

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

March 7, 2022

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

Dear President Biden,

We write today urging you to continue to work with our NATO Allies to provide the Ukrainian Air Force with the additional aircraft needed to defend and secure its skies. In light of reports that you are exploring the option of working with Poland to transfer Soviet-era aircraft to Ukraine, we want to express our support for this effort and encourage you to implement this policy without further delay, including by backfilling Poland's aircraft supply to ensure their security.

On Saturday, March 5th, President Zelenskyy spoke to Members of Congress, describing the grim and distressing situation facing the people of Ukraine following Russia's unprovoked and unjustified invasion of Ukraine's sovereign territory. We commend you for the support you have provided to Ukraine and the sanctions and measures implemented swiftly, in coordination with our allies and partners, in response to Russia's aggression thus far.

There is more work to do. The Ukrainian Air Force was hit hard in the early days of the war and lost significant numbers of aircraft. Despite this, Ukrainian pilots have continued to courageously provide air support for ground troops and defend Ukrainian territory. However, the Ukrainian Air Force requires additional aircraft to secure its skies and protect Ukrainian civilians, who continue to be disproportionately targeted by Russian forces. We have watched the Kremlin purposefully strike hospitals, schools, and residential areas. This is unacceptable.

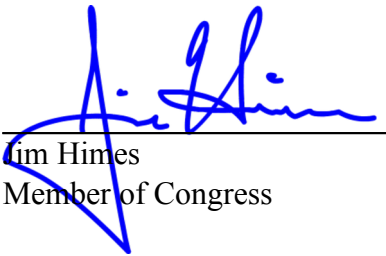
We understand that imposing a no-fly zone in Ukraine at this time raises concern about a possible direct NATO confrontation with Russian forces, which President Putin could use as an excuse to further escalate the conflict. That is why it is even more essential that we work with our NATO Allies – including Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Bulgaria – who are in possession of the Soviet-era jets familiar to the Ukrainian Air Force and that are essential assets for Ukrainians working to defend their sovereign territory. On Sunday, March 6th, Secretary Blinken stated that the U.S. fully backed any member of NATO sending fighter planes to Ukraine. Understandably, reports indicate Poland has voiced concern about transferring these critical assets without backfill, which could degrade their own defensive capabilities and readiness as well as NATO's overall. In order to ensure NATO retains the necessary capabilities, we urge you to provide our NATO Allies who transfer Soviet-era fighter jets to Ukraine other airframes, such as the F-16, to bolster their own defenses.

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By working to transfer aircraft to Ukraine swiftly, the United States and our NATO Allies can continue to demonstrate our staunch support for Ukraine's democracy and sovereignty. We stand ready to assist you in any way necessary to ensure our NATO Allies are able to facilitate a transfer of aircraft to Ukraine rapidly and efficiently.

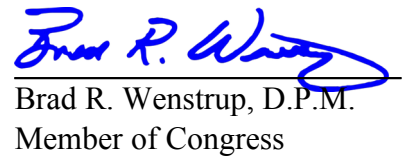
We appreciate your continued efforts and attention to providing Ukraine with the resources it needs to protect its sovereignty and freedom.

Sincerely,



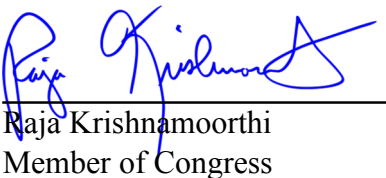
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Jim Himes  
Member of Congress



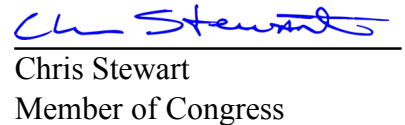
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Brad R. Wenstrup, D.P.M.  
Member of Congress



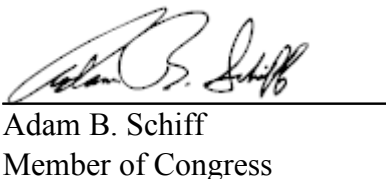
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Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Member of Congress



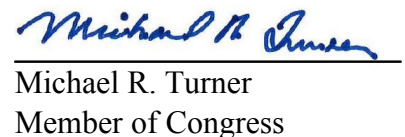
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Chris Stewart  
Member of Congress



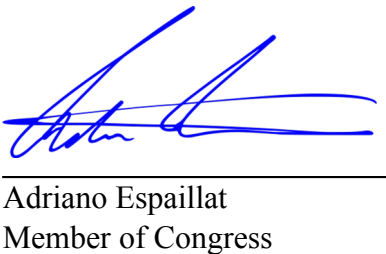
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Adam B. Schiff  
Member of Congress



