

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

November 14, 2013

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Republican Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Majority Leader Reid and Republican Leader McConnell:

We urge you and your colleagues in the Senate to act swiftly to continue consideration of rigorous Iran sanctions legislation.

We believe that as the United States negotiates with the P5+1 group and Tehran, it is critical to maximize U.S. leverage against the Iranian regime. The possibility of tighter sanctions will enhance our leverage in the nuclear standoff between the Iran's Supreme Leader and the international community. Despite Hassan Rouhani's attempt to portray Iran's government in a new light, the objective of the Iranian regime remains the same: the pursuit of a nuclear weapons capability.

The House has already passed legislation with the support of 400 bipartisan Representatives to increase economic pressure on the Iranian regime as it develops its nuclear weapons program. For more than three months this legislation, the *Nuclear Iran Prevention Act*, has been pending in the Senate. Meanwhile, the Iranian government presses forward and each day the world becomes less safe.

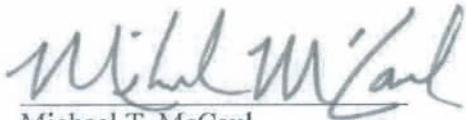
While recent assessments of the progress of Iran's nuclear program vary—with some estimating that Iran is only weeks away from producing weapons-grade uranium—what is clear is that time is running short. Protracted negotiations may give Iran more time to spin its centrifuges, while the threat of enhanced sanctions holds the promise of compelling Iran to give up its ambitions.

While we support diplomatic efforts toward an Iran free of nuclear weapons and free of nuclear weapons breakout capability, the sanctions pressure must be maintained. Every day, existing sanctions may be weakened as Iran finds loopholes and business partners willing to evade existing sanctions.

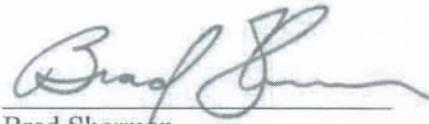
Even Hassan Rouhani, the country's new president, bragged in 2006 that Iran had deceived European negotiators into talks while it continued to develop its nuclear program. We should ensure that tougher penalties be available should Tehran be found to be using the negotiations for stalling tactics.

The deliberative process in Congress is lengthy, and many steps remain before legislation on Iran would be sent to the President. We believe, therefore, that the Senate can continue the work necessary to develop sanctions legislation without fear of short-circuiting diplomacy.

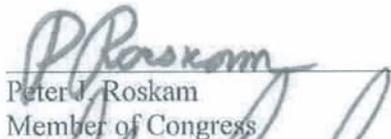
Sincerely,



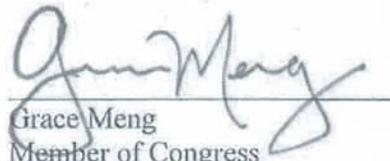
Michael T. McCaul  
Member of Congress



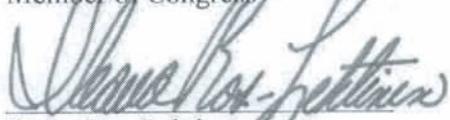
Brad Sherman  
Member of Congress



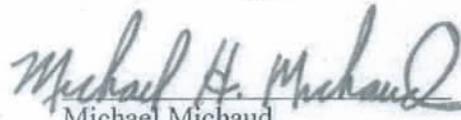
Peter J. Roskam  
Member of Congress



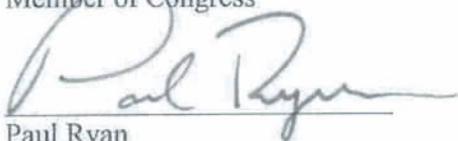
Grace Meng  
Member of Congress



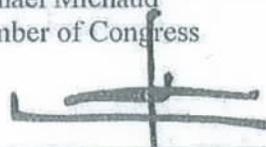
Ileana Ros-Lehtinen  
Member of Congress



