

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 17, 2013

The Honorable John Kerry
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Kerry:

We are writing to request that the U.S. Department of State continues to make reuniting Amir Hekmati with his family a top priority. Mr. Hekmati, a former Marine, traveled to Iran in August 2011 to visit his grandmother and has been in Iranian custody since. Mr. Hekmati's father was recently diagnosed with terminal brain cancer and in Persian culture, the eldest son is responsible for his family if his father is ailing. Thus, it is imperative that Mr. Hekmati, as the eldest son, be released to care for his father, mother and sisters.

Multiple developments have made us optimistic that we can realize a diplomatic, peaceful and humanitarian resolution to this matter. In March of 2012, Iran's Supreme Court overturned Mr. Hekmati's death sentence. After enduring 16 months of solitary confinement, Mr. Hekmati is now in an area that allows him to interact with other prisoners. Moreover, recently he has been allowed to communicate with his family, including sending letters to his mother in Flint, Michigan, and receiving visits from his uncle and other relatives in Iran.

We appreciate that this is a delicate matter, but all faiths and cultures can agree that families, particularly during times of illness, deserve to be together. Please explore all opportunities to reunite Mr. Hekmati with his ailing father, mother and sisters.

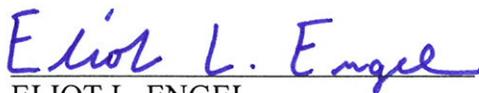
Sincerely yours,



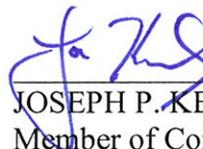
DAN KILDEE
Member of Congress



JOHN CONYERS, JR.
Member of Congress



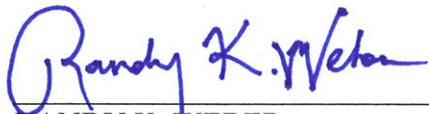
ELIOT L. ENGEL
Member of Congress



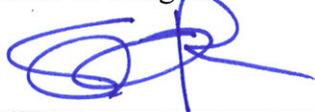
JOSEPH P. KENNEDY III
Member of Congress



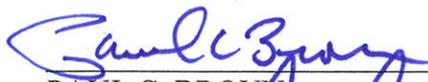
MICHAEL G. GRIMM
Member of Congress



RANDY K. WEBER
Member of Congress



SCOTT H. PETERS
Member of Congress



PAUL C. BROUN
Member of Congress



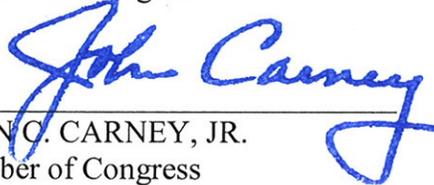
ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN
Member of Congress



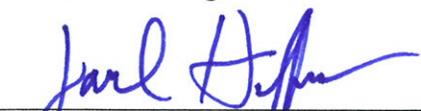
JUSTIN AMASH
Member of Congress



WALTER B. JONES
Member of Congress



JOHN C. CARNEY, JR.
Member of Congress



JARED HUFFMAN
Member of Congress



SCOTT E. RIGELL
Member of Congress



CHERI BUSTOS
Member of Congress



TIM WALBERG
Member of Congress



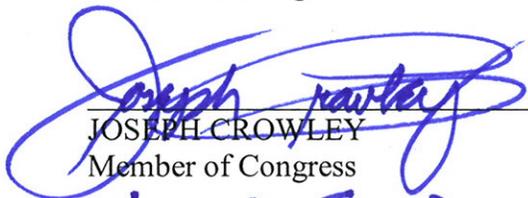
PETER J. ROSKAM
Member of Congress



TODD C. YOUNG
Member of Congress



BETO O'ROURKE
Member of Congress



JOSEPH CROWLEY
Member of Congress



KEITH ELLISON
Member of Congress



KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO
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Mike Coffman

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Steve Daines

STEVE DAINES
Member of Congress

Corrine Brown

CORRINE BROWN
Member of Congress

Tulsi Gabbard

TULSI GABBARD
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Bill Johnson

BILL JOHNSON
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Patrick E. Murphy

PATRICK MURPHY
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John D. Dingell

