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One Hundred Seventeenth Congress
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Foreign Affairs
2170 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
www.foreignaffairs.house.gov

May 3, 2021

The Honorable Antony Blinken
Secretary
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Blinken,

We write to request information regarding the United States' diplomatic strategy to ensure International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) access to Iran's nuclear sites.

As you know, in February, Iran withdrew from the Additional Protocol, limiting IAEA inspectors' access to Iran's nuclear sites. At the time, IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi announced a "temporary bilateral technical understanding" that would enable the IAEA to verify Iran's nuclear activity for three months.

With the upcoming expiration of this understanding, we are concerned that the IAEA will lose what visibility it has on Iran's nuclear program. Given Iran's ongoing provocative nuclear behavior, including its announcement that it is enriching uranium at 60 percent, we fear that this opacity has grave implications for U.S. national security, as well as the security of our regional allies. This also puts the United States and our partners at a disadvantage as we seek a "longer and stronger" nuclear deal, as is your stated goal. We urge you to ensure that this issue is resolved as quickly as possible and does not become fodder for negotiation and concession related to the JCPOA.

Please provide details regarding the United States' diplomatic strategy to ensure that the IAEA maintains appropriate access to Iran's nuclear sites. Given the time-sensitive nature of this request, we request your response by May 7.

The Honorable Antony Blinken

May 3, 2021

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Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Michael T. McCaul in blue ink.

MICHAEL T. McCAUL
Ranking Member
House Foreign Affairs Committee

Handwritten signature of Joe Wilson in blue ink.

JOE WILSON
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on the Middle East, North
Africa, and Global Counterterrorism

Handwritten signature of Steve Chabot in blue ink.

STEVE CHABOT
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific,
Central Asia and Nonproliferation