

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 16, 2012

The Honorable Barack Obama  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500


Dear President Obama:

Earlier this month you visited Afghanistan to sign a Strategic Partnership Agreement. As you stated at Bagram Air Base, "this time of war began in Afghanistan, and this is where it will end." The core of al Qaeda has been greatly reduced in size and ability to attack Americans. Our brave men and women in uniform have done everything that we have asked of them. With over 17,000 dead and wounded U.S. servicemen and women, and long term costs estimated at \$4 trillion for the past decade of unfunded wars, the overwhelming majority of American people want to bring the war in Afghanistan to an expedited end.


While many of us would prefer an immediate full withdrawal from Afghanistan, there is broad, bipartisan consensus in Congress and across America that it is time to accelerate the transition from U.S. to full Afghan control. We also remind you that any agreement committing U.S. troops to Afghanistan must have congressional approval to be binding.

Therefore, at the upcoming NATO summit in Chicago, we ask that you announce an accelerated transition of security responsibility to the Afghan government and security forces and the expedited withdrawal of our troops from Afghanistan as quickly as these can be safely and responsibly accomplished.

Sincerely,

  
BARBARA LEE  
Member of Congress

  
WALTER JONES  
Member of Congress

  
TAMMY BALDWIN  
Member of Congress

  
KAREN BASS  
Member of Congress

  
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Member of Congress

  
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Member of Congress


  
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Member of Congress

  
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Member of Congress

  
LOIS CAPPS  
Member of Congress


  
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Member of Congress

  
KATHY CASTOR  
Member of Congress

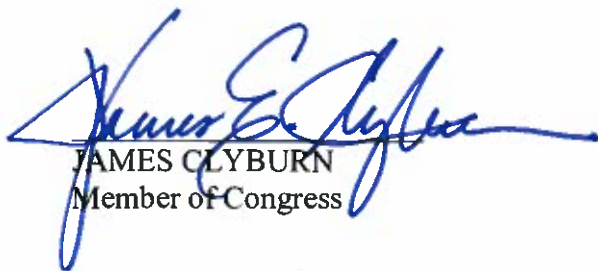
  
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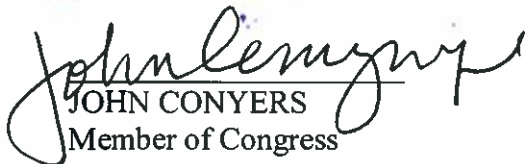
  
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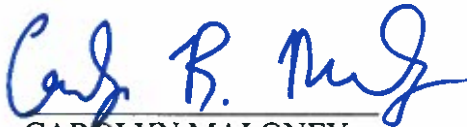
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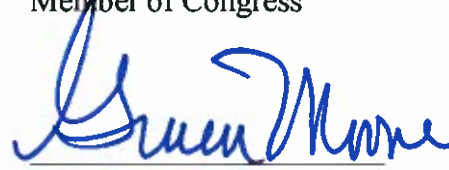
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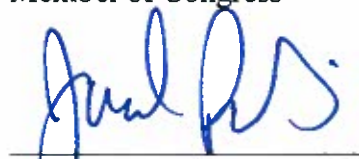
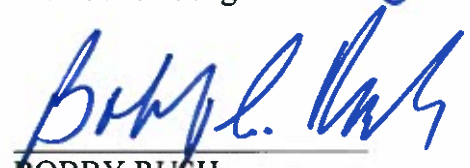
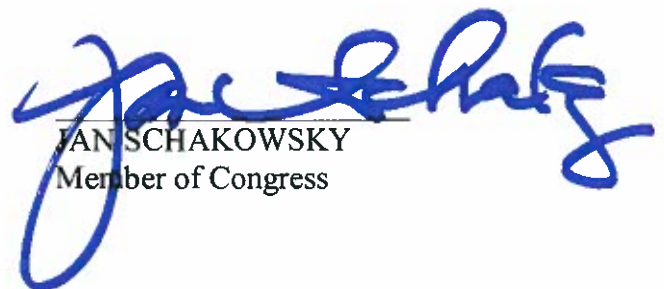


