

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**May 5, 2005**

**For more information, contact:**  
Zahava Goldman, Rep. Waxman (202) 225-3976

**WAXMAN CALLS FOR STATE DEPARTMENT TO  
TAKE ACTION AGAINST BRITISH BOYCOTT OF ISRAELI UNIVERSITIES**

**Washington, DC** — Today, Representative Henry A. Waxman (D-Los Angeles) sent a letter urging Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice to sever all ties with schools and professors who abide the British Association of University Teachers' (AUT) academic boycott of Israeli universities.

“This boycott is the worst form of censorship. It is a blatant assault on academic freedom that goes against everything the United States stands for,” Representative Waxman said.

The letter calls on the State Department to take decisive measures to disassociate itself from the AUT boycott by making all professors and institutions that abide by this or other academic boycotts ineligible for U.S. funded grants and exchanges.

The AUT campaign, spearheaded by the organization's Executive Committee, was launched on April 22. The boycott calls for AUT members to “refrain from participation in any form of academic and cultural cooperation, collaboration, or joint projects” with Haifa University and Bar Ilan University in Israel.

###