

STEVE MALAGARI, MEMBER
53RD LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 202053
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2053
(717) 783-8515
FAX: (717) 772-1424
100 WEST MAIN STREET, SUITE 110
LANSDALE, PENNSYLVANIA 19446
(267) 768-3671
103B N. MAIN STREET
SOUDERTON, PENNSYLVANIA 18964
(267) 768-3671
FAX: (267) 768-3673



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

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January 27, 2023

The Honorable Mary Gay Scanlon
1227 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Scanlon:

I am writing in response to the Biden administration's efforts to seek Congressional approval of the potential sale of \$20 billion in F-16 fighter jets to the Turkish regime. I urge you and your colleagues to reject this ill-conceived and strategically flawed approach to dealing with President Erdogan in the hopes of reversing his bad behavior.

In a visit to Washington last week, it was quite telling that the Turkish foreign minister framed the decision in typical authoritarian strongman terms. "The administration should not waste such an important deal between two allies just because one person or a few people are blocking it. It should not bow down." There is a clear contempt for democracy contained in the statement and a tacit admission that there is ample reason for members of Congress to reject the deal. Erdogan and his administration simply want the Biden White House to do what they would do—bully and threaten to get what they want.

President Erdogan is not a trusted ally and his willingness to cooperate with Russia and undermine NATO's efforts to isolate Putin over the Ukraine invasion. The Erdogan regime has been happy to play the role of chaos agent in the Eastern Mediterranean, threatening Greece and provoking conflict, all while running multiple military campaigns against US-backed Kurdish forces in Syria. The last thing we should be doing is rewarding this bad behavior with new f-16s and upgrade kits for Turkey's air fleet. Before any such sale should be considered, Turkey should return the S-400 air defense system it secured from Russia, a move that rightly led our government to reject the sale of F-35s to Turkey.

I hope you will oppose this arms sale and continue to take steps to support America's allies in the Eastern Mediterranean. This sale would significantly undermine the long-standing US-Greece Mutual Defense Cooperation Agreement, weakening that vital strategic partnership and encouraging the territorial ambitions of the Erdogan regime.

Sincerely,

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State Representative Steve Malagari
53rd Legislative District

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January 27, 2023

The Honorable Brian Fitzpatrick
271 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Fitzpatrick:

I am writing in response to the Biden administration's efforts to seek Congressional approval of the potential sale of \$20 billion in F-16 fighter jets to the Turkish regime. I urge you and your colleagues to reject this ill-conceived and strategically flawed approach to dealing with President Erdogan in the hopes of reversing his bad behavior.

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January 27, 2023

The Honorable Madeleine Dean
150