



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

September 12, 2014

His Excellency Haider al-Abadi
Prime Minister
Republic of Iraq

Dear Prime Minister al-Abadi:

First, let me congratulate you on the formation of a government that represents all segments of Iraqi society. The way in which your nation has come together to hold free elections and peacefully transfer power to new leaders, notwithstanding the terrorist threat, is a tribute to the progress Iraq has made since the days of Saddam Hussein. I could not agree with you more that, as noted in your letter, a government committed to representing all of its citizens and providing equal access under the law is the best path to achieve a safe and prosperous future for its children and grandchildren.

We applaud your commitment to implement the steps that were outlined in your letter, especially the efforts to reform the Iraqi Security Forces, the judiciary, and revenue-sharing measures. As you work toward these measures, I am confident that our two countries can continue to grow closer and work together effectively.

Second, we welcome your commitment to lead the fight against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). Iraqis understand better than most the brutality and evil that ISIL represents. The developments we've witnessed over the past year demonstrate that the war against terrorism in Iraq did not end with the withdrawal of U.S. troops. We fully appreciate that Iraq does not have the option of withdrawing from this struggle.

Please rest assured that I will work with my colleagues in the House of Representatives to ensure your government has the support from the United States that it needs to prevail against the terrorists. From military aid to technical and training assistance, we will stand with you to ensure more innocents are not slaughtered – and that the threat does not metastasize further. And my colleagues and I will stand shoulder-to-shoulder with you to work to ease the suffering of innocent minorities and others who are being persecuted at the hands of ISIL.

The acknowledgement of the significant blood and treasure America has invested in Iraq during the last decade meant a great deal to me, and I know will be equally meaningful to my colleagues. Americans have indeed made painful sacrifices to help all Iraqis seeking peace and

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we welcome your commitment to ensure that the sacrifices made by America's national treasure – our deployed military and civilian personnel – lead to a brighter future for the Iraqi people. ISIL is at war with both of our countries. ISIL is our common enemy and must be defeated so we – and our families, children and grandchildren – may live in peace.

Finally, please allow me to extend an invitation for you to meet with me at the U.S. Capitol when you have an opportunity to visit Washington, D.C. in the near future.

Sincerely,



John A. Boehner