



Attention:  
Foreign Affairs  
Legislative Aide

Armenian National Committee of America  
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

To: Foreign Affairs Legislative Aide  
From: Raffi N. Karakashian, Legislative Affairs Director  
Date: March 28, 2007

Re: **False claims by opponents of the Armenian Genocide Resolution**

Today's **Roll Call** covers the controversy (see excerpt below) surrounding false claims by a U.S.-Turkey business coalition that major American corporations are opposed to the Armenian Genocide Resolution (H.Res.106, S.Res.106). Attached find text from Microsoft, Johnson & Johnson, and Cargill distancing themselves from efforts to defeat this legislation.

If you have any questions, please call us at (202) 775-1918 or write to [anca@anca.org](mailto:anca@anca.org).

## ROLL CALL

March 28, 2007: [...] "Our thought was that ABFT and ATC were being presumptuous in speaking for these companies," said Aram Hamparian, executive director of the Armenian National Committee. In recent days, Hamparian said Microsoft, Johnson & Johnson and Cargill have sent letters in response distancing their companies from the lobbying against the genocide resolution. Cargill, for one, said that it "does not have a position on the issue," while Johnson & Johnson replied that "we would not engage in political issues of this nature," according to copies of the letters.

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## U.S. Corporations Reject Armenian Genocide Denial

The American Business Forum in Turkey (ABFT), an Istanbul-based group, is falsely claiming that its members - including a broad range of major American corporations - are opposed to the Armenian Genocide Resolution.

In response to written inquiries from the ANCA regarding their position on this human rights legislation, these corporations have indicated (excerpts below) that they do not support and, in many instances, were not even aware of the ABFT's use of their names to oppose U.S. recognition of the first genocide of the 20th Century.

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Microsoft has not participated in any discussions or decisions of ABFT, and was not involved with the communication to which you referred in your letter.



I would like to inform you that Johnson and Johnson in Turkey is not a board member and has not been engaged in any role in the ABFT communication you have mentioned in your letter. As world's largest and most comprehensive and broadly based health care company, we would not engage in political issues of this nature.



Thank you for your letter of March 1, 2007 addressed to Mr. Warren Staley. Cargill, as you may know, is a private company engaged in the agri-food industry around the world. We are a commercial enterprise focused on business matters rather than on political or foreign policy matters. As such the company does not have a position on the issue of your enquiry.