

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

December 18, 2025

The Honorable Marco Rubio
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20520

The Honorable Kristi Noem
Secretary of Homeland Security
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
2707 Martin Luther King, Jr. Ave SE
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Secretary Rubio and Secretary Noem:

We write with concern regarding the Trump administration's response to the horrific shooting of two members of the National Guard on November 26, 2025.

We share our condolences with the loved ones of Specialist Sarah Beckstrom and pray for Staff Sergeant Andrew Wolfe's continued recovery. There is no acceptable justification for the use of violence. We wholeheartedly condemn the shooter's actions and expect that he will be held accountable for his actions to the fullest extent of the law.

The horrific actions of one individual should not be used to vilify every individual from Afghanistan who legally seeks to live in the United States. Afghans who enter the country with a Special Immigrant Visa (SIV), with humanitarian parole, through the refugee resettlement process, or who claim asylum, are subject to a thorough vetting process that can take months to years. Many Afghans continue to face persecution from the Taliban, live in dangerous conditions, or are separated from loved ones as they wait for this process to be completed. Individuals are already vetted through numerous interagency databases including through the Departments of Defense, Homeland Security, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the National Counterterrorism Center.

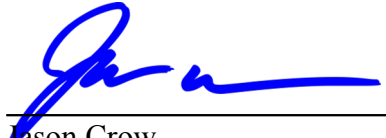
The decision to immediately cease processing all immigration requests relating to Afghan nationals, including those eligible for SIVs, risks the lives of Afghan allies who fought and served alongside American servicemembers. This decision follows actions by the Trump administration to terminate Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Afghanistan, to indefinitely pause all refugee resettlement including Afghans under Priority-1 and Priority-2 categories, to include Afghanistan as one of an original 19 countries on a travel ban, and to seek to deport individuals legally in the country through humanitarian parole programs. Closing every avenue for Afghan nationals – including those who directly supported our mission and troops on the ground in Afghanistan – to seek safety in the United States is wrong.

The administration has further paused all asylum decisions for asylum seekers in the United States, announced it would review immigration applications granted for people from countries included on the travel ban list, including Afghanistan, since January 2021, eliminated a travel ban exception for Afghan SIV holders, and publicly floated calls for “denaturalization” or “remigration.” Once again, this administration has embraced a sledgehammer rather than a scalpel. Collective blame is dangerous, reactionary, and short-sighted.


Exploiting this tragedy to sow division and inflame fear will not make America safer. Abandoning those who made the courageous choice to stand beside us signals to those we may need as allies in the future that we cannot be trusted to honor our commitments. That is a mistake we cannot afford.

We made a promise to our Afghan allies who bravely stood alongside us during 20 years of war and to those who legally seek a life free of the Taliban’s repression, discrimination, and violence. The administration’s response will put those most vulnerable at greater risk, and we urge you to rescind policies that scapegoat all Afghans and entire nationalities for one man’s actions.

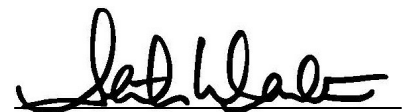
Sincerely,



Jason Crow
Member of Congress




Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress



Seth Moulton
Member of Congress





Doris Matsui
Member of Congress

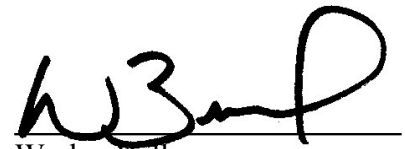


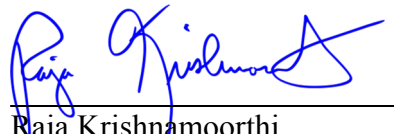
Derek T. Tran
Member of Congress

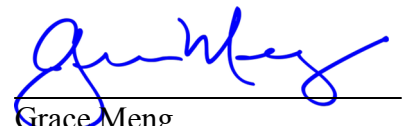

Yassamin Ansari
Member of Congress

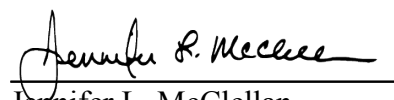

John W. Mannion
Member of Congress

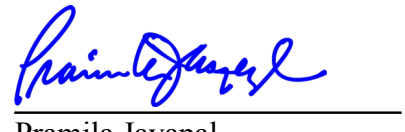

Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress

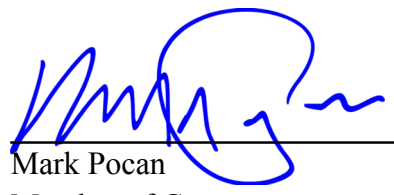

Wesley Bell
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress


Grace Meng
Member of Congress



Jennifer L. McClellan
Member of Congress

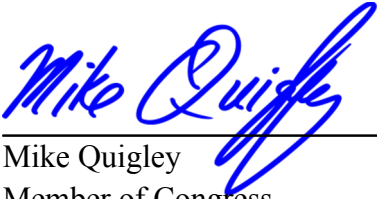

Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress


Mark Pocan
Member of Congress


Sydney Kamlager-Dove
Member of Congress


Rick Larsen
Member of Congress


Chris Deluzio
Member of Congress



Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



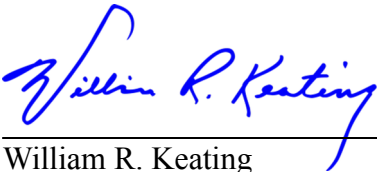
Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