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Gerald E. Connolly

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Sander M. Levin

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Chris Van Hollen

CHRIS VAN HOLLEN
Member of Congress

Gloria Negrete McLeod

GLORIA NEGRETE MCLEOD
Member of Congress

Candice S. Miller

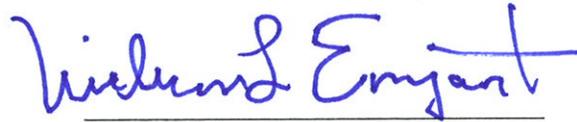
CANDICE S. MILLER
Member of Congress

Joyce Beatty

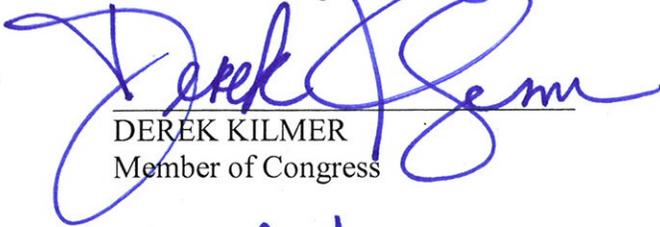
JOYCE BEATTY
Member of Congress



BILL HUIZENGA
Member of Congress



WILLIAM L. ENYART
Member of Congress



DEREK KILMER
Member of Congress



DAVID B. MCKINLEY
Member of Congress



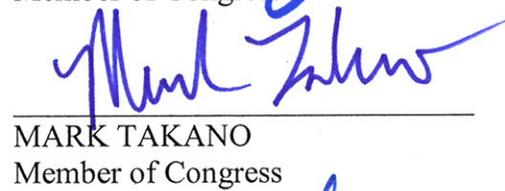
JIM MCDERMOTT
Member of Congress



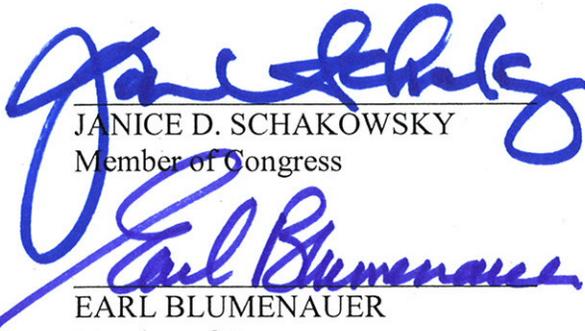
MIKE ROGERS
Member of Congress



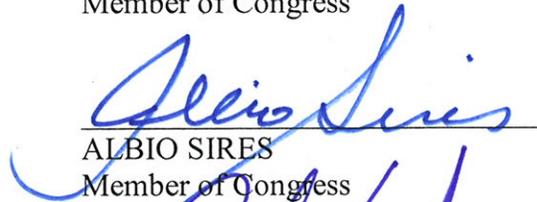
MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO
Member of Congress



MARK TAKANO
Member of Congress



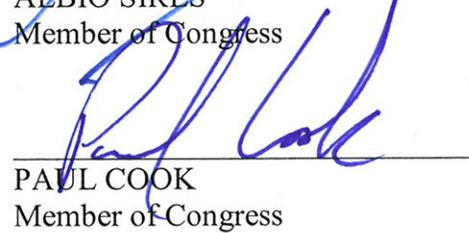
JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY
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ALBIO SIRES
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EARL BLUMENAUER
Member of Congress



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FILEMON VELA
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ALAN S. LOWENTHAL
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TONY CÁRDENAS
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LUIS V. GUTIERREZ
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JAMES P. MORAN
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STEVEN M. PALAZZO
Member of Congress



DAN BENISHEK
Member of Congress



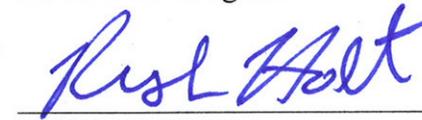
LOIS FRANKEL
Member of Congress



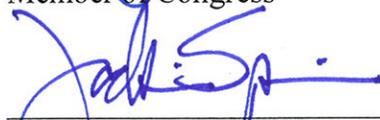
SHEILA JACKSON LEE
Member of Congress



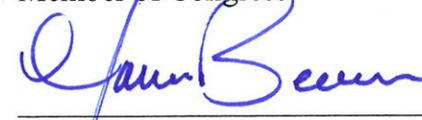
DENNY HECK
Member of Congress



RUSH HOLT
Member of Congress



JACKIE SPEIER
Member of Congress



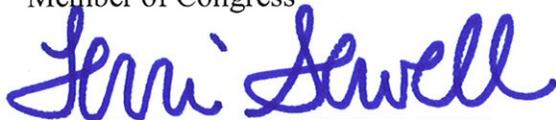
XAVIER BECERRA
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MICHAEL M. HONDA
Member of Congress



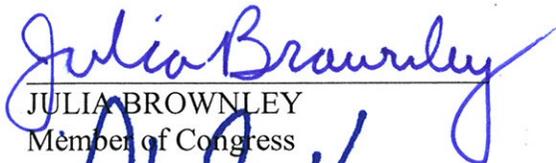
ALAN NUNNELEE
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TERRI A. SEWELL
Member of Congress



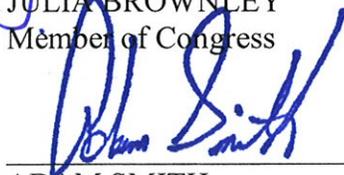
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Member of Congress



JULIA BROWNLEY
Member of Congress



ALAN GRAYSON
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ADAM SMITH
Member of Congress