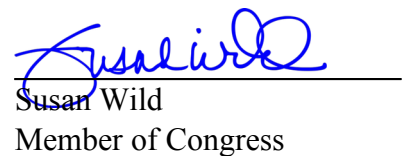
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Michael R. Turner  
Member of Congress



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Adriano Espaillat  
Member of Congress



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Susan Wild  
Member of Congress

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Stephanie Murphy  
Member of Congress



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Brad Sherman  
Member of Congress



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Tom Malinowski  
Member of Congress



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Mike Quigley  
Member of Congress



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Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress



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Chrissy Houlahan  
Member of Congress



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Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress



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Bob Gibbs  
Member of Congress



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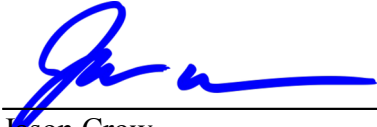
Joe Wilson  
Member of Congress



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Brian K. Fitzpatrick  
Member of Congress

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Jason Crow  
Member of Congress



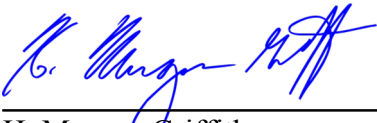
Anthony Gonzalez  
Member of Congress



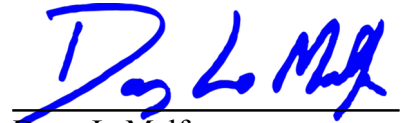
David E. Price  
Member of Congress



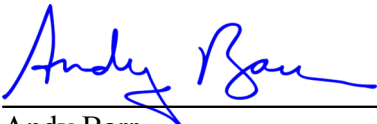
Suzan K. DelBene  
Member of Congress



H. Morgan Griffith  
Member of Congress




Doug LaMalfa  
Member of Congress



Andy Barr  
Member of Congress



Mike Garcia  
Member of Congress

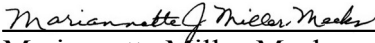


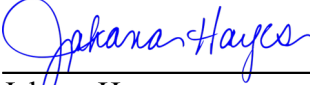
Barry Loudermilk  
Member of Congress

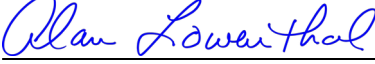



Dina Titus  
Member of Congress


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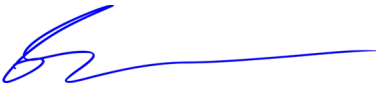
  
Mariannette Miller-Meeks,  
M.D.  
Member of Congress


  
Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress


  
Alan S. Lowenthal  
Member of Congress

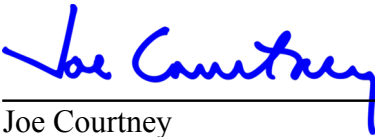
  
Jim Cooper  
Member of Congress


  
Joe Neguse  
Member of Congress

  
Brian J. Mast  
Member of Congress

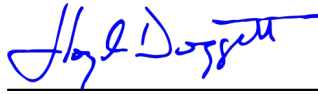
  
Adrian Smith  
Member of Congress

  
Bill Johnson  
Member of Congress

  
Joe Courtney  
Member of Congress

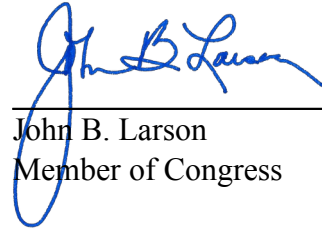
  
Eric A. "Rick" Crawford  
Member of Congress

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Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress



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John B. Larson  
Member of Congress



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Anthony G. Brown  
Member of Congress



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Tracey Mann  
Member of Congress



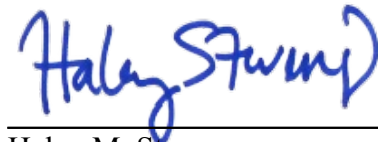
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Michael Waltz  
Member of Congress



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Liz Cheney  
Member of Congress



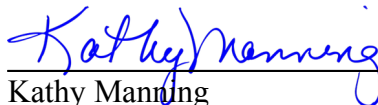
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Haley M. Stevens  
Member of Congress



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Susie Lee  
Member of Congress



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Kathy Manning  
Member of Congress



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Burgess Owens  
Member of Congress

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Peter Meijer M.C.  
Member of Congress



August Pfluger  
Member of Congress



Marcy Kaptur  
Member of Congress



Jackie Speier  
Member of Congress

CC:

The Honorable Lloyd Austin, Secretary of Defense

The Honorable Antony Blinken, Secretary of State