



**One Hundred Seventeenth Congress  
Committee on Homeland Security  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515**

February 22, 2021

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

In the interest of homeland security, we write to express our gravest concern over the possibility of sanctions relief for the Islamic Republic of Iran. As one of the longest standing countries listed by the U.S. State Department as a State Sponsor of Terrorism, Iran has repeatedly provided support for acts of international terrorism and has shown flagrant disregard for any restrictive measures placed upon the regime's nuclear program.<sup>1</sup>

Iran's malign activities, including its nuclear program, ballistic and cruise missile development, weapons proliferation, support for terrorism, hostage-taking, cyberattacks, and gross human rights violations, are unconscionable. Regime demands for sanctions relief as a prerequisite for the Administration's proposed bilateral negotiations are not made in good faith. Rather, Iran will remain receptive only to measures which fit its own interests in seeking nuclear armament. The United States must apply immense pressure to the Iranian regime and cannot afford to be perceived as weak or wavering on these important national security threats. Appeasement will not effectuate change.

It is the policy of the United States not to allow Iran to develop or otherwise acquire a nuclear weapons capability. Sanctions are an important point of leverage if we intend to achieve this goal diplomatically and peacefully. Lifting sanctions will only serve to back the United States into an inescapable corner and removes any power we hold in our attempts to normalize Iranian and United States relations.

Our first duty in governing is to protect American national security. Any decision by the Biden Administration to provide sanctions relief to Iran would be an historic mistake that placates a dangerous and erratic nation which poses an ever-imminent threat to American democracy and national security. Under no circumstance can we allow Iran to develop a nuclear weapon. We implore you to reconsider lifting these sanctions.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.state.gov/state-sponsors-of-terrorism/>

Sincerely,



JOHN KATKO  
Ranking Member



CLAY HIGGINS  
Member of Congress



DAN BISHOP  
Member of Congress



RALPH NORMAN  
Member of Congress



DIANA HARSHBARGER  
Member of Congress



CARLOS A. GIMENEZ  
Member of Congress



PETER MEIJER  
Member of Congress



AUGUST PFLUGER  
Member of Congress



MICHAEL GUEST  
Member of Congress



JEFF VAN DREW  
Member of Congress



MARIANNETTE MILLER-MEEKS  
Member of Congress



ANDREW CLYDE  
Member of Congress



JAKE LATURNER  
Member of Congress



KAT CAMMACK  
Member of Congress



ANDREW GARBARINO  
Member of Congress