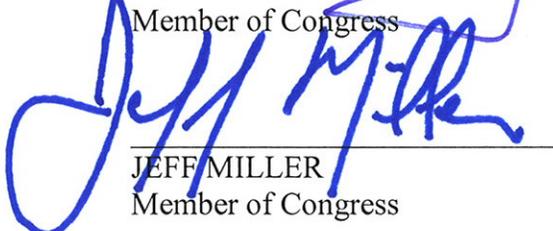
ANN MCLANE KUSTER
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DANIEL B. MAFFEI
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JUAN VARGAS
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ROBERT E. LATTA
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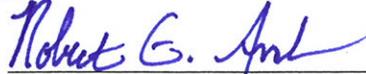

JAMES P. MCGOVERN
Member of Congress

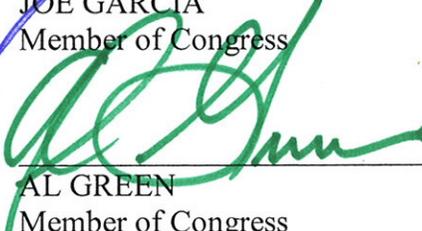

JEFF MILLER
Member of Congress


RICHARD M. NOLAN
Member of Congress

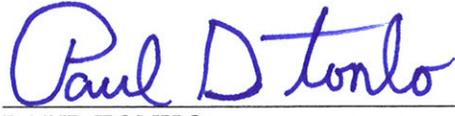

JOHN B. LARSON
Member of Congress

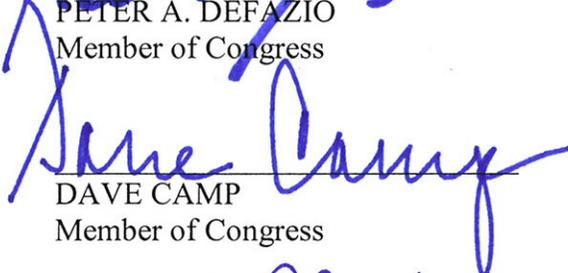

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AL GREEN
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PETER A. DEFAZIO
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PAUL TONKO
Member of Congress

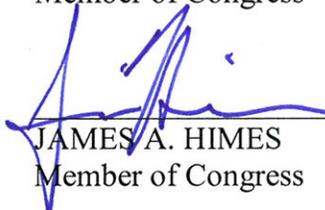

DAVE CAMP
Member of Congress

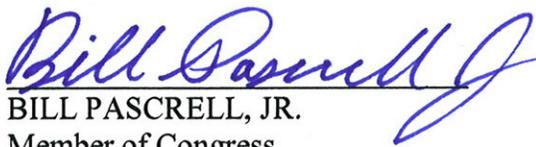

ERIC SWALWELL
Member of Congress


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COLLEEN W. HANABUSA
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FRED UPTON
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JAMES A. HIMES
Member of Congress



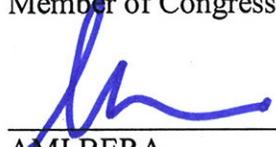
BILL PASCRELL, JR.
Member of Congress



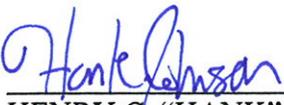
MATTHEW A. CARTWRIGHT
Member of Congress



JOAQUIN CASTRO
Member of Congress



AMI BERA
Member of Congress



HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.
Member of Congress



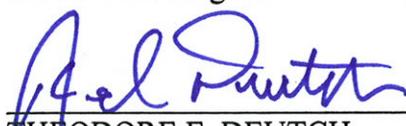
SUZAN K. DELBENE
Member of Congress



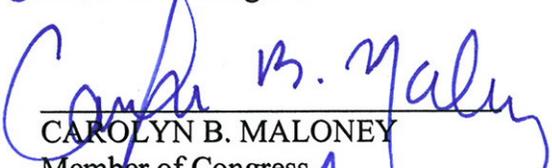
DAVID N. CICILLINE
Member of Congress



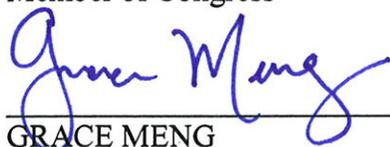
J. RANDY FORBES
Member of Congress



THEODORE E. DEUTCH
Member of Congress



CAROLYN B. MALONEY
Member of Congress



GRACE MENG
Member of Congress



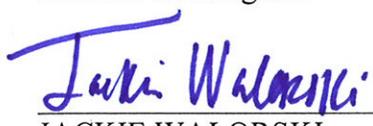
RAUL M. GRIJALVA
Member of Congress



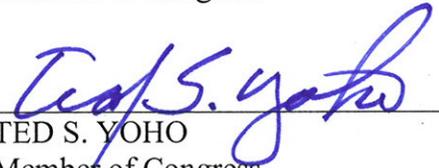
DIANA DEGETTE
Member of Congress



TREY RADEL
Member of Congress



JACKIE WALORSKI
Member of Congress



TED S. YOHO
Member of Congress



ED PERLMUTTER
Member of Congress



KAREN BASS
Member of Congress