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<u>U.S Congressional Resolution Echoes Oromo American Community's Call</u> <u>For More Action On Human Rights Violations and National Dialogue</u>

By Oromo Legacy Leadership and Advocacy Association

Falls Church, Virginia – Today members of Congress, led by U.S Congresswoman Karen Bass (D-CA), Chair of the Africa subcommittee of the United States House Foreign Affairs Committee introduced a House resolution H. Res "Supporting Respect for Human Rights and Encouraging Democratic progress in Ethiopia."

The Oromo Legacy Leadership and Advocacy Association (OLLAA) supports this resolution and echoes the Oromo-American community's concerns over vastly underreported arbitrary arrests, human rights violations and killings conducted by Ethiopian security forces. Most importantly, the resolution supports a call for a "national dialogue", which the Oromo Legacy and Leadership Association (OLLA) advocates as "long overdue for the people of Oromia."

The resolution comes at a time when important regional grievances are challenging the political order of Ethiopia. This time of turbulence and uncertainty is an opportunity for Mr. Abiy to hold a national dialogue. Seenaa Jimjimo, the Executive Director of OLLAA, says, "Everything should be on the table at this dialogue. Secession, political reforms, release of prisoners, and especially independent investigations into the gross human rights violations taking place in Oromia today."

OLLAA is an umbrella organization that presents dozens of Oromo communities around the world including in Africa.