



**One Hundred Fifteenth Congress
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20515**

March 13, 2017

The Honorable Mike Gallagher
Chairman
Task Force on Denying Terrorists Entry into the United States
Committee on Homeland Security
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Gallagher,

We look forward to working with you and our other colleagues on the Committee's Task Force on Denying Terrorists Entry into the United States ("Task Force"). Keeping our country safe is a bipartisan concern. The Democratic Members of the Task Force are committed to working to advance policies to help prevent terrorism, including policies to keep dangerous individuals who pose a threat to our country from traveling to the United States.

We commence our work at a critical time, as Americans will be looking to us to tackle legitimate and timely questions about the January 27th and the March 6th Executive Orders entitled "Protecting The Nation From Foreign Terrorist Entry Into the United States." Reviewing the current and future Trump Administration Executive Orders regarding terrorist travel to the United States is imperative to ensuring that the robust security measures put in place by previous Administrations are neither weakened by the Trump Administration nor exploited by terrorists. As part of this inquiry, we must evaluate to what extent these Executive Orders address the real concerns and needs of the Intelligence Community regarding terrorist travel.

As you look to schedule Task Force activities, we respectfully request that you adopt certain policies to ensure maximum participation of members, many of whom already sit on multiple subcommittees, during this six-month period. Specifically, we urge you to agree to the following:

- (1) All Task Force briefings, hearings, site visits, and meetings to be noticed at least one week in advance.
- (2) No Task Force activities to be scheduled concurrently with other noticed Committee on Homeland Security activities.

- (3) No more than four hearings be held during the six-month period.
- (4) Briefings with Federal agencies be held at the lowest classification level possible.
- (5) Members of the Task Force have first right of refusal to participate in any foreign travel associated with Task Force business.

Lastly, we share Chairman McCaul's hope that the Administration will work in close coordination with the Task Force to ensure that our Members have access to appropriate and timely Executive resources needed to conduct effective oversight in our fight against terrorism. To that end, we request that we send a joint notification to the White House announcing the establishment of this six-month Task Force.

We look forward to engaging with you on this request.

Respectfully,



BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN
Ranking Member
Task Force on Denying Terrorist Entry
into the United States



SHEILA JACKSON LEE
Member
Task Force on Denying Terrorist Entry
into the United States



NANETTE DIAZ BARRAGÁN
Member
Task Force on Denying Terrorist Entry
into the United States