

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 19, 2013

The Honorable Barack Obama  
President of the United States of America  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave  
Washington, D.C., 20500

Dear President Obama:

We are writing to express our strong support for your upcoming trip to Israel, America's major strategic partner and most important ally in the Middle East. As Israel and the United States face challenges in the Middle East and North Africa, including an increasingly intransigent Iran and an unstable Syria, now is an important time to send this message of solidarity to Israel.

As you know, the Israeli government has given your visit a name, "Unshakable Alliance," recalling a refrain of your Administration: "the United States' unshakable commitment to Israel's security and our deep friendship and solidarity with the Israeli people." This visit is a significant opportunity for you to directly reaffirm this commitment to the Israeli people.

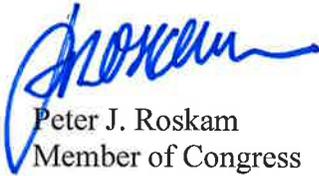
With looming threats from throughout the region, we welcome the opportunity for you to restate America's commitment to preventing Iran from developing a nuclear weapon. We share your hope of finding a negotiated solution to Iran's nuclear program, but also your clear statements that all options are and must remain on the table. And we must continue to protect Israel's Qualitative Military Edge and support Israel's inherent right to self-defense.

Your presence will reinforce America's leadership on issues of peace and security in the Middle East and give the parties an opportunity to renew their commitment to negotiating in good faith. Peace between Israel and its Arab neighbors must ultimately be achieved through direct negotiations toward a two-state solution without preconditions. It is crucial for Israelis to know that America stands with them and will support their sacrifices for peace. And it is vital that Palestinians understand that circumventing direct negotiations, including attempts to upgrade membership status in the United Nations and ICC, will not move their people forward toward statehood.

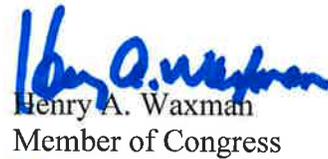
Lastly, as we face tough fiscal decisions ahead, your Administration's commitment to maintaining foreign aid to Israel and support for joint cooperative projects and the Iron Dome missile defense system, sends a strong statement to the Israeli people that they are not alone.

Reaffirming these commitments to Israel, in light of the very real threats that we both face, demonstrates that there is no daylight between the United States and Israel. We look forward to working with you when you return to strengthen the U.S.-Israel relationship and encouraging peace and stability in the Middle East.

