

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 26, 2012

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

We write to affirm our strong support for the new sanctions put in place when Congress passed and you signed into law the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (NDAA). Since the passage of that legislation, we have seen a spate of increasingly hostile actions and statements coming from Iran. From the December Iranian naval exercises in the Sea of Oman, to threats to prevent the passage of international oil shipments through the Strait of Hormuz, to an Iranian court's recent sentencing to death of American Amir Hekmati, to the Iranian military chief's warning that U.S. naval vessels will not be allowed to re-enter the Persian Gulf, it is clear that leaders in Iran are feeling the bite of these crippling new sanctions.

However, at this time of unprecedented national unity and international cooperation in taking every possible step to prevent Iran from acquiring the ability to make and use nuclear weapons, your statement at the signing of the NDAA that, with respect to the sanctions regime in the new law, you "will treat the provisions as non-binding," creates a damaging level of confusion and ambiguity about America's position on this critical issue.

As you know, the sanctions language was written with bipartisan cooperation in the Senate and both houses of Congress have supported the creation of this new sanctions regime with the hope that it will cut off the Iranian financial and petroleum sectors that have long been used to advance Iran's nuclear ambitions. Most importantly, the sanctions target the Central Bank of Iran (CBI) and the foreign entities it does business with in order to financially and politically isolate the regime over their relentless pursuit of nuclear weapons capabilities.

Upon signing the bill, you indicated that the sanctions program language was advisory only. It is not. As a co-equal branch of government, Congress has acted with overwhelming bipartisanship to put in place this tool to combat Iran's continued march towards nuclear weapons capability. We respectfully urge you to clarify that your intent is to fully and forcefully implement these provisions. We hope we can continue to work with your Administration to shut off the spigot of financial support that has allowed Iran to continue to thwart international engagement thus far.

Mr. President, we all agree that a nuclear Iran poses a grave threat to the security and stability of the region and the world. Furthermore, clear and compelling evidence shows that Iran's state-sponsored financial institutions have allowed them to fund and facilitate nuclear weapons research, development, and testing. The new sanctions are an important step in curtailing these activities.

At this critical time of engagement when the world must convince Iran to abandon its disastrous nuclear ambitions, there needs to be surety that America and our allies will use every possible measure to prevent a nuclear-armed Iran. We respectfully request your Administration brief us at the earliest opportunity on how specifically you plan to implement the new sanctions and in particular, how your signing statement and potential reservations will impact the effectiveness of this effort.

We look forward to working together to ensure the safety and security of the U.S., the region, and the world.

Very truly yours,

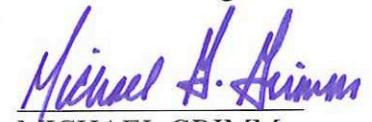

PETER ROSKAM
Member of Congress

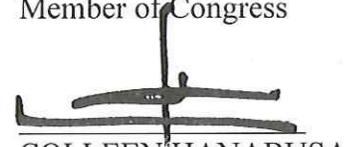

DAN LIPINSKI
Member of Congress

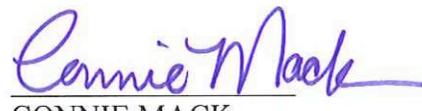

LEONARD LANCE
Member of Congress


GARY PETERS
Member of Congress


DOUG LAMBORN
Member of Congress


MICHAEL GRIMM
Member of Congress

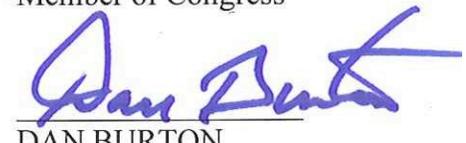

COLLEEN HANABUSA
Member of Congress


CONNIE MACK
Member of Congress


BOB TURNER
Member of Congress

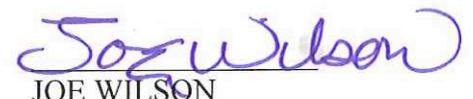

PETER KING
Member of Congress


BOB DOLD
Member of Congress


DAN BURTON
Member of Congress


DON MANZULLO
Member of Congress


JEAN SCHMIDT
Member of Congress


JOE WILSON
Member of Congress


MICHAEL MCCAUL
Member of Congress


JEFF DUNCAN
Member of Congress


BILL JOHNSON
Member of Congress


TIM GRIFFIN
Member of Congress


TOM MARINO
Member of Congress


DAVID RIVERA
Member of Congress

Glenn Emerson
Member of Congress

T. McBeth
Member of Congress

Steven Beach
Member of Congress

Lamar Smith
Member of Congress

K. Michael Long
Member of Congress

Stewart Parnell
Member of Congress

Lynn A. Westcott
Member of Congress

Frank Rosten
Member of Congress

Rady Forbes
Member of Congress

John Kline
Member of Congress

Shelley Moore Capito
Member of Congress

Tim Cole
Member of Congress

[Signature]
Member of Congress

Lee Boast
Member of Congress

Ray Walden
Member of Congress

Judy Biggart
Member of Congress

Joyang
Member of Congress

Jim Gohmert
Member of Congress

Rice [Signature]
Member of Congress TX-17

B. C. [Signature]
Member of Congress

[Signature]
Member of Congress

Debbie Black
Member of Congress

Rina [Signature]
Member of Congress

Alan Nunnelee
Member of Congress

Nan Hayworth
Member of Congress

A. Conser [Signature]
Member of Congress TX-23

Sam Johnson
Member of Congress

[Signature]
Member of Congress

Virginia Fox
Member of Congress

Hyatt [Signature]
Member of Congress

Mike Coffman
Member of Congress

[Signature]
Member of Congress

Paul [Signature]
Member of Congress

[Signature]
Member of Congress

[Signature]
Member of Congress TN-04

[Signature]
Member of Congress

Pat Tiberius
Member of Congress

Cynthia Lummis
Member of Congress

Eric Swalley
Member of Congress

Ken Yoder
Member of Congress

Patrick J. Toomey
Member of Congress

Codd Rotzler
Member of Congress

Jeff Labadie
Member of Congress

Tim Ryan
Member of Congress

Doc Oberstar
Member of Congress

David Bonior
Member of Congress

Bob Casey
Member of Congress

Amy Sisk
Member of Congress

Stouffer Plagge
Member of Congress

Amodeo Crossin
Member of Congress

2077e
Member of Congress

AP Walsh
Member of Congress

Harley Latta
Member of Congress

John A. Boehner
Member of Congress

David P. Roe
Member of Congress

Tim Walberg
Member of Congress

CPA
Member of Congress

Charles F. Fleischman
Member of Congress

Patrick Leahy
Member of Congress

Anna Chao
Member of Congress

Don Bonior
Member of Congress

Bob Livers
Member of Congress 04-15

SP
Member of Congress

D. Bill
Member of Congress

Ranney Neundorfer
Member of Congress

Bob Goodlatte
Member of Congress

Tom Alban
Member of Congress

Eric Swell
Member of Congress

MEMBER		STATE
Spencer	Bachus	AL
Joe	Barton	TX
Dan	Benishek	MI
Judy	Biggert	IL
Diane	Black	TN
Kevin	Brady	TX
Dan	Burton	IN
John	Campbell	CA
Francisco	Canseco	TX
Shelley		
Moore	Capito	WV
Bill	Cassidy	LA
Jason	Chaffetz	UT
Mike	Coffman	CO
Tom	Cole	OK
Michael	Conaway	TX
Chip	Cravaack	MN
Ander	Crenshaw	FL
Geoff	Davis	KY
Scott	DesJarlais	TN
Mario	Diaz-Balart	FL
Robert	Dold	IL
Jeff	Duncan	SC
Jo Ann	Emerson	MO
Steven	Fincher	TN
Jeff	Flake	AZ
Charles	Fleischmann	TN
Bill	Flores	TX
Randy	Forbes	VA
Virginia	Foxx	NC
Trent	Franks	AZ
Chris	Gibson	NY
Bob	Goodlatte	VA
Tim	Griffin	AK
Michael	Grimm	NY
Colleen	Hanabusa	HI
Richard	Hanna	NY
Nan	Hayworth	NY
Randy	Hultgren	IL
Robert	Hurt	VA
Bill	Johnson	OH

Sam	Johnson	TX
Peter	King	NY
Adam	Kinzinger	IL
John	Kline	MN
Doug	Lamborn	CO
Leonard	Lance	NJ
Tom	Latham	IA
Dan	Lipinski	IL
Cynthia	Lummis	WY
Connie	Mack	FL
Don	Manzullo	IL
Tom	Marino	PA
Mike	McCaul	TX
Tom	McClintock	CA
Thad	McCotter	MI
Patrick	McHenry	NC
David	McKinley	WV
Patrick	Meehan	PA
John	Mica	FL
Randy	Neugabauer	TX
Richard	Nugent	FL
Alan	Nunnelee	MS
Pete	Olson	TX
Steven	Palazzo	MS
Erik	Paulsen	MN
Steve	Pearce	NM
Gary	Peters	MI
Mike	Pompeo	KS
Tom	Reed	NY
Dave	Reichert	WA
David	Rivera	FL
Phil	Roe	TN
Todd	Rokita	IN
Peter	Roskam	IL
Bobby	Schilling	IL
Jean	Schmidt	OH
Aaron	Schock	IL
Terri	Sewell	AL
Lamar	Smith	TX
Steve	Stivers	OH
Pat	Tiberi	OH
Bob	Turner	NY
Tim	Walberg	MI

Greg	Walden	OR
Joe	Walsh	IL
Lynn	Westmoreland	GA
Joe	Wilson	SC
Kevin	Yoder	KS
Todd	Young	IN