

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

August 14, 2017

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, we write to ask that you take a more serious approach to the security of U.S. diplomatic personnel stationed abroad. As you will recall, we wrote you on May 8 asking that you delay no further in nominating a candidate for the position of Assistant Secretary of State for Diplomatic Security. Since that time, no nomination has been made, and we have now learned of the troubling development that Acting Assistant Secretary Bill Miller has tendered his resignation, leaving the position vacant.

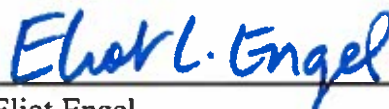
All Americans remember the heartbreak of losing four diplomatic personnel in Benghazi on September 11, 2012, including Ambassador Christopher Stevens. Much was made during last year's election campaign by you and others in your party about the need for greater security for those serving in diplomatic roles abroad. In fact, Members of your party in the House of Representatives established an entire select committee to investigate what transpired in Benghazi and explored in excessive detail – with little regard for the facts – the question of whether enough security had been provided for the late Ambassador and his colleagues. Now, however, it appears that your interest in strengthening the security of our diplomats has disappeared. The budget you proposed would eliminate a fifth of the State Department's funding for diplomatic security, endangering our personnel and their families.

We urge you to nominate an Assistant Secretary of State for Diplomatic Security without delay and to work with our Committee and with the Congress as a whole to ensure that the security of our diplomatic personnel overseas is funded at an appropriate level. The United States must never ask our citizens to serve their nation abroad without providing them the peace of mind that they will be protected while doing so. After making Benghazi such a central issue of your campaign, your disregard for the security of our diplomats sends a terrible message and shows a serious failure of leadership. We urge you to take action on this urgent issue immediately.

Sincerely,



Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress



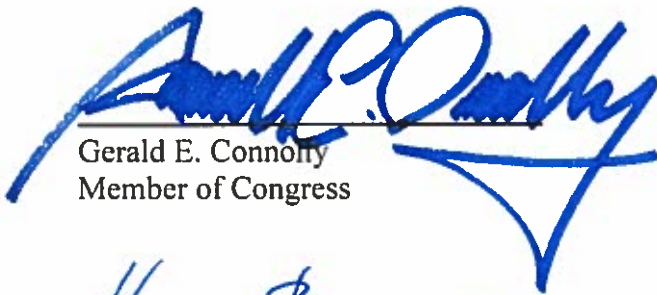
Eliot Engel  
Member of Congress



Brad Sherman  
Member of Congress



Gregory W. Meeks  
Member of Congress



Gerald E. Connolly  
Member of Congress



Ted Deutch  
Member of Congress



Karen Bass  
Member of Congress



William R. Keating  
Member of Congress



David N. Cicilline  
Member of Congress



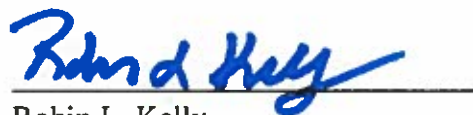
Lois J. Frankel  
Member of Congress



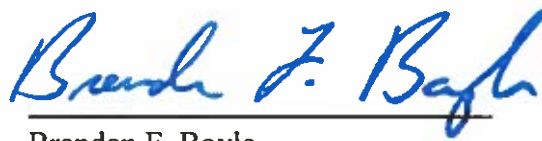
Tulsi Gabbard  
Member of Congress



Joaquin Castro  
Member of Congress



Robin L. Kelly  
Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress



Norma J. Torres  
Member of Congress



Adriano Espaillat  
Member of Congress