Michael Michaud  
Member of Congress



Paul Ryan  
Member of Congress



Colleen Hanabusa  
Member of Congress



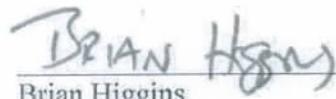
Ted Poe  
Member of Congress



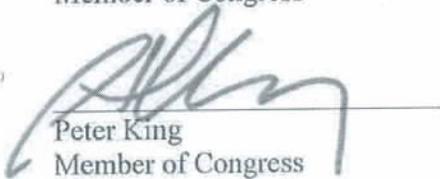
Gene Green  
Member of Congress



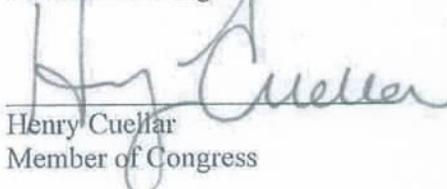
Pete Sessions  
Member of Congress



Brian Higgins  
Member of Congress



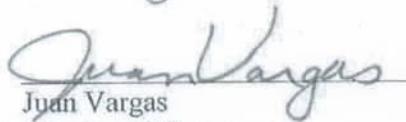
Peter King  
Member of Congress



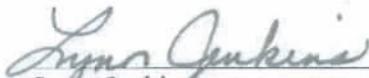
Henry Cuellar  
Member of Congress



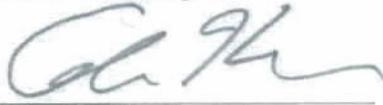
Daniel Lipinski  
Member of Congress



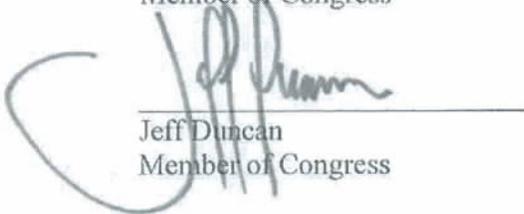
Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