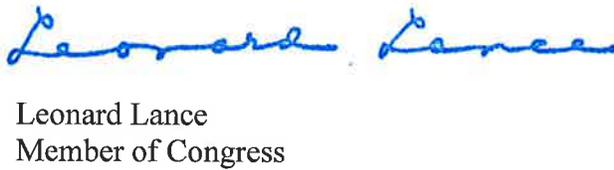
Sincerely,



Peter J. Roskam  
Member of Congress



Henry A. Waxman  
Member of Congress



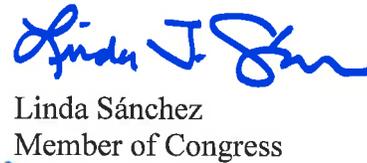
Leonard Lance  
Member of Congress



Alcee L. Hastings  
Member of Congress



Doug Lamborn  
Member of Congress



Linda Sánchez  
Member of Congress



Gene Green  
Member of Congress



Jeff Duncan  
Member of Congress



Eliot L. Engel  
Member of Congress



Nita Lowey  
Member of Congress



Theodore E. Deutch  
Member of Congress



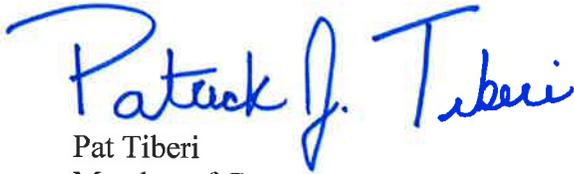
Steve Israel  
Member of Congress



Michael T. McCaul  
Member of Congress



Tom Price  
Member of Congress



Pat Tiberi  
Member of Congress



Mike Pompeo  
Member of Congress



Jim Langevin  
Member of Congress



Cynthia Lummis  
Member of Congress



Brian Higgins  
Member of Congress



David N. Cicilline  
Member of Congress



Frederica Wilson  
Member of Congress



Kevin Yoder  
Member of Congress



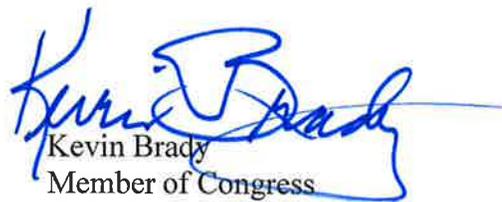
James Lankford  
Member of Congress



Todd Rokita  
Member of Congress



Colleen Hanabusa  
Member of Congress



Kevin Brady  
Member of Congress



Tim Bishop  
Member of Congress



Pete Olson  
Member of Congress

  
William R. Keating  
Member of Congress

  
Aaron Schock  
Member of Congress

  
Dina Titus  
Member of Congress

  
Tom Marino  
Member of Congress

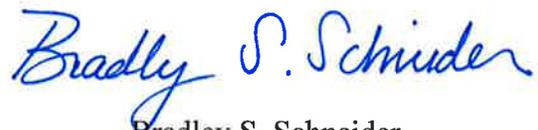
  
Marc Veasey  
Member of Congress

  
Gerald E. Connolly  
Member of Congress

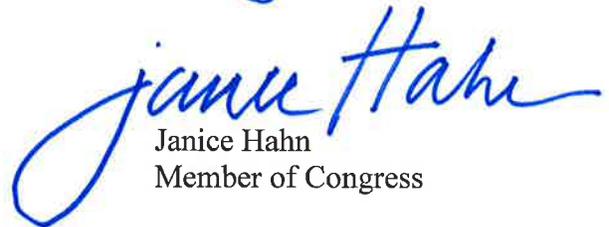
  
Keith Rothfus  
Member of Congress

  
George Holding  
Member of Congress

  
Randy Weber  
Member of Congress

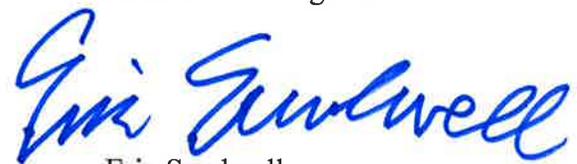
  
Bradley S. Schneider  
Member of Congress

  
Randy Hultgren  
Member of Congress

  
Janice Hahn  
Member of Congress

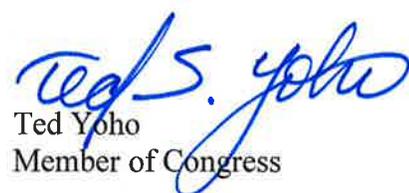
  
David McKinley  
Member of Congress

  
Tom Cotton  
Member of Congress

  
Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress

  
Paul Gosar  
Member of Congress

  
Luke Messer  
Member of Congress

  
Ted Yoho  
Member of Congress

*Edward J. Markey*

Edward J. Markey  
Member of Congress

*Jerrold Nadler*

Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress

*David Price*

David Price  
Member of Congress

*Corrine Brown*

Corrine Brown  
Member of Congress

*Stephen F. Lynch*

Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress

*Randy Forbes*

Randy J. Forbes  
Member of Congress

*John Tierney*

John Tierney  
Member of Congress

*Brad Sherman*

Brad Sherman  
Member of Congress

*Rosa L. DeLauro*

Rosa L. DeLauro  
Member of Congress

*Louie Gohmert*

Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress

*Gus Bilirakis*

Gus Bilirakis  
Member of Congress

*Carolyn Maloney*

Carolyn Maloney  
Member of Congress

*Emanuel Cleaver*

Emanuel Cleaver  
Member of Congress

*Albio Sires*

Albio Sires  
Member of Congress

*Marcia Fudge*

Marcia Fudge  
Member of Congress

*Joe Courtney*

Joe Courtney  
Member of Congress

*Matt Salmon*

Matt Salmon  
Member of Congress

*Jan Schakowsky*

Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress

*Bill Pascrell, Jr.*

Bill Pascrell, Jr.  
Member of Congress

*Scott Peters*

Scott Peters  
Member of Congress

*Tim Walberg*

Tim Walberg  
Member of Congress

*Lynn Westmoreland*

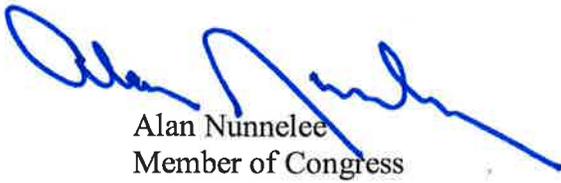
Lynn Westmoreland  
Member of Congress

*Doris O. Matsui*

Doris O. Matsui  
Member of Congress

*Trent Franks*

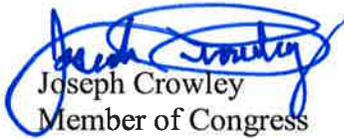
Trent Franks  
Member of Congress



Alan Nunnelee  
Member of Congress



Charles W. Boustany, M.D.  
Member of Congress



Joseph Crowley  
Member of Congress



John B. Larson  
Member of Congress



Susan Brooks  
Member of Congress



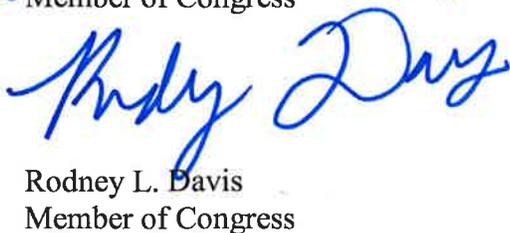
Mike Kelly  
Member of Congress



David Joyce  
Member of Congress



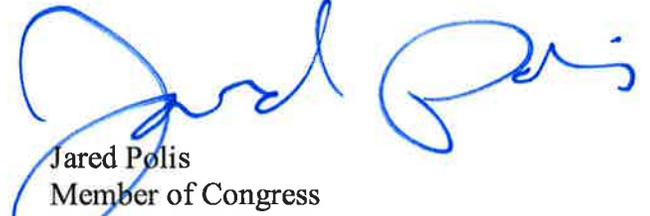
Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



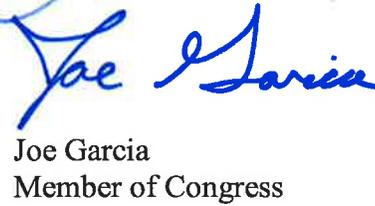
Rodney L. Davis  
Member of Congress



Derek Kilmer  
Member of Congress



Jared Polis  
Member of Congress



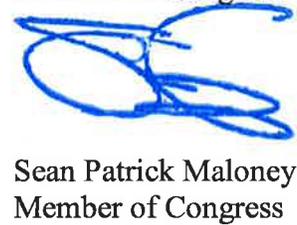
Joe Garcia  
Member of Congress



Tom Reed  
Member of Congress



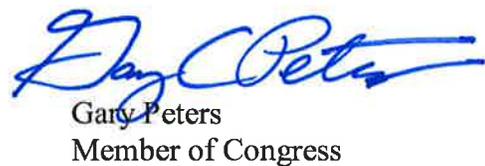
Mark Meadows  
Member of Congress



Sean Patrick Maloney  
Member of Congress



Billy Long  
Member of Congress



Gary Peters  
Member of Congress



Bill Johnson  
Member of Congress



Steve Stivers  
Member of Congress



Ron Barber  
Member of Congress



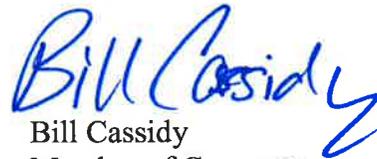
Lois Frankel  
Member of Congress



Morgan Griffith  
Member of Congress



Markwayne Mullin  
Member of Congress



Bill Cassidy  
Member of Congress



David Schweikert  
Member of Congress



Rush Holt  
Member of Congress



Joseph P. Kennedy III  
Member of Congress



Adam Kinzinger  
Member of Congress



Allyson Y. Schwartz  
Member of Congress



Tim Griffin  
Member of Congress



Krysten Sinema  
Member of Congress



Grace Meng  
Member of Congress



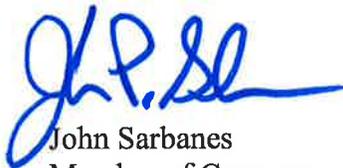
Carolyn McCarthy  
Member of Congress



Ami Bera  
Member of Congress



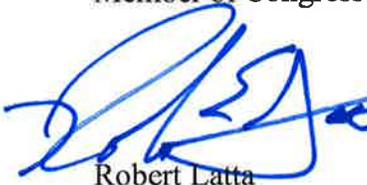
Paul Brown  
Member of Congress



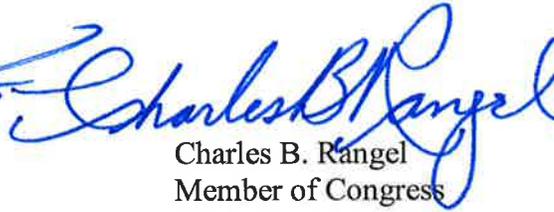
John Sarbanes  
Member of Congress



Charles Dent  
Member of Congress



Robert Latta  
Member of Congress



Charles B. Rangel  
Member of Congress



Alan S. Lowenthal  
Member of Congress