

May 7, 2015

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As negotiations over Iran's nuclear program continue, we urge you to stay on course, building on the recently announced political framework and continuing to work toward a strong and verifiable agreement between the P5+1 countries and Iran that will prevent Iran from having a nuclear weapon. We commend you and your negotiating team, as well as our coalition partners, for the significant progress made thus far.

This issue is above politics. The stakes are too great, and the alternatives are too dire. We must exhaust every avenue toward a verifiable, enforceable, diplomatic solution in order to prevent a nuclear-armed Iran. If the United States were to abandon negotiations or cause their collapse, not only would we fail to peacefully prevent a nuclear-armed Iran, we would make that outcome more likely. The multilateral sanctions regime that brought Iran to the table would likely collapse, and the Iranian regime would likely decide to accelerate its nuclear program, unrestricted and unmonitored. Such developments could lead us to war.

War itself will not make us safe. A U.S. or Israeli military strike may set back Iranian nuclear development by two or three years at best - a significantly shorter timespan than that covered by a P5+1 negotiated agreement. We must pursue diplomatic means to their fullest and allow the negotiations to run their course – especially now that the parties have announced a strong framework – and continue working to craft a robust and verifiable Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action by June 30.

We must allow our negotiating team the space and time necessary to build on the progress made in the political framework and turn it into a long-term, verifiable agreement. If we do not succeed, Congress will remain at-the-ready to act and present you with additional options to ensure that Iran is prevented from acquiring a nuclear weapon

Thank you for your resolve in preventing a nuclear-armed Iran. We look forward to continuing our shared work on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress

Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress

David E. Price
Member of Congress

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Signers (150 total, in alphabetical order):

Adams, Alma (NC), Aguilar (CA), Ashford (NE), Bass (CA), Beatty (OH), Becerra (CA), Bera (CA), Beyer (VA), Bishop, S. (GA), Blumenauer (OR), Bonamici (OR), Bordallo (Guam), Brady (PA), Brown, Corrine (FL), Brownley (CA), Bustos (IL), Butterfield (NC), Capps (CA), Capuano (MA), Cardenas (CA), Carney (DE), Carson (IN), Cartwright (PA), Castor (FL), Castro (TX), Chu (CA), Cicilline (RI), Clark, Katherine (MA), Clarke, Yvette (NY), Clay (MO), Cleaver (MO), Clyburn (SC), Cohen (TN), Connolly (VA), Conyers (MI), Courtney (CT), Cummings (MD), Davis, D. (IL), Davis, S. (CA), DeFazio (OR), DeGette (CO), DeLauro (CT), DelBene (WA), DeSaulnier (CA), Dingell (MI), Doggett (TX), Doyle (PA), Duckworth (IL), Edwards (MD), Ellison (MN), Eshoo (CA), Esty (CT), Farr (CA), Fattah (PA), Foster (IL), Fudge (OH), Gallego (AZ), Garamendi (CA), Green, Al (TX), Grijalva (AZ), Gutierrez (IL), Hahn (CA), Heck (WA), Higgins (NY), Hinojosa (TX), Honda (CA), Huffman (CA), Jackson Lee (TX), Jeffries (NY), Johnson, E.B. (TX), Johnson, H. (GA), Kaptur (OH), Keating (MA), Kelly (IL), Kennedy (MA), Kildee (MI), Kind, Ron (WI), Kuster (NH), Langevin (RI), Larsen (WA), Larson (CT), Lawrence (MI), Lee (CA), Lewis (GA), Lieu (CA), Loeb (IA), Lofgren (CA), Lowenthal (CA), Lujan (NM), Lujan Grisham (NM), Lynch (MA), Maloney, S (NY), Matsui (CA), McCollum (MN), McDermott (WA), McGovern (MA), McNerney (CA), Meeks (NY), Moore (WI), Moulton (MA), Napolitano (CA), Neal (MA), Nolan (MN), Norton (DC), O'Rourke (TX), Payne (NJ), Pelosi (CA), Perlmutter (CO), Pierluisi (Puerto Rico), Pingree (ME), Plaskett (Virgin Islands), Pocan (WI), Polis (CO), Price (NC), Rangel (NY), Richmond (LA), Roybal-Allard (CA), Ruiz (CA), Ruppertsberger (MD), Rush (IL), Ryan, Tim (OH), Sablan (Northern Mariana Islands), Sanchez, Linda (CA), Sanchez, Loretta (CA), Schakowsky (IL), Scott, Bobby (VA), Scott, David (GA), Serrano (NY), Sewell (AL), Slaughter (NY), Smith, Adam (WA), Speier (CA), Swalwell (CA), Takai (HI), Takano (CA), Thompson, B. (MS), Thompson, M. (CA), Tonko (NY), Torres (CA), Tsongas (MA), Van Hollen (MD), Veasey (TX), Velazquez (NY), Visclosky (IN), Walz (MN), Waters (CA), Watson Coleman (NJ), Welch (VT), Wilson (FL), Yarmuth (KY), ,