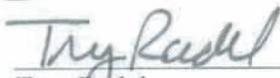
Lynn Jenkins  
Member of Congress



Adam Kinzinger  
Member of Congress



Jeff Duncan  
Member of Congress



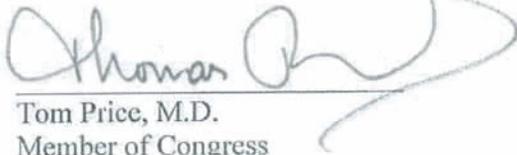
Trey Radel  
Member of Congress



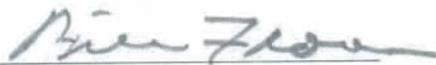
Mike Kelly  
Member of Congress



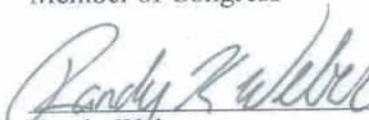
Steve Stockman  
Member of Congress



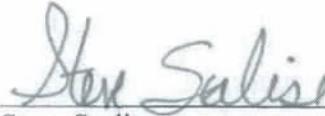
Tom Price, M.D.  
Member of Congress



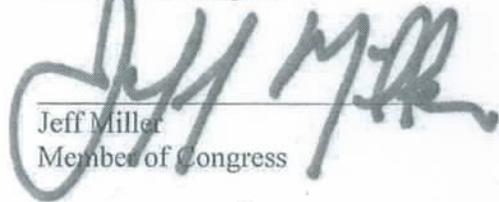
Bill Flores  
Member of Congress



Randy Weber  
Member of Congress



Steve Scalise  
Member of Congress



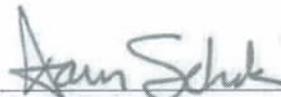
Jeff Miller  
Member of Congress



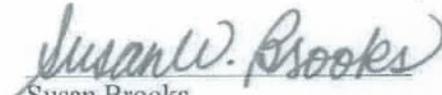
George Holding  
Member of Congress



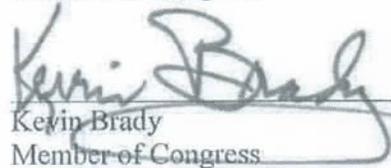
Ron DeSantis  
Member of Congress



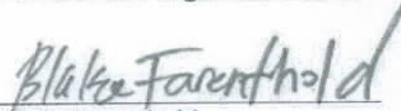
Aaron Schock  
Member of Congress



Susan Brooks  
Member of Congress



Kevin Brady  
Member of Congress



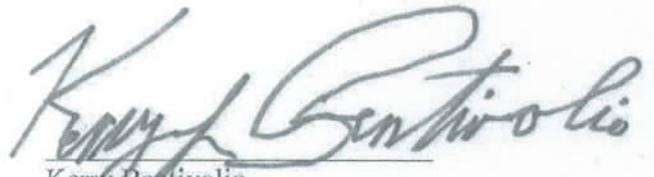
Blake Farenthold  
Member of Congress



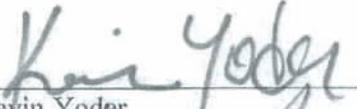
Leonard Lance  
Member of Congress



Vern Buchanan  
Member of Congress



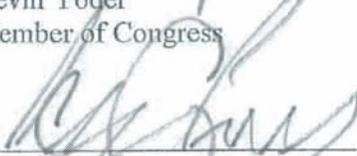
Kerry Bentivolio  
Member of Congress



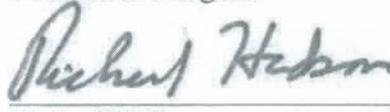
Kevin Yoder  
Member of Congress



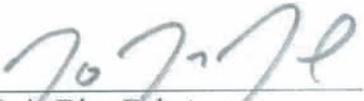
Michele Bachmann  
Member of Congress



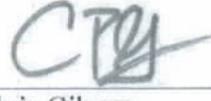
Scott Perry  
Member of Congress



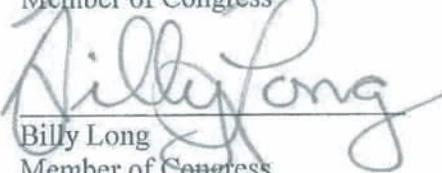
Richard Hudson  
Member of Congress



Mario Diaz-Balart  
Member of Congress



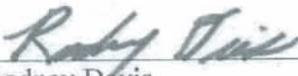
Chris Gibson  
Member of Congress



Billy Long  
Member of Congress



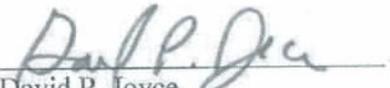
Andy Barr  
Member of Congress



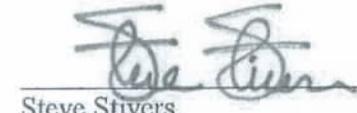
Rodney Davis  
Member of Congress



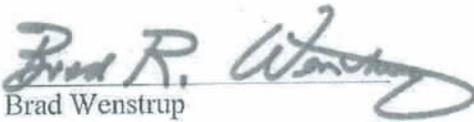
Chris Collins  
Member of Congress



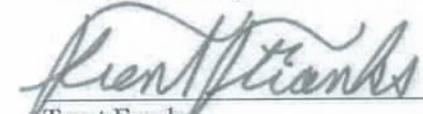
David P. Joyce  
Member of Congress



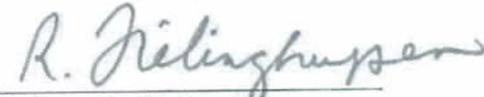
Steve Stivers  
Member of Congress



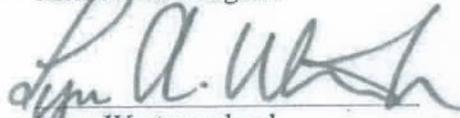
Brad Wenstrup  
Member of Congress



Trent Franks  
Member of Congress



Rodney Frelinghuysen  
Member of Congress



Lynn Westmoreland  
Member of Congress



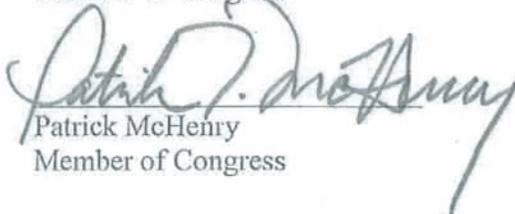
Brad Schneider  
Member of Congress



Steve Pearce  
Member of Congress



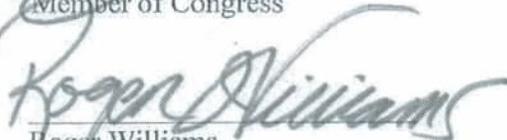
Gus Bilirakis  
Member of Congress



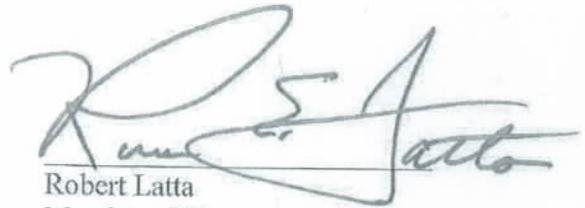
Patrick McHenry  
Member of Congress



Jack Kingston  
Member of Congress



Roger Williams  
Member of Congress



Robert Latta  
Member of Congress



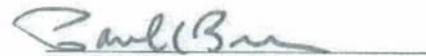
Jim Gerlach  
Member of Congress



Doug Lamborn  
Member of Congress



Doug LaMalfa  
Member of Congress



Paul C. Broun, M.D.  
Member of Congress

Cc: Hon. Tim Johnson, Chairman, Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban  
Development  
Hon. Mike Crapo, Chairman, Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban  
Development  
Hon. Robert Menendez, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations  
Hon. Bob Corker, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations