

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
The President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

April 27, 2022

Dear Mr. President:

Nuclear negotiations with Iran have reached a critical decision point, with talks paused, Iran increasing its aggression, and the way forward uncertain. Senior officials in your administration have suggested a deal might still be possible but have also warned they might need to “very quickly consider an alternative path.” Congress and the nation deserve to understand how your administration plans to fulfill your “[unshakable commitment to prevent Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon](#),” yet to date only closed-door classified briefings have been provided to Congress. This is a start, but it is not enough. Special Envoy Robert Malley works for the American people, and he should answer to them. Secretary of State Antony Blinken’s commitment to an open relationship with Congress is more important and timelier than ever. On behalf of the American people, we therefore urge you to ask these senior officials to appear before a public hearing to provide crucial transparency about your plans and efforts to prevent a nuclear Iran.

This is even more pressing, given the serious U.S. national security risks of a return to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) with Iran and recent Iranian attacks against U.S. targets in Iraq. The regime in Tehran is advancing its nuclear program so far beyond the original deal that trying to rejoin it provides only diminishing benefits for the United States – as your administration has cautioned repeatedly for months – while giving Iran sanctions relief to ramp up its ongoing aggression against U.S. and allied interests around the Middle East. Additionally, Tehran’s glide path to a legitimized nuclear weapons program under the JCPOA is shorter today than six years ago when the agreement first was implemented.

The Obama administration understood the importance of explaining their policy and objectives to the American people. Officials from that administration, including ones currently serving in your administration, testified publicly before Congress before the JCPOA was agreed to in 2015. With uncertainty surrounding the status of the negotiation the American people have a right to know what their diplomats agreed to in Vienna, what alternatives your administration is considering, and how you intend to address the wider range of threats from Iran – including its increasingly dangerous missile and drone programs and taking American hostages.

Therefore, we call upon your administration to uphold its [commitments](#) and testify openly on negotiations in front of the full House Foreign Affairs Committee immediately, before any deal is agreed in Vienna or talks collapse.

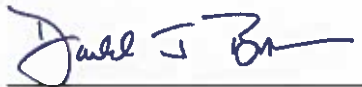
Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Claudia Tenney in blue ink, featuring a stylized 'C' and 'T'.

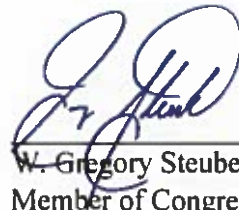
Claudia Tenney
Member of Congress

Handwritten signature of Maria Elvira Salazar in blue ink, featuring a stylized 'M' and 'S'.

Maria Elvira Salazar
Member of Congress

Handwritten signature of Don Bacon in blue ink, featuring a stylized 'D' and 'B'.

Don Bacon
Member of Congress

Handwritten signature of W. Gregory Steube in blue ink, featuring a stylized 'W' and 'S'.

W. Gregory Steube
Member of Congress

Handwritten signature of Ronny L. Jackson in blue ink, featuring a stylized 'R' and 'J'.

Ronny L. Jackson
Member of Congress