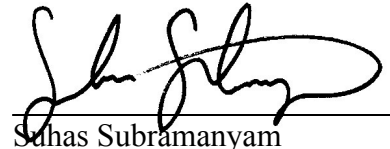
Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress



Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress




William R. Keating
Member of Congress



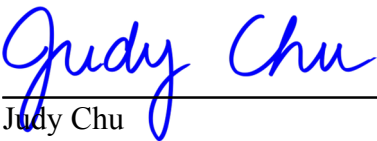
Suhas Subramanyam
Member of Congress



Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



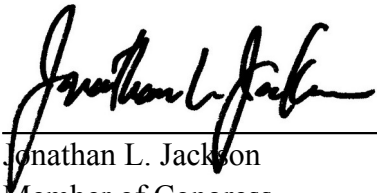
Adam Smith
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Josh Harder
Member of Congress



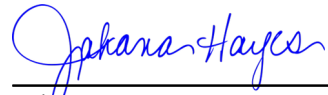
Jonathan L. Jackson
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



Becca Balint
Member of Congress



Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress



Dina Titus
Member of Congress



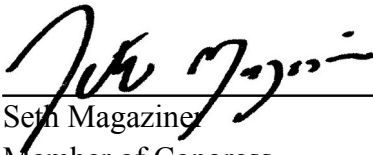
Greg Casar
Member of Congress



Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



Lori Trahan
Member of Congress



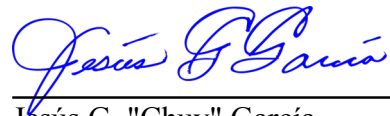
Seth Magaziner
Member of Congress



Maxine Dexter, M.D.
Member of Congress



JM Tokuda
Member of Congress



Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress



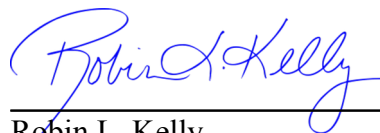
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress



Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress



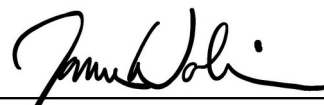
Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



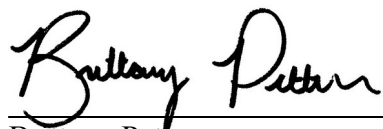
Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress




Sean Casten
Member of Congress



James R. Walkinshaw
Member of Congress



Brittany Pettersen
Member of Congress



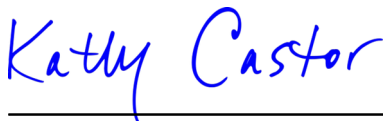
Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



Gabe Amo
Member of Congress



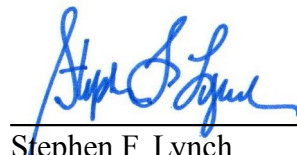
Kathy Castor
Member of Congress



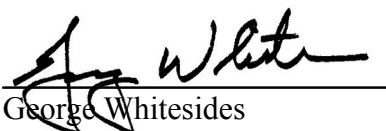
Mary Gay Scanlon
Member of Congress



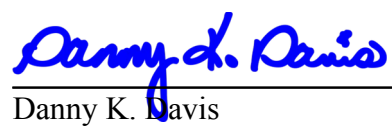
Mike Levin
Member of Congress



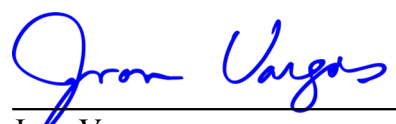
Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



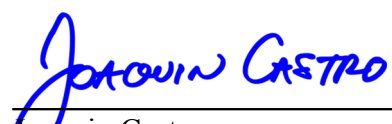
George Whitesides
Member of Congress



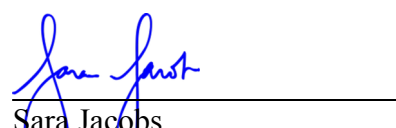
Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas
Member of Congress




Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress



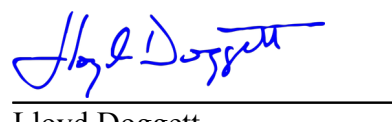
Sara Jacobs
Member of Congress



Adelita S. Grijalva
Member of Congress



Patrick Ryan
Member of Congress



Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress