

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 12, 2019

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

In May of last year, you freed America from the Iran nuclear deal—a flawed agreement that gave Tehran far too much for far too little in return. The deal armed Iran with a windfall of cash, paved the way for Iranian nuclear weapons, and enabled the regime’s ballistic missile and terror schemes, all while its leaders continued to hold American citizens hostage.

Your maximum pressure campaign has successfully sought to deprive Iran of its terror funds. We write to urge you to continue this campaign in full force. Doing so requires that your Administration not renew exceptions for Iranian oil exports.

Countries that were granted exceptions in November have had ample time to reduce their reliance on Iranian oil. Thanks to your Administration’s diplomacy, many countries have already shifted to other sources. Recent reports indicate that the oil market can absorb the elimination of Iranian crude exports this year. In fact, since America’s withdrawal from the nuclear deal, Iran’s oil exports have dropped by over one million barrels per day.

Cutting Iran’s oil exports to zero remains a key, and as yet unfulfilled, part of your Administration’s maximum pressure campaign. State Department Special Representative for Iran Brian Hook said in January that 80 percent of Iran’s revenues come from its oil exports. Forcing Iran off of its oil money would leave the country’s leaders with a choice: they can either finance their own malicious terror schemes abroad, or they can support the Iranian people at home.

Tehran benefits from these oil exceptions. The regime can use revenues from its oil sales to purchase basic imports from major suppliers—thereby freeing up the rest of the country’s coffers for illicit use. These exceptions make it easier for Iran to fund terrorism that threatens not only the United States but our allies, including Israel.

Since leaving the nuclear deal, your Administration has squeezed Iran with an array of shrewd sanctions. This month, you took the unprecedented and necessary step of designating Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps as a foreign terrorist organization. Now, in accordance with your maximum pressure campaign, the regime in Tehran must be pushed further. We urge you not to renew these oil exceptions and ensure that Iran's leaders are unable to put their death chants into action.

Sincerely,



Liz Cheney
Member of Congress



Lee Zeldin
Member of Congress




Mike Gallagher
Member of Congress



Joe Wilson
Member of Congress



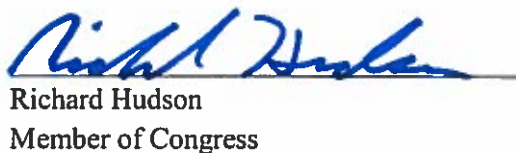
Michael Waltz
Member of Congress



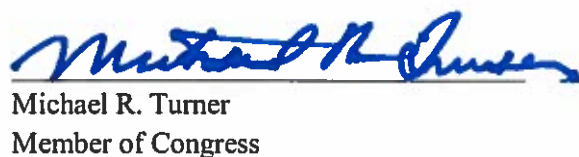
Mark Meadows
Member of Congress



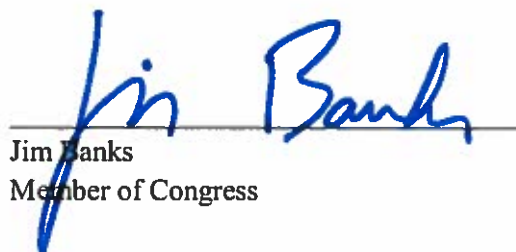
Debbie Lesko
Member of Congress



Richard Hudson
Member of Congress



Michael R. Turner
Member of Congress



Jim Banks
Member of Congress

Doug Lamborn

Doug Lamborn
Member of Congress

Robert Aderholt

Robert Aderholt
Member of Congress

Kelly Armstrong

Kelly Armstrong
Member of Congress

Scott DesJarlais

Scott DesJarlais
Member of Congress

David Kustoff

David Kustoff
Member of Congress

Austin Scott

Austin Scott
Member of Congress

Ted Budd

Ted Budd
Member of Congress

Matt Gaetz

Matt Gaetz
Member of Congress

Rob Woodall

Rob Woodall
Member of Congress

Francis Rooney

Francis Rooney
Member of Congress

Paul Cook

Paul Cook
Member of Congress

Roger Marshall M.D.

Roger Marshall M.D.
Member of Congress



Randy Weber
Member of Congress



Carol D. Miller
Member of Congress



Mark Green
Member of Congress



Paul A. Gosar D.D.S.
Member of Congress



Tom McClintock
Member of Congress



Rick Crawford
Member of Congress



Dusty Johnson
Member of Congress



Ralph Norman
Member of Congress



Brad Wenstrup
Member of Congress



Jody B. Hice
Member of Congress



French Hill
Member of Congress



Mo Brooks
Member of Congress

Andy Harris, M.D.

Andy Harris
Member of Congress