

A Letter from Major Democratic Donors to Democratic Members of Congress

September 9, 2015

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Senate Democratic Leader  
United States Senate

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin  
Assistant Democratic Leader  
United States Senate

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Vice Chair of the Conference and Chair of  
the Senate Democratic Policy and  
Communications Center  
United States Senate

The Honorable Patty Murray  
Secretary of the Conference  
United States Senate

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Democratic Leader  
United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Steny H. Hoyer  
Democratic Whip  
United States House of Representatives

The Honorable James E. Clyburn  
Assistant Democratic Leader  
United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Xavier Becerra  
Democratic Caucus Chairman  
United States House of Representatives

Dear Democratic Leaders:

We write regarding the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) between the United States, our international partners, and Iran.

An overwhelming consensus of U.S. and international non-proliferation and security experts support this agreement based on their assessment that it severely limits Iran's nuclear program while subjecting it to an intrusive inspections regime, verifiably blocking each of Iran's pathways to a nuclear weapon. Polls have shown that a strong majority of your constituents, the American people, also support a diplomatic solution and this agreement.

Nevertheless, some organizations and political donors have pledged to scuttle the deal through congressional action. The expressed aim of many of their efforts is to create a perception that there will be a political cost to lawmakers who support the agreement.

As Americans who have long engaged in our political system and are committed to the survival and security of Israel, we urge you and your colleagues to review and debate the JCPOA on its merits. The foremost consideration of this agreement must focus on whether it makes the United States, our allies, and the world, safer and more secure by preventing Iran from developing a nuclear weapon.

At the same time, lawmakers also should have no doubt about the likely consequences of rejecting this agreement. The United States would be viewed as reneging on a done deal, almost certainly collapsing the multilateral coalition and sanctions regime against Iran's nuclear program. As countries like China and Russia restore their full scope of commercial activities and relieve economic pressure on Iran, its nuclear program could resume essentially unmonitored and unimpeded. That is a scenario which would put us back on a path to a nuclear-armed Iran, another costly military campaign—or both.

We ask that as you and your colleagues review and debate the JCPOA, you give due weight to the views of the relevant policy and technical experts, and to the consequences of rejecting the deal. There is a time and place for politics, but the solemn consideration of this critical agreement is most certainly not it.

Sincerely,

Dick Abdo, Milwaukee, WI  
Naomi Aberly, Boston, MA  
Camilla Auger, Aspen, CO  
Raymond Auger, Aspen, CO  
Kathy Barry, Berkeley, CA  
Patricia Bauman, Washington, DC  
Peter Benedek, Los Angeles, CA  
Georgia Berner, Zelenople, PA  
Larry Birenbaum, Saratoga, CA  
David Blair, Dublin, NH  
Leonore Blitz, New York, NY  
Robert Bowditch, Brookline, MA  
Peter Boyer, San Francisco, CA  
Margaret Gamble Boyer, San Francisco, CA  
Bob Burnett, Berkeley, CA  
Diana Shaw Clark, London, UK  
Simon Clark, London, UK  
Rev. Louise Conant, Cambridge, MA  
Dr. Loring Conant, Cambridge, MA  
Bruce Corwin, Los Angeles, CA  
Toni Corwin, Los Angeles, CA  
Alice Day, Washington, D.C.  
Lincoln Day, Washington, D.C.  
Laurie Dewey, Lincoln, MA  
Doug Edwards, Los Altos, CA  
Lowell H. Ericsson, Mercer Island, WA  
Becky Draper, San Francisco, CA  
Paul Egerman, Boston, MA  
Nancy Farese, Boston, MA  
Andrew M. Faulk, M.D., San Francisco, CA  
James Feldman, Washington, DC  
Rabbi Tirzah Firestone, Boulder, CO

Steven S. Fischman, Boston, MA  
Franklin Fisher, Cambridge, MA  
Perrin French, Palo Alto, CA  
David Friedman, Boulder, CO  
Dr. Gail Furman, New York, NY  
Robert Glovsky, Boston, MA  
Stanley Gold, Los Angeles, CA  
Peter Gollon, Huntington, NY  
Morton Halperin, Washington, DC  
Martin Hellman, Stanford, CT  
Suzanne Hess, San Diego, CA  
Lawrence Hess, San Diego, CA  
Arnold Hiatt, Boston, MA  
Mary Hirsch, Aspen, CO  
Lester S. Hyman, Washington, DC  
Irwin Jacobs, San Diego, CA  
Amb. (ret.) David Jacobson, Chicago, IL  
Julie Jacobson, Chicago, IL  
Frank H. Jernigan, San Francisco, CA  
Maria Jobin-Leeds, Cambridge, MA  
Michelle Jurika, Piedmont, CA  
Albert Kaneb, Newton, MA  
Sec. Mickey Kantor, Los Angeles, CA  
Rochelle Kaplan, Salt Lake City, UT  
Amb. (ret.) Samuel L. Kaplan, Minneapolis, MN  
Sylvia Kaplan, Minneapolis, MN  
Jim Klutznick, Chicago, IL  
Samuel Knight, Belmont, MA  
Melodee Kornacker, Columbus, OH  
Sarah Kovner, New York, NY  
Victor Kovner, New York, NY  
Martin Krasney, Sausalito, CA

Douglas Krupp, Weston, MA  
George Krupp, Boston, MA  
Judi Krupp, Weston, MA  
Norman Lear, Los Angeles, CA  
Ira Lechner, Escondido, CA  
Terry Lierman, Chevy Chase, MD  
Art Lipson, Salt Lake City, UT  
Stephanie Low, New York, NY  
Jane Lowery, Edwards, CO  
Julie Lutz, Seattle, WA  
Priscilla McMillan, Cambridge, MA  
Nancy Meyer, New York, NY  
Sally Minard, New York, NY  
Carol Moore, Palm Beach, FL  
Marcia Morris, Boston, MA  
Charles Mostov, Los Angeles, CA  
Wendy Kelman Neu, New York, NY  
Riley Newman, Irvine, CA  
Rebecca Newman, Irvine, CA  
Sandy Newman, Takoma Park, MD  
Arthur Obermayer, West Newton, MA  
Blanca O'Leary, Aspen, CO  
Cavanaugh O'Leary, Aspen, CO  
Lazar Palnick, Pittsburgh, PA  
Yolanda Parker, Los Angeles, CA  
Morris Pearl, New York, NY  
Elaine Reuben, Washington, DC  
William Revelle, Evanston, IL  
Eleanor Revelle, Evanston, IL  
Stephen Robert, New York, NY  
Charles Rodgers, Boston, MA  
Rick Rosen, Los Angeles, CA  
Monica Rosenthal, Los Angeles, CA  
Philip Rosenthal, Los Angeles, CA  
Miles Rubin, Washington, DC  
Vin Ryan, Boston, MA  
Bettylu K. Saltzman, Chicago, IL  
Deb Sawyer, Salt Lake City, UT  
Alan Sagner, Palm Beach Gardens, FL  
Guy Saperstein, Piedmont, CA  
Jeanine Saperstein, Piedmont, CA  
John Schram, San Francisco, CA  
Ilene Schwartz, Pittsburgh, PA  
Louis Schwartz, Pittsburgh, PA  
Daniel Simon, New York, NY  
James Simon, New York, NY  
Robert Sims, Emerald Hills, CA  
William S. Singer, Chicago, IL  
Daniel Smith, San Francisco, CA  
Amb. (ret.) Alan Solomont, Boston, MA  
Alexandra Stanton, New York, NY

Robert J. Stein, Washington, DC  
Robert S. Stein, Berkeley, CA  
Judith Zee Steinberg, Aspen, CO  
Faye Straus, Lafayette, CA  
Sandor Straus, Lafayette, CA  
Ritchie Tabachnick, Pittsburgh, PA  
Margery Tabankin, Marina Del Rey, CA  
Sidney Topol, Boston, MA  
Philippe Villers, Boston, MA  
George Wallerstein, Seattle, WA  
Marc Weiss, New York, NY  
Natalie Wexler, Washington, DC  
Nancy Goroff Whitney, Stony Brook, NY  
Carol Winograd, Stanford, CA  
Terry Winograd, Stanford, CA  
Margaret Winslow, Newton, MA  
Alan Wurtzel, Washington, DC  
Elena Zlotnitsky, Bethesda, MD  
Irene Wurtzel, Washington, DC  
Maria Zlotnitsky, Tampa, FL  
Michael Zlotnitsky, Bethesda, MD  
Tal Zlotnitsky, Tampa, FL