

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 19, 2021

President Joe Biden
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden,

We write to you today seeking clarification on your Administration's position on the United Nations Arms Trade Treaty (ATT). Recent remarks by Deputy Director for Conventional Arms Threat Reduction, William Malzahn, seem to indicate your intention to rejoin this misguided and overbearing international treaty.

At this year's Seventh Conference of States Parties (COSP) to the Arms Trade Treaty, Deputy Director Malzahn stated, "The United States has long supported strong and effective national controls on the international transfer of conventional arms, and the Arms Trade Treaty is an important tool for promoting those controls internationally." We find this statement to be most concerning and contrary to the current and historical position of the United States.

When President Obama signed the ATT in 2013, he was met with strong bipartisan opposition and failed to garner the approval of the Senate, to which the Constitution vests the sole power to approve international treaties. As Members of the House of Representatives, we were grateful our Senate colleagues came together to reject the treaty with the sole purpose of protecting American sovereignty and our constitutional rights.

However, the same concerns remain today as they did in 2013. The vague language of the ATT makes American commitments uncertain, the most concerning of which is the lack of protections for lawful gun ownership which threatens the rights afforded to Americans under the Second Amendment. Further, with an amendment process that only requires a three-fourths vote for approval by the States Parties actually present at the meeting of COSP, more intrusive provisions could be applied in the future; legally obligating the United States to comply with international commitments without consent from the Senate.

Under any circumstance, it is inconceivable that the United States would consider subjecting our constitutional rights to bear arms to international oversight and interference. For these reasons, we request clarification on your intentions regarding this international accord. Moreover, we urge you to reject the ATT.

Thank you for your attention to our concerns and we look forward to hearing your response.

Sincerely,



Vicky Hartzler
Member of Congress



Dough Lamborn
Member of Congress



H. Morgan Griffith
Member of Congress



Steve Scalise
Member of Congress



Ted Budd
Member of Congress



Mike Johnson
Member of Congress



Elise Stefanik
Member of Congress



Pete Sessions
Member of Congress



Bill Posey
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert
Member of Congress



Kat Cammack
Member of Congress



Doug LaMalfa
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa
Member of Congress



Thomas Massie
Member of Congress



Alex Mooney
Member of Congress




Robert J. Wittman
Member of Congress

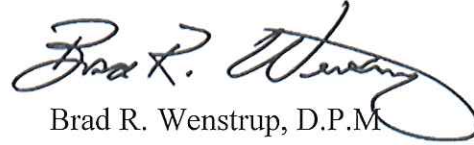


Guy Reschenthaler
Member of Congress


Jim Banks
Member of Congress


William R. Timmons, IV
Member of Congress


Mike D. Rogers
Member of Congress



Brad R. Wenstrup, D.P.M.
Member of Congress



Tony Gonzales
Member of Congress


Lance Gooden
Member of Congress


Mo Brooks
Member of Congress


Ben Cline
Member of Congress



Markwayne Mullin
Member of Congress


Ralph Norman
Member of Congress


Dan Crenshaw
Member of Congress


Billy Long
Member of Congress


Bob Good
Member of Congress


Jackie Walorski
Member of Congress


Michael Cloud
Member of Congress


John Carter
Member of Congress

Trent Kelly
Member of Congress

Blake Moore
Member of Congress

John Katko
Member of Congress

David P. Joyce
Member of Congress

Claudia Tenney
Member of Congress

Chip Roy
Member of Congress

Jim Jordan
Member of Congress

Vern Buchanan
Member of Congress

Tom Emmer
Member of Congress

David Rouzer
Member of Congress

Earl L. "Buddy" Carter
Member of Congress

Mike Gallagher
Member of Congress

Roger Williams
Member of Congress

John Moolenaar
Member of Congress

Andy Biggs
Member of Congress

Mariannette Miller-Meeks, M.D.
Member of Congress

Eric A. "Rick" Crawford
Member of Congress

John Rose
Member of Congress

John Joyce, M.D.
Member of Congress

Andrew S. Clyde
Member of Congress

Jefferson Van Drew
Member of Congress

Russ Fulcher
Member of Congress

Glenn 'GT' Thompson
Member of Congress

John H. Rutherford
Member of Congress

Chris Jacobs
Member of Congress

Scott Perry
Member of Congress

David Kustoff
Member of Congress

Barry Loudermilk
Member of Congress

Mike Bost
Member of Congress

Brian Babin, D.D.S.
Member of Congress

Richard Hudson
Member of Congress

Randy Feenstra
Member of Congress



Glenn Grothman
Member of Congress



Jodey C. Arrington
Member of Congress



Gus M. Bilirakis
Member of Congress



Larry Bucshon, M.D.
Member of Congress



Rodney Davis
Member of Congress



Robert B. Aderholt
Member of Congress



Matthew Rosendale, Sr.
Member of Congress



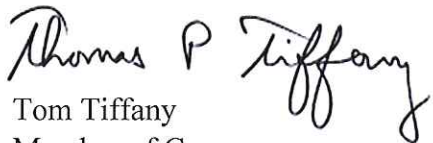
Jeff Duncan
Member of Congress



Tracey Mann
Member of Congress



Madison Cawthorn
Member of Congress



Tom Tiffany
Member of Congress



Michelle Fischbach
Member of Congress



Randy Weber
Member of Congress



Dan Bishop
Member of Congress



Bob Gibbs
Member of Congress



Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.
Member of Congress



Ashley Hinson
Member of Congress



Bruce Westerman
Member of Congress



Julia Letlow
Member of Congress



James Comer
Member of Congress



Lauren Boebert
Member of Congress



Debbie Lesko
Member of Congress



Tim Burchett
Member of Congress



Tom McClintock
Member of Congress



W. Gregory Steube
Member of Congress



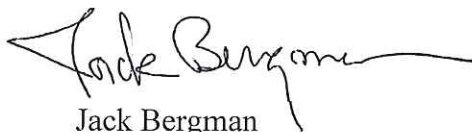
C. Scott Franklin
Member of Congress



August Pfluger
Member of Congress



Adrian Smith
Member of Congress



Jack Bergman
Member of Congress



Jaime Herrera Beutler
Member of Congress



Nancy Mace
Member of Congress



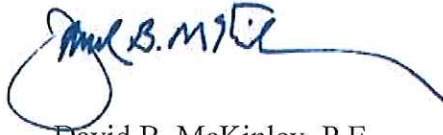
Bill Johnson
Member of Congress



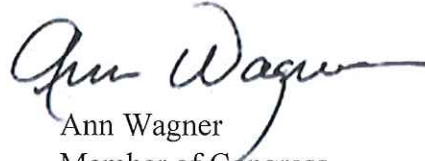
Andy Harris, M.D.
Member of Congress



Mark E. Green, M.D.
Member of Congress



David B. McKinley, P.E.
Member of Congress



Ann Wagner
Member of Congress



Carol D. Miller
Member of Congress



Mark Amodei
Member of Congress



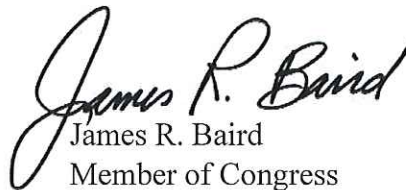
Austin Scott
Member of Congress



David G. Valadao
Member of Congress



Brian Mast
Member of Congress



James R. Baird
Member of Congress



Marjorie Taylor Greene
Member of Congress



Michael Guest
Member of Congress



Jody Hice
Member of Congress



Robert E. Latta
Member of Congress



Van Taylor
Member of Congress



Chris Stewart
Member of Congress