

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rex W. Tillerson
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

June 29, 2017

Dear Mr. Secretary:

We write today to urge you to reject the proposed sale of semi-automatic handguns and ammunition to a Turkish government controlled entity authorized to import firearms to the Department of Security of the Presidency of the Republic of Turkey.

As you know, on May 16, members of President Erdogan's security detail violently attacked peaceful protestors outside the residence of the Turkish Ambassador in Washington, DC. With President Erdogan just feet away, looking on, armed members of his security detail unleashed a vicious attack, targeting non-violent protestors and American Diplomatic Security Officers, resulting in severe neurological, oral, and maxillofacial injuries. Unfortunately, this is only the latest in a series of disturbing attacks by President Erdogan's security forces in the United States, including a brawl at the United Nations, and a series of physical fights in Washington, DC in May 2016. This same security force now stands to be the beneficiary of a potential arms deal.

On June 6, 2017, the House of Representatives spoke strongly and swiftly, voting unanimously to pass House Resolution 354, condemning the violence that took place outside the Ambassador's residence on May 16, and calling on the perpetrators to be brought to justice under U.S. law. We can no longer enable Turkey to compromise our democratic values, and this proposed arms sale is nothing short of an endorsement of the actions of President Erdogan's security force. As such, we strongly urge you to reject this proposed sale and any potential weapons transfer to President Erdogan's security detail.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Dave Trott
Member of Congress



Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress



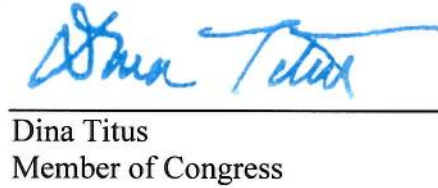
Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



Ted Deutch
Member of Congress



Lucille Roybal Allard
Member of Congress



Dina Titus
Member of Congress



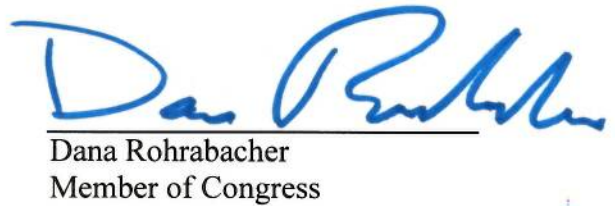
Bill Foster
Member of Congress



Betty McCollum
Member of Congress



Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress



Dana Rohrabacher
Member of Congress



Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress



Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress



John Yarmuth
Member of Congress



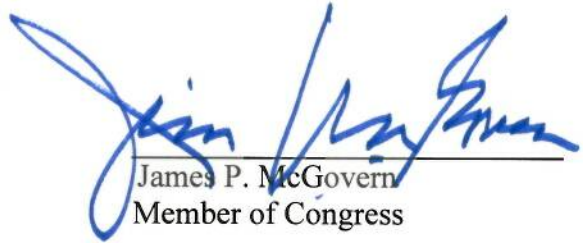
Mike Bishop
Member of Congress



Eliot Engel
Member of Congress



Adam Schiff
Member of Congress



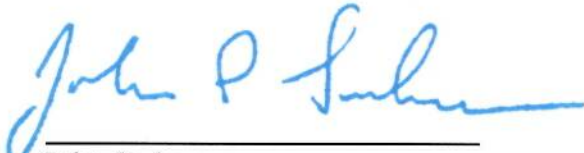
James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Don Beyer
Member of Congress



Jackie Speier
Member of Congress



John Sarbanes
Member of Congress



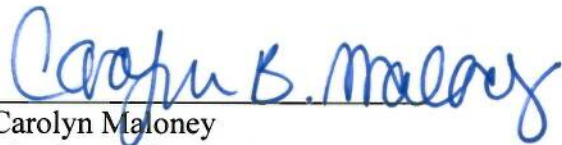
Raul Grijalva
Member of Congress



Grace Napolitano
Member of Congress



David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress



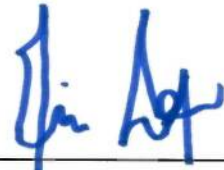
Carolyn Maloney
Member of Congress



Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress



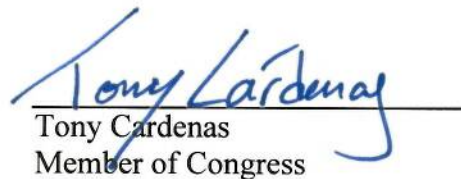
Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Jim Costa
Member of Congress



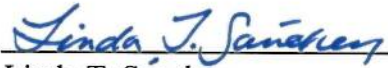
Katherine Clark
Member of Congress



Tony Cardenas
Member of Congress



Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress



Linda T. Sanchez
Member of Congress



Sander Levin
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



Luis V. Gutiérrez
Member of Congress



Devin Nunes
Member of Congress