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

Thomas R. Suozzi
Member of Congress

Karen Bass
Member of Congress

Ro Khanna
Member of Congress

Barbara Lee
Member of Congress

Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress

Dwigh Evans
Member of Congress

Judy Chu
Member of Congress

Andy Kim
Member of Congress

Ilhan Omar
Member of Congress

Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress

Jesús G. “Chuy” García
Member of Congress
Rashida Tlaib  
Member of Congress

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

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