

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 15, 2018

The Honorable Rex Tillerson
Secretary of State
2301 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20520

The Honorable James Mattis
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretaries Tillerson and Mattis:

We appreciate your efforts to develop a strategy to help the Nigerian government and its partners to combat Boko Haram as required by the enacted legislation, Public Law 114-266. In light of the horrifying reports that Boko Haram has kidnapped 110 schoolgirls in Dapchi, Nigeria, we write to request an update on your efforts to implement the five-year strategy.

As evident by your report to Congress of June 2017, as well as developments on the ground in the Lake Chad Basin, the situation appears to have become more complex and more threatening to U.S. national security interests. We write to ask how you would utilize additional resources or authorities from Congress in order to most effectively implement the strategy to address the complexity of the Boko Haram and ISIS-West Africa threats in the Lake Chad Basin. We look forward to working with your agencies to ensure you have necessary resources and authorities to combat these associated terrorist organizations, which perpetrate heinous crimes including abducting and enslaving men, women and children, and burning, raping, and butchering their victims.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

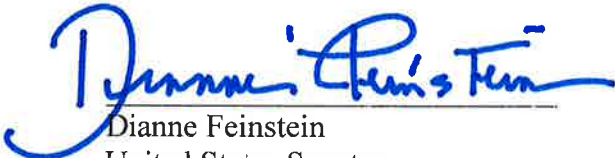
Sincerely,




Susan M. Collins
United States Senator



Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator



Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator



Claire McCaskill
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator



Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator

cc: The Honorable Dan Coats
Director of National Intelligence

The Honorable John J. Sullivan
Deputy Secretary of State