

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

August 17, 2021

The Honorable Janet L. Yellen  
Secretary  
United States Department of Treasury  
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20220

Dear Secretary Yellen:

We write to once again express our deep concerns over the forthcoming allocation of \$650 billion in Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) when the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) general allocation becomes effective on August 23, 2021<sup>1</sup>. An estimated \$450 million will be allocated to Afghanistan and potentially flow to the Taliban regime just days after their takeover from the elected Afghan government.

The potential of the SDR allocation to provide nearly half a billion dollars in unconditional liquidity to a regime with a history of supporting terrorist actions against the United States and her allies is extremely concerning. Therefore, we:

- 1. Urge you to intervene at the IMF to ensure that no allocated SDRs are made available to a Taliban-led Afghanistan, and request that you provide us with an update detailing your actions no later than 5:00PM ET on Thursday, August 19, 2021; and**
- 2. Request that you provide detailed information on measures you will put in place at the IMF to ensure accountability so that SDRs – including transfers of SDRs – are not used by member countries in a manner that runs counter to our national interest. We request that you transmit this information no later than 5:00PM ET on September 1, 2021.**

Since 2020, we have raised concerns over the potential for vast sums to flow to evil regimes through an SDR allocation. We have also warned about the risks of an allocation in the absence of binding accountability mechanisms.

Billions of dollars from the next SDR allocation will go into the hands of bad actors including state sponsors of terror, like Iran and Syria, and oppressive regimes such as China, Russia, and Belarus. After the events in Afghanistan of the past two weeks and the fall of the Afghan government on Sunday, the Taliban has been added to the list of rogue regimes. These events call for the United States to cut off hard currency to the Taliban, including through its access to Afghanistan's SDRs.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2021/07/30/pr21235-imf-governors-approve-a-historic-us-650-billion-sdr-allocation-of-special-drawing-rights>

We appreciate your service on behalf of the nation and your attention to our requests.

Sincerely,



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French Hill  
Member of Congress



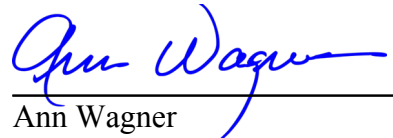
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Andy Barr  
Member of Congress



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Bill Huizenga  
Member of Congress



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Ann Wagner  
Member of Congress



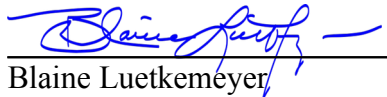
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Bill Posey  
Member of Congress



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William R. Timmons IV  
Member of Congress



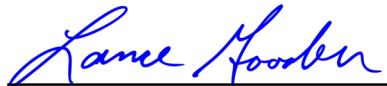
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Blaine Luetkemeyer  
Member of Congress



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Tom Emmer  
Member of Congress



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Lance Gooden  
Member of Congress



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Ted Budd  
Member of Congress



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Lee Zeldin  
Member of Congress



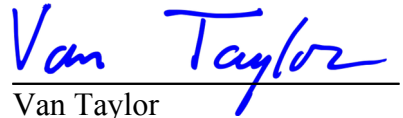
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Anthony Gonzalez  
Member of Congress



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Warren Davidson  
Member of Congress



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Van Taylor  
Member of Congress




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Roger Williams  
Member of Congress



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David Kustoff  
Member of Congress



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Bryan Steil  
Member of Congress



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Pete Sessions  
Member of Congress