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AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
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May 11, 2015

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Chairman Rob Bishop  
U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources  
1324 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter is to request your authorization for me and a committee staff member to travel to Cuba beginning May 23, 2015 through May, 28<sup>th</sup> 2015 as part of a Congressional Delegation (CODEL). This trip will be led by the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee and Senator Tom Udall.

The purpose of the trip is to review U.S. relations with Cuba, issues of trade, conservation efforts and ecotourism. Additionally, the trip will include meetings related to mining, visits to natural gas plants and discussions on Gulf of Mexico marine protection efforts. This trip is relevant to my work as a member of the Committee on Natural Resources which is responsible for overseeing natural resource and conservation issues within the United States.

Please feel free to discuss the particulars of the trip with my staff. It is my understanding that all transportation costs, per diem and other travel-related expenses will be paid by the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee and the Department of Air Force who will escort and provide transportation for the Congressional Delegation.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

  
Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress