WASHINGTON (October 8) - Congressman Spencer Bachus (AL-6), Congressman Jo Bonner (AL-1), Congressman Mike Rogers (AL-3), and Congressman Robert Aderholt (AL-4) issued the following joint statement following today's House vote on the National Defense Authorization Act.

"As Members of Congress representing a state with several military installations and heavy with defense industries, the 'National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010' is extremely important to us and our military. However, we believe it is inappropriate to attach a divisive and liberal social bill like 'Hate Crimes' to the Defense Bill that would give our soldiers the funding and pay increase they deserve. 'Hate Crimes' is completely unrelated to our country's national security and the Democrat majority should be ashamed for combining this legislation at the last minute. Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Majority Leader Harry Reid should have done the right thing and presented a clean Defense Authorization bill for our military and national security."