Congress of the United States Washington, VC 20515

November 4th, 2021

The Honorable Joe Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20502

The Honorable Antony Blinken Department of State 2201 C St. NW Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear President Biden and Secretary Blinken:

We write to you with a deep sense of concern over continued tensions in the Korean Peninsula.

We wish to highlight the importance of the United States continuing its efforts to facilitate peace between South Korea and North Korea and bring about democracy for all residents of the Korean Peninsula. We applaud the Biden Administration's support for the Singapore framework, which identifies peace on the Korean peninsula as an objective of any future negotiations between the United States and North Korea. As cosponsors of H.R. 3446, the *Peace on the Korean Peninsula Act*, we recognize that the time for pursuing a diplomatic solution to tensions between North and South Korea is long overdue.

This September, South Korean President Moon Jae-in renewed his call for a mutual declaration ending the 1950 state of war between North and South Korea - a critical step towards peace. Despite this period of conflict ending many decades ago in 1953, a peace treaty was never officially signed.

An official end to the state of war between North Korea, South Korea, and the United States is not a concession to North Korea. Rather, it is a vital step towards peace that serves the national interest of the United States and our allies alike. To that end, we urge the Administration and the Secretary of State to prioritize active diplomatic engagement with North Korea and South Korea with the goal of a binding peace agreement constituting a formal and final end to the state of war between North Korea, South Korea, and the United States.

While North Korea's nuclear weapons continue to pose a threat to peace and security around the world, a forever state of war does not resolve this issue nor does it serve the national interest of the United States and our allies. If anything, the state of war makes progress on the nuclear issue more difficult. We urge you to continue and expand the Administration's efforts to facilitate peace on the Korean Peninsula for the sake of all of its residents, including the relatives of nearly 2 million U.S. citizens of Korean descent.

We look forward to receiving your response.

Sincerely,

Brad Sherman
Member of Congress

Karen Bass Member of Congress

Barbara Lee Member of Congress

Barban Lee

Dwigh Evans Member of Congress

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Andy Kim Member of Congress

Paul D. Tonko Member of Congress

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Thomas R. Suozzi
Member of Congress

Ro Khanna Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress

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Judy Chu Member of Congress

Ilhan Omar Member of Congress

Jesús G. "Chuy" García Member of Congress Rashida Slail

Rashida Tlaib Member of Congress

Roul M. Frijalva

Raúl M. Grijalva Member of Congress

James P. McGovern Member of Congress

Andy Levin Member of Congress

Kaiali'i Kahele Member of Congress

Al Green Member of Congress Premile Jayol

Pramila Jayapal Member of Congress

Jan Schakowsky Member of Congress

Grace Meng Member of Congress

Marilyn Strickland Member of Congress

Katie Porter Member of Congress