

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

November 1, 2024

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden,

We write to you on behalf of hundreds of American families who have been left in a state of uncertainty about the completion of their adoption from the People's Republic of China (PRC) following its announcement that as of August 28, 2024, foreign adoptions from the country will no longer proceed. Likewise, we express our concern for the vulnerable children in the PRC who have been matched with a permanent and loving home but remain separated from their prospective adoptive families. We request that you act in the best interest of these children and families by urging the PRC to fulfill and uphold the commitment the country has made.

The Hague Convention on the Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption (Convention) concluded in 1993, with several objects to ensure that the best interests and rights of the child are recognized and safeguarded in international law.<sup>1</sup> The United States and the PRC are parties to the Convention and up until the COVID-19 pandemic, have collaborated successfully to work towards permanency for over 82,000 children in the PRC.<sup>2</sup> Roughly three-hundred children in the PRC, many of whom have medical and emotional needs, have been matched with an adoptive family in the U.S. in accordance with the Convention. Yet, the PRC appears to be going back on its commitment to these families.

The American families that have been matched with their adoptive children are prepared to meet their long-term medical and emotional needs, and to give them the love and nurturing they need. While these families have waited for years for their adoptions to be completed, they have become deeply bonded with their adoptive children. Many of these children know that they

---

<sup>1</sup> "Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption," opened for signature and adopted May 29, 1993. The Hague Conference on Private International Law. <https://www.hcch.net/en/instruments/conventions/full-text/?cid=69>.

<sup>2</sup> "Adoption Statistics Dashboard." U.S. Department of State--Bureau of Consular Affairs. Accessed October 18, 2024. [https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/Intercountry-Adoption/adopt\\_ref/adoption-statistics-esri.html?wcmmode=disabled](https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/Intercountry-Adoption/adopt_ref/adoption-statistics-esri.html?wcmmode=disabled).

have a home, which in many cases have been prepared for their arrival since the families were notified that they were matched and moving forward with the adoption process.

We appreciate the efforts of the U.S. Department of State to seek written clarity on the PRC's end to international adoptions and unite these families. That said, our understanding is that the policy decision was made at top levels within the PRC, necessitating your direct intervention. We believe that the adoptions of children who have already been matched with an adoptive family in accordance with the convention should be allowed to be completed. According to a notice sent on October 25, 2024, by the Department of State to adoption service providers, we understand that the PRC may be continuing to process intercountry adoptions for families from other countries. Our hope is that American families will be provided the same opportunity and that the PRC's participation in the Convention is not going to end with heartbreak for families who won't ever be united with their adoptive child, and with vulnerable children left without the loving home that they knew they had. Your leadership could be life altering for these families.

Thank you for your attention to our correspondence. We hope that our plea for the families and children that have been matched is well received and that you will act to ensure the United States is dedicated to seeing that the commitment made to these families is fulfilled.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Grassley  
United States Senator



Benjamin L. Cardin  
Chairman  
Senate Foreign Relations Committee



Erin Houchin  
Member of Congress



Val Hoyle  
Member of Congress



Mitch McConnell  
Senate Minority Leader



Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator



Kevin Cramer  
United States Senator



Robert B. Aderholt  
Member of Congress



Sherrod Brown  
United States Senator



Joni K. Ernst  
United States Senator



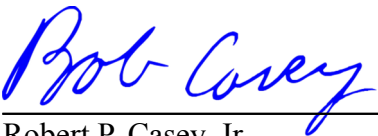
Marsha Blackburn  
United States Senator



Cory A. Booker  
United States Senator



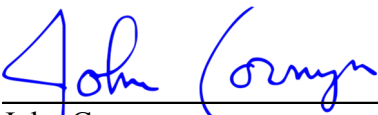
Ted Budd  
United States Senator



Robert P. Casey, Jr.  
United States Senator



Maria Cantwell  
United States Senator



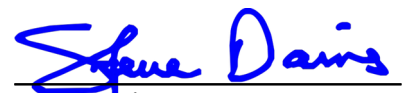
John Cornyn  
United States Senator



Susan M. Collins  
United States Senator



Ted Cruz  
United States Senator



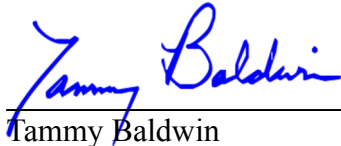
Steve Daines  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



Rand Paul, M.D.  
United States Senator



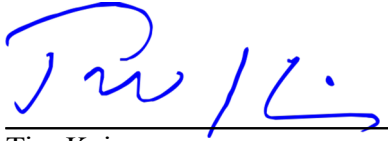
---

Tammy Baldwin  
United States Senator



---

John Hickenlooper  
United States Senator



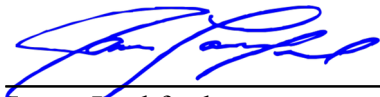
---

Tim Kaine  
United States Senator



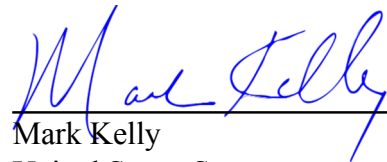
---

Cynthia M. Lummis  
United States Senator



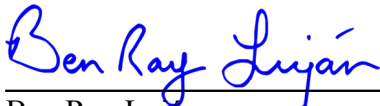
---

James Lankford  
United States Senator



---

Mark Kelly  
United States Senator



---

Ben Ray Lujan  
United States Senator



---

Jeffrey A. Merkley  
United States Senator




---

Lisa Murkowski  
United States Senator



---

Josh Hawley  
United States Senator



---

Jeanne Shaheen  
United States Senator



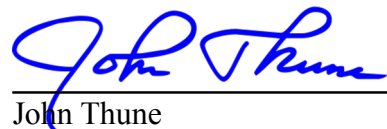
---

Tina Smith  
United States Senator



---

Dan Sullivan  
United States Senator

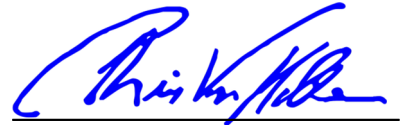


---

John Thune  
United States Senator



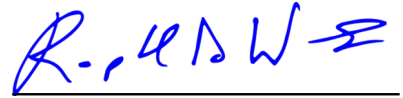
Thom Tillis  
United States Senator



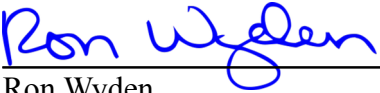
Chris Van Hollen  
United States Senator



