

and we want to encourage them to strive for excellence and advancement through this great celebration.

As in past years, this celebration follows Dominican Heritage Week and the Gran Parada Dominicana in the Bronx. On August 8th, beginning from 36th Street to 59th Street on Sixth Avenue, New Yorkers of all ages will get a chance to learn about some of the ways in which this vibrant community is transforming the Nation.

I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring this celebration and continue to support the great accomplishments made by Dominicans around the Nation and all over the world.

FREEDOM FOR LUIS MILÁN
FERNÁNDEZ

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Luis Milán Fernández, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Milán Fernández is a medical doctor by profession. Because of his training in protecting and nurturing human life, he could not tolerate the tyrant's incessant abuse of Cuban people. He understood the human condition and he knew that freedom is infinitely superior to the ills of tyranny and repression. Because of his belief in liberty, he joined the Cuban Medical Association and other groups dedicated to peacefully advocating for freedom for every citizen of Cuba.

In June 2001, Mr. Milán Fernández signed a document called "Manifiesto 2001", a document that called for recognition of fundamental freedoms in Cuba. According to Amnesty International, he, along with other medical professionals, staged a 1-day hunger strike to call attention to the medical situation of detainees.

On March 18, 2003, as part of the dictator's condemnable crackdown on peaceful pro-democracy activists, Mr. Milán Fernández was arrested because of his belief in liberty over repression. In a sham trial, he was "sentenced" to 13 years in the inhuman, totalitarian gulag.

Mr. Milán Fernández is languishing in the infernal gulag because he believes in human rights and liberty. He is suffering in abhorrent conditions because he refuses to accept the reality inflicted on the Cuban people by the tyrant. Let us be very clear, the politics of repression and tyranny practiced by the regime in Havana are incompatible with the democratic values of the western hemisphere.

Mr. Speaker, it is a crime against humanity that pro-democracy activists such as Mr. Milán Fernández are locked in totalitarian dungeons because they advocate for freedom and human rights. My colleagues, we must demand the immediate release of Luis Milán Fernández and every prisoner of conscience imprisoned by the nightmare called the Castro regime.

JULY 28TH IS INTERNET SAFETY
DAY

HON. MARK FOLEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, today, we live in a new age and it is becoming increasingly apparent that our laws must meet the challenge of protecting our children in the face of new threats and new technology.

The Internet is a powerful tool that has brought new opportunities for education, commerce and self-empowerment to millions of Americans. However, it also provides a new medium for pedophiles to reach out to our most vulnerable citizens—America's children.

This has become a growing problem and, in 2002, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) reported that online child pornography and/or sexual exploitation are the most significant cyber-crimes against children.

I commend the efforts of Court TV and its CEO Henry Schlieff, Al Roker and the production team behind Al Roker Investigates: Katie.com for bringing attention to online sexual predators. Court TV's active role in shedding light on the issue of "Internet deception" will help protect America's children and raise much needed awareness to parents across the country.

As cochairman of the Congressional Missing & Exploited Children's Caucus, I join you in celebrating July 28 as Internet Safety Day in the hopes of bringing stronger awareness to the deceptive crimes against children that are being perpetrated on the Internet.

While we work in Congress to give law enforcement the tools to protect our children like the highly successful national deployment of the AMBER Alert system, the most important weapon of all is showing parents how to keep a watchful eye on the activities of their children; knowing the people who come into contact with their children in their neighborhoods, schools and online; and using plain common sense.

JUNK FAX PREVENTION ACT OF
2004

SPEECH OF

HON. GIL GUTKNECHT

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 2004

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Mr. UPTON for crafting this legislation in such a way that it protects the rights of consumers, without obstructing legitimate business endeavors.

I bring a unique perspective to this debate. I am a real estate auctioneer by trade. And for those auctioneers, it is common practice to notify people who have bid at previous auctions about upcoming auction sales. This is particularly the case if the person is interested in a certain type of item that will be sold at a subsequent auction.

Let me provide a real world example. A person registers to bid at an auction of 18th century antique furniture. A few months after that auction, another sale is scheduled that includes 18th century antique furniture. It is

common practice for auctioneers to notify those individuals again that there is an upcoming auction, and sending such notices by fax is a very cost effective means of doing this.

H.R. 4600, the "Junk Fax Prevention Act of 2004," restores the Federal Communication Commission's (FCC) interpretation of the EBR or "established business relationship" as it existed prior to January 1, 2003. Under that FCC interpretation, incorporated by reference in the bill, the term "established business relationship" means "a prior or existing relationship formed by a voluntary two-way communication between a person or entity and a residential subscriber—and the bill expands that to also include business subscribers—with or without consideration, on the basis of an inquiry, application, purchase or transaction by the residential subscriber regarding products or services offered by such person or entity, which relationship has not been previously terminated by either party."

As such, with respect to the example I referenced above, H.R. 4600 would permit an auctioneer to send a notice of an upcoming auction by fax to a person who had registered for and/or bid at a prior auction run by that auctioneer.

I support this outcome, and I also agree that if a party wishes to stop receiving such notifications they should be allowed to do so. I am pleased that this legislation contains such "opt-out" language.

I support this legislation and believe that such measures which aim to reduce the onslaught of faxes, e-mails, etc., are good policy for consumers. In addition, it is important that the record highlights the unique nature of the auction business and its importance to a variety of industries and especially rural communities.

DECLARING GENOCIDE IN DARFUR,
SUDAN

SPEECH OF

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 21, 2004

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to this incredibly dangerous legislation. I hope my colleagues are not fooled by the title of this bill, "Declaring genocide in Darfur, Sudan." This resolution is no statement of humanitarian concern for what may be happening in a country thousands of miles from the United States. Rather, it could well lead to war against the African country of Sudan. The resolution "urges the Bush Administration to seriously consider multilateral or even unilateral intervention to prevent genocide should the United Nations Security Council fail to act." We must realize the implications of urging the President to commit the United States to intervene in an ongoing civil war in a foreign land thousands of miles away?

Mr. Speaker, this resolution was never marked up in the House International Relations Committee, on which I serve. Therefore, Members of that committee had no opportunity to amend it or express their views before it was sent to the Floor for a vote. Like too many highly controversial bills, it was rushed onto the suspension calendar (by House rules reserved for "non-controversial" legislation) at