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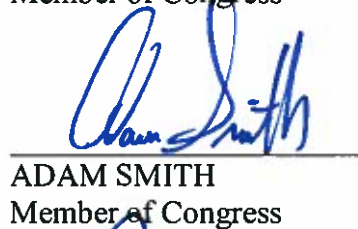
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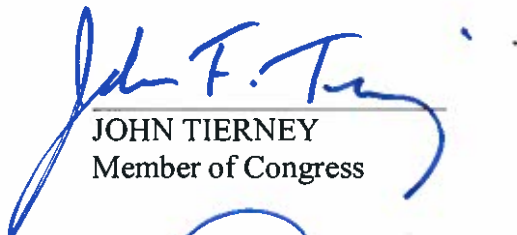
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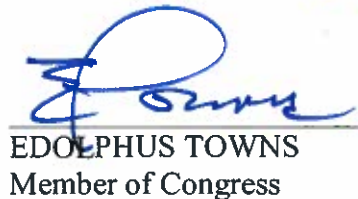
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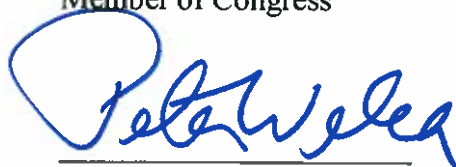
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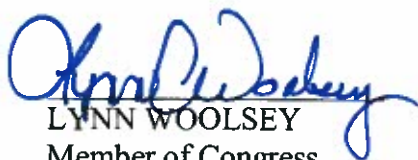
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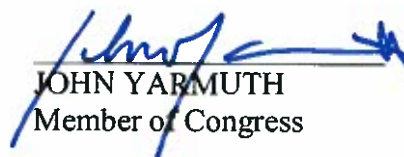
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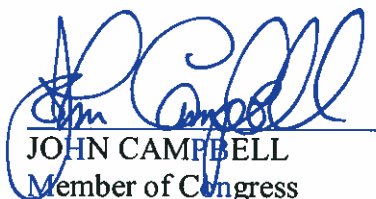
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JOHN CAMPBELL  
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ELIJAH CUMMINGS  
Member of Congress



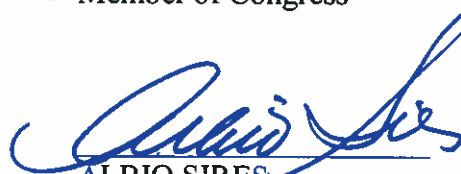
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Member of Congress



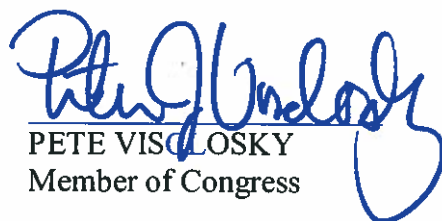
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Member of Congress



ALBIO SIRES  
Member of Congress



PETE VISCIOSKY  
Member of Congress





ANNA ESHOO  
Member of Congress



JIM LANGEVIN  
Member of Congress



SILVESTRE REYES  
Member of Congress

**The signers of the May 17, 2012 Lee-Jones letter to President Obama regarding Afghanistan**

- |                     |                      |                    |
|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Baldwin          | 41. Jackson, Jr.     | 80. Sherman        |
| 2. Bass             | 42. Johnson, Eddie   | 81. Sires          |
| 3. Becerra          | Bernice              | 82. Slaughter      |
| 4. Blumenauer       | 43. Johnson, Hank    | 83. Smith, Adam    |
| 5. Boswell          | 44. Johnson, Tim     | 84. Speier         |
| 6. Braley           | 45. Kucinich         | 85. Stark          |
| 7. Campbell         | 46. Langevin         | 86. Thompson, Mike |
| 8. Capps Capuano    | 47. Larsen           | 87. Tierney        |
| 9. Castor           | 48. Larson           | 88. Tonko          |
| 10. Chu             | 49. Lewis            | 89. Towns          |
| 11. Cicilline       | 50. Loeb sack        | 90. Tsongas        |
| 12. Clarke, Yvette  | 51. Lofgren          | 91. Valezquez      |
| 13. Clay            | 52. Lujan            | 92. Visclosky      |
| 14. Cleaver         | 53. Maloney          | 93. Waters         |
| 15. Clyburn         | 54. Markey           | 94. Watt           |
| 16. Cohen           | 55. McCollum         | 95. Waxman         |
| 17. Conyers         | 56. McDermott        | 96. Welch          |
| 18. Costello        | 57. McGovern         | 97. Wilson         |
| 19. Courtney        | 58. Michaud          | 98. Woolsey        |
| 20. Cummings        | 59. Miller, George   | 99. Yarmuth        |
| 21. Dafazio         | 60. Moore            |                    |
| 22. DeLauro         | 61. Moran            |                    |
| 23. Duncan, John    | 62. Murphy, Chris    |                    |
| 24. Edwards         | 63. Nadler           |                    |
| 25. Ellison         | 64. Napolitano       |                    |
| 26. Eschoo          | 65. Olver            |                    |
| 27. Farr            | 66. Pastor           |                    |
| 28. Filner          | 67. Paul             |                    |
| 29. Frank           | 68. Pingree          |                    |
| 30. Garamendi       | 69. Polis            |                    |
| 31. Grijalva        | 70. Quigley          |                    |
| 32. Gutierrez       | 71. Rangel           |                    |
| 33. Hahn            | 72. Reyes            |                    |
| 34. Hanabusa        | 73. Richardson       |                    |
| 35. Hastings, Alcee | 74. Roybal-Allard    |                    |
| 36. Heinrich        | 75. Rush             |                    |
| 37. Hinchey         | 76. Sanchez, Loretta |                    |
| 38. Hirono          | 77. Schakowsky       |                    |
| 39. Holt            | 78. Schiff           |                    |
| 40. Honda           | 79. Serrano          |                    |