA will continue to work to strengthen the AHEPA Grass Roots Network, which uniquely distinguishes the AHEPA from all other Greek American organizations, and which if adequately developed, can serve at its most powerful tool for the promotion of Greek American interests and ideals.
- 2) The AHEPA will continue its efforts to grow the Hellenic Caucus in the House of Representatives, which now stands at 140.
- 3) The AHEPA will continue to pursue and seek support for VISA Waiver Program legislation H.Res. 2526, which designates Greece as a Visa Waiver nation. (Presently has 47 co-sponsors)
- 4) The AHEPA will support H.Res. 373, which urges Turkey to respect the rights and religious freedoms of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in Istanbul.
- 5) The AHEPA will support H.Res. 356/S.Res. 300, which urges the FYROM to stop hostile activities or propaganda directed against Greece and to work with the United Nations and Greece to achieve longstanding United States and United Nations policy goals of finding a mutually-acceptable official name for the FYROM.
- 6) The AHEPA will support H.Res. 627, which calls for the removal of Turkish occupation troops from Cyprus.
- 7) The AHEPA will provide annual financial funding in the amount of \$20,000 for the Cyprus and Hellenic Affairs Committee, in order to strengthen its communications capabilities, in order to permit holding educational symposiums, and in order to permit printing of educational materials.
- 8) The AHEPA will support the full restoration of funding in the amount of \$480,000 for the Voice of American's Greek Desk Service.
- 9) The AHEPA will seek to strengthen relations with other appropriate Greek American organizations in order to more effectively fulfill its mission, as it relates to Greece, Cyprus, the Ecumenical Patriarchate and to issues involving the FYROM, the Greek minority in Albania, and the Aegean Sea.

Moreover, the Committee continues to retain \$720 collected through donations at the Denver Supreme Convention for the purposes of facilitating communications.

Respectfully submitted,

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Assisted by Andrew Kaffes