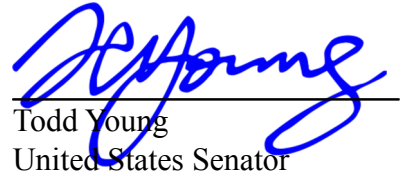
Mark R. Warner  
United States Senator



Raphael Warnock  
United States Senator



Ron Wyden  
United States Senator



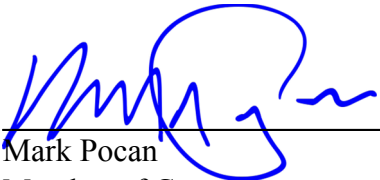
Todd Young  
United States Senator



Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress



Pete Stauber  
Member of Congress



Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress



Sam Graves  
Member of Congress



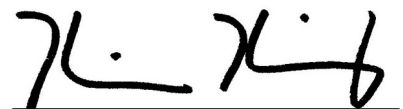
John H. Rutherford  
Member of Congress



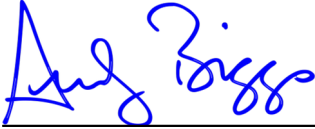
Mike Kelly  
Member of Congress



Abigail Davis Spanberger  
Member of Congress



Kevin Kiley  
Member of Congress



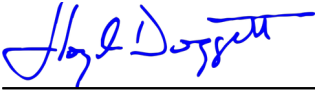
---

Andy Biggs  
Member of Congress



---

Young Kim  
Member of Congress



---

Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress



---

Dan Meuser  
Member of Congress



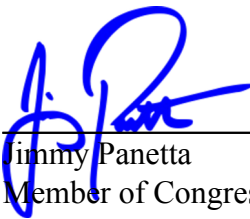
---

Greg Pence  
Member of Congress



---

Daniel Webster  
Member of Congress



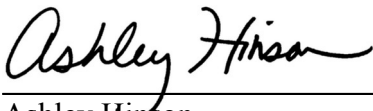
---

Jimmy Panetta  
Member of Congress




---

Barry Loudermilk  
Member of Congress



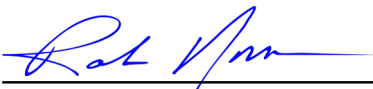
---

Ashley Hinson  
Member of Congress



---

Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.  
Member of Congress



---

Ralph Norman  
Member of Congress



---

Larry Bucshon, M.D.  
Member of Congress



---

Rich McCormick, MD, MBA  
Member of Congress

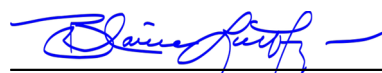


---

Kay Granger  
Member of Congress



Greg Stanton  
Member of Congress



Blaine Luetkemeyer  
Member of Congress



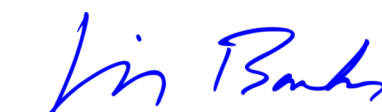
Andrew Ogles  
Member of Congress



Glenn Grothman  
Member of Congress



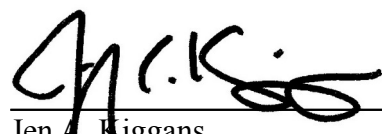
Don Bacon  
Member of Congress




Jim Banks  
Member of Congress



Delia C. Ramirez  
Member of Congress



Jen A. Kiggans  
Member of Congress



Eric Sorensen  
Member of Congress



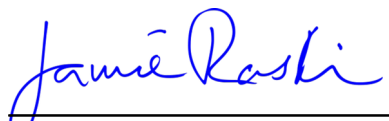
Chris Deluzio  
Member of Congress



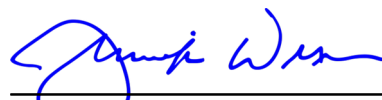
Brittany Pettersen  
Member of Congress



Susan Wild  
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress



Jennifer Wexton  
Member of Congress



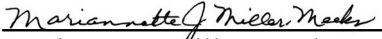
---

Tim Burchett  
Member of Congress



---

Dan Crenshaw  
Member of Congress



---

Mariannette Miller-Meeks,  
M.D.  
Member of Congress



---

William R. Timmons, IV  
Member of Congress



---

Randy K. Weber, Sr.  
Member of Congress



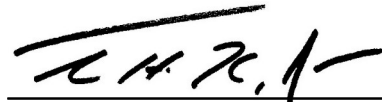
---

Morgan McGarvey  
Member of Congress



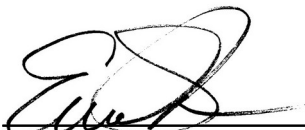
---

Randy Feenstra  
Member of Congress




---

Thomas H. Kean, Jr.  
Member of Congress



---

Emilia Strong Sykes  
Member of Congress



---

Nancy Mace  
Member of Congress



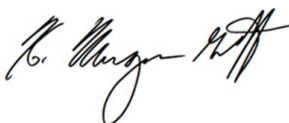
---

Brett Guthrie  
Member of Congress




---

Pete Sessions  
Member of Congress



---


H. Morgan Griffith  
Member of Congress



---


John Fetterman  
United States Senator






---

Jeff Duncan  
Member of Congress




---

Roger Williams  
Member of Congress



---

Alex Padilla  
United States Senator



---

Tim Scott  
United States Senator




---

Mitt Romney  
United States Senator



---

Ron Johnson  
United States Senator




---

Katie Boyd Britt  
United States Senator



---

M. Michael Rounds  
United States Senator



---

Bill Cassidy, M.D.  
United States Senator




---

John Hoeven  
United States Senator



---

Mike Braun  
United States Senator



---

Zach Nunn  
Member of Congress