

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 24, 2022

President Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden:

We are pleased to see that Finland and Sweden have announced their intent to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. As members of the Senate with responsibility for providing advice and consent on treaties, we write to convey our full support for Sweden and Finland's applications for NATO membership. We are fully committed to doing our part to expedite ratification of the Washington Treaty to ensure their quick accession to NATO. Similarly, we ask that you expedite the process in the Executive Branch to ensure that the United States moves quickly to bring two capable and committed partners into our alliance as swiftly as possible.

As you know, NATO has been the bedrock of European security and the global order since the end of World War II. Furthermore, as Russia's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine has proven, NATO, along with our democratic partners around the world, is more united than ever in opposition to the illegal acts of war waged by President Putin. Expanding NATO to include Finland and Sweden will send a clear message to Vladimir Putin, and any leader that attempts to follow in his path, that the free world stands ready to defend its values and sovereignty. We will also continue to support NATO's open-door policy, which affirms that new members are welcome to the alliance.

As our NATO allies rallied to support the United States after September 11th, 2001, we stand ready to assist them now as they face increasing acts of aggression from Putin's Russia and its proxies. NATO enlargement to include Finland and Sweden will further bolster the alliance, providing crucial military and diplomatic capabilities that will help NATO address urgent security challenges and new and emerging threats. In addition, as Sweden and Finland advance through the NATO membership process, we reiterate our full support for the United States to provide mutual security assurances to the governments of Sweden and Finland. Should these two allies face threats or acts of aggression prior to their potential accession to the alliance, the United States should commit our full support.

Members of the U.S. Senate take seriously our role in advising and consenting to NATO enlargement, a process that must be approved by all NATO member states. We affirm our support for Sweden and Finland's applications for membership. In addition, we pledge to work closely with you and with our Senate colleagues to ensure that their applications are swiftly considered and approved by the Senate.

The transatlantic alliance has never been more crucial to global security and stability. The addition of these two important allies to NATO will ensure the alliance's resilience and readiness, and we look forward to welcoming Sweden and Finland to NATO.

Sincerely,



Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator



Thom Tillis
United States Senator



Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator



Mitch McConnell
United States Senator



Robert Menendez
United States Senator



James E. Risch
United States Senator



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator



Rob Portman
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



Susan M. Collins
United States Senator



Angus S. King, Jr.
United States Senator



Lisa Murkowski
United States Senator



Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator



Kevin Cramer
United States Senator



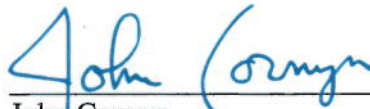
Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator



Lindsey Graham
United States Senator



Thomas R. Carper
United States Senator



John Cornyn
United States Senator



Jacky Rosen
United States Senator



Ben Sasse
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



John Barrasso, M.D.
United States Senator



Jon Tester
United States Senator



Joni K. Ernst
United States Senator


Ron Wyden
United States Senator


Mitt Romney
United States Senator


John Hickenlooper
United States Senator


M. Michael Rounds
United States Senator


Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator


John Thune
United States Senator


Mark Kelly
United States Senator


Chuck Grassley
United States Senator


Joe Manchin III
United States Senator


Bill Hagerty
United States Senator


Tim Kaine
United States Senator


Pat Toomey
United States Senator



Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator



Catherine Cortez-Masto
United States Senator



Kirsten Sinema
United States Senator



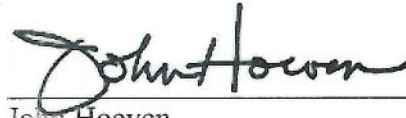
Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator



Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator



Chris Murphy
United States Senator



John Hoeven
United States Senator



Tim Scott
United States Senator



Tom Cotton
United States Senator



Richard Burr
United States Senator



James M. Inhofe
United States Senator



Roger F. Wicker
United States Senator



Cory A. Booker
United States Senator



Deb Fischer
United States Senator



Mazie K. Hirono
United States Senator



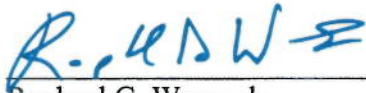
Shelley Moore Capito
United States Senator



Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator



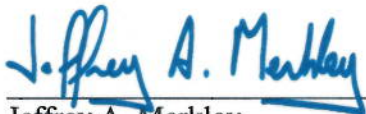
Cindy Hyde-Smith
United States Senator



Raphael G. Warnock
United States Senator



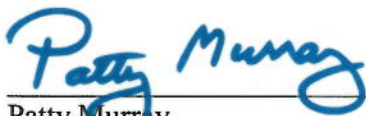
Todd Young
United States Senator



Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator



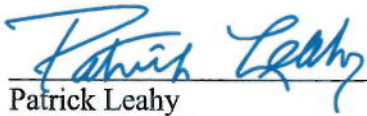
Marsha Blackburn
United States Senator



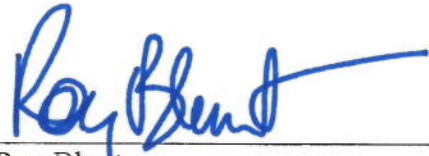
Patty Murray
United States Senator



Dan Sullivan
United States Senator



Patrick Leahy
United States Senator



Roy Blunt
United States Senator



Jack Reed
United States Senator



Roger W. Marshall
United States Senator



Martin Heinrich
United States Senator



Gary C. Peters
United States Senator



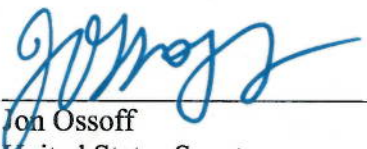
Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator



Alex Padilla
United States Senator



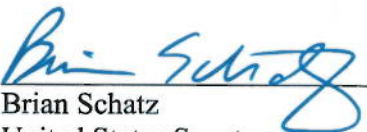
Mark R. Warner
United States Senator



Jon Ossoff
United States Senator



Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator



Brian Schatz
United States Senator



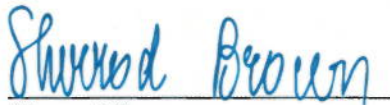
Ben Ray Lujan
United States Senator



Edward J. Markey
United States Senator



Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator



Sherrod Brown
United States Senator



Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator



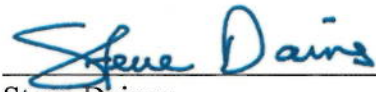
Robert P. Casey
United States Senator



Tina Smith
United States Senator



Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator



Steve Daines
United States Senator



Mike Crapo
United States Senator