

ALAN GRAYSON
9TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
WESTERN HEMISPHERE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE,
AND TECHNOLOGY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT
REGIONAL DEMOCRATIC WHIP

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0909

430 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-9889

ORLANDO DISTRICT OFFICE
5842 SOUTH SEMORAN BOULEVARD
ORLANDO, FL 32822
(407) 615-8889

KISSIMMEE DISTRICT OFFICE
101 NORTH CHURCH STREET
SUITE 550
KISSIMMEE, FL 34731
(407) 518-4983

grayson.house.gov

July 29, 2014

The Honorable John F. Kerry
Secretary
U.S. Dept. of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

The Honorable Jeh Johnson
Secretary
U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security
3801 Nebraska Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20528

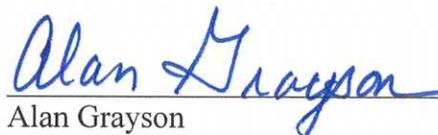
Dear Secretary Kerry and Secretary Johnson:

I write to request the imposition of a travel ban on the citizens of Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone, and any foreign person who has visited one of these nations 90 days prior to arriving in the United States. I also ask that this ban be expanded to any other nation that reports originating a case of Ebola virus disease ("Ebola"), and that travel restrictions be removed only when 90 days have passed without a newly reported case.

The current Ebola epidemic spreading throughout West Africa is the worst in recorded history. According to the World Health Organization, through July 23rd there have been 1,201 suspected Ebola cases, and 672 deaths attributed to those cases. Unfortunately, those numbers are now a week old, and have likely grown. Additionally, the Ministry of Health of Nigeria reported the first probable Ebola case on Friday, which was attributed to a visiting U.S. citizen. Reportedly, Patrick Sawyer of Coon Rapids, Minnesota travelled by air to Lagos, Nigeria, became symptomatic while travelling, was admitted to the hospital on July 20th (upon arrival in Nigeria), and succumbed to the disease on July 25th. This latest development is particularly troubling because Murtala Muhammed International Airport in Lagos is the third busiest airport in Africa, and it offers direct flights to the United States. I urge you to consider the enhanced danger Ebola now presents to the American public, and therefore request that appropriate travel restrictions be implemented immediately.

I believe that you have the legal authority to implement this request, but if you believe otherwise, please let me know immediately. I look forward to your response to this letter, and welcome any questions you may have. Should either of your staffs require further clarification, they may contact Shilpa Finnerty of my staff at (202) 225-9889 or shilpa.finnerty@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,



Alan Grayson
Member of Congress