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## Alabama World Trade Association Members Meets with Congressman Jo Bonner



*L to R: Waymon Pace, TVA; Sheron Rose, Hyundai Manufacturing; Rick Brown, Alabama Retail Association, Congressman Jo Bonner, Billy Powell, Alabama Cattlemen's Association; Jimmy Carlisle, ALFA; Brian Davis, Alabama International Trade Center.*

On, March 25, 2008, members of the Alabama World Trade Association met with Congressman Jo Bonner in offices of the Alabama Cattlemen's Association to discuss pending free trade agreements before Congress and for the Congressman to give us an update on issues in Washington.

The Association first thanked the Congressman for his vote in favor of the FTA with Peru. Members then relayed their personal interest and the interest of the Association in the passage of the pending FTA's with Columbia, Korea and Panama.

Congressman Bonner expressed his support for these and future agreements generally but felt that it was unlikely that President Bush would be able to garner the needed support to bring these bills up for a vote during this legislative session.

Members of the Association also discussed with the Congressman regarding Cuba since the passing of the guard in Castro family. The Congressman said that although Fidel and Raul generally would lead in the same manner, things were different. Congressman Bonner believes it was that we would see some softening of the embargo and expansion of trade opportunities with Cuba.