

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

October 29, 2018

The Honorable Mike Pompeo  
Secretary of State  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Pompeo:

We are writing to voice our strong concerns with the direction of the United States-Saudi Arabia relationship embodied by the Trump Administration's reaction to the killing of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi. By ignoring or excusing Saudi behavior, and refusing to press for answers, the Administration has made us complicit in the cover up of the execution of an American resident. It is a sad day when our allies, private businesses, lobbying firms, and think tanks show more moral leadership than the U.S. government. In response, the Trump Administration must suspend arm sales to Saudi Arabia, end support for its war in Yemen, and sanction Saudis under the Magnitsky Act.

The problems in the U.S.-Saudi relationship extend beyond this incident. Senior Administration officials have looked past civilian casualties in Yemen, the jailing of Saudi activists, and reckless Saudi policy choices in order to cooperate with Saudi Arabia on regional priorities and sell the Kingdom U.S. weaponry. We object strongly to this poor prioritization.

U.S. moral leadership underlies all of our greatest foreign policy successes. Consistent values allow us to build coalitions of friends to address complex challenges, embody the aspirations of billions across the globe, and ensure the world listens when we speak. We cooperate with nations that do not fully represent these values, but our closest partners either share them or strive toward them. Saudi Arabia clearly does neither. By pretending otherwise and ignoring the importance of values, this Administration threatens a core enabler of U.S. leadership.

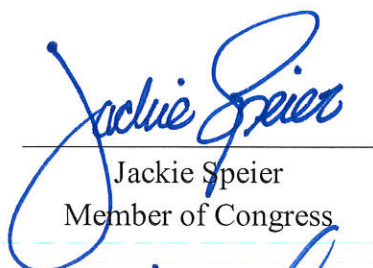
Though publicly available information is not definitive on how Jamal Khashoggi died, it seems likely senior Saudi officials oversaw a plot to lure him to Istanbul and murder him. Acting decisively to realign our relationship with Saudi Arabia by suspending arms sales, ending support for Saudi operations in Yemen, and sanctioning Saudi individuals under the Magnitsky Act as appropriate would send a strong signal that Saudi behavior must change.

The Trump Administration should keep these measures in force until Saudi Arabia accepts accountability for Khashoggi's death, treats domestic dissidents more justly, reaches a political settlement to end the war in Yemen, and enacts a more responsible regional policy. Some may worry these actions would make Saudi Arabia less willing to cooperate on U.S. priorities moving forward, but cooperation that resembles current Administration-enabled Saudi recklessness does

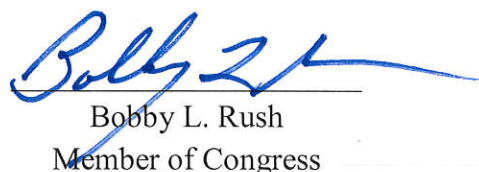
not further U.S. objectives. Arms sales have some positive economic impact, but they are a tool of foreign policy and should be treated as such. In any case, there are far cheaper initiatives that would do much more to help struggling communities.

The United States has enabled Saudi policies that have weakened U.S. moral leadership, led to the deaths of tens of thousands of innocents, and destabilized the Middle East. Jamal Khashoggi's death must serve as a wakeup call to change our policy. We are not beholden to Saudi priorities, nor do we rely disproportionately on the Saudis to advance ours. This must be treated as a conditional relationship. Saudi Arabia no longer meets our conditions.

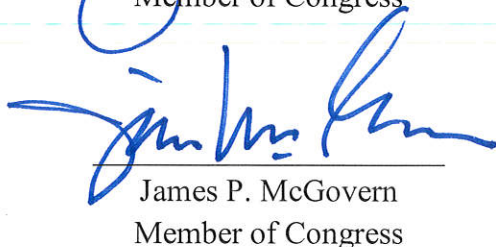
Sincerely,



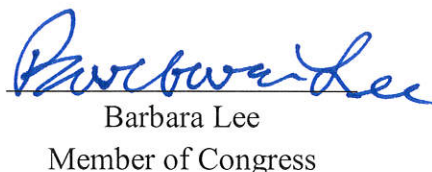
Jackie Speier  
Member of Congress



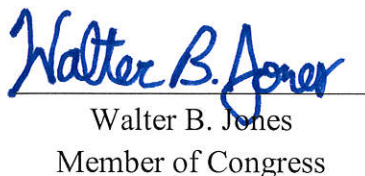
Bobby L. Rush  
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern  
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Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress



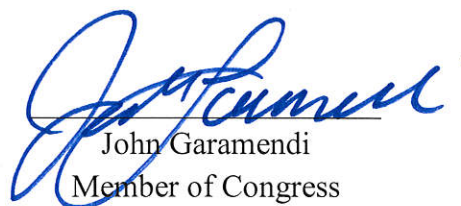
Walter B. Jones  
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Don S. Beyer, Jr.  
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John Garamendi  
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Keith Ellison  
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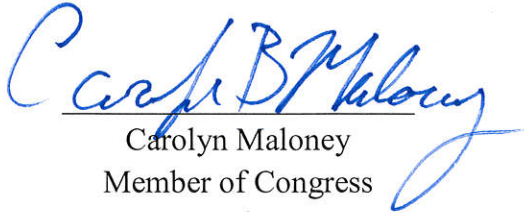
Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress



Ro Khanna  
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Jamie Raskin  
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