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## **News Release - 1989-06-22**

E. De la Garza

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# news release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

22 June 1989

WASHINGTON--Today Rep Kika de la Garza expressed his extreme disappointment over the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision which provides First Amendment protections to those who burn or desecrate our flag, the Stars and Stripes.

Rep de la Garza said "I am deeply disturbed that our high court would carry freedom of speech to the "nth" degree in this manner and I consider the desecration of our flag to be a criminal act which should be dealt with accordingly."

De la Garza has joined with other Members of Congress from both political parties in all areas of the country to begin a legislative process to countermand the Supreme Court ruling.

The South Texas Congressman continued by saying "We in the Congress can take certain legislative actions which would signal to the high court that we consider flag burning to be criminal conduct and this is an effort on which I will vigorously work."

"The individual's freedom to speak his mind is paramount in our basic law, but this cannot extend to such a reprehensible act as desecration of our flag--the very symbol of that which protects freedom of speech," Rep de la Garza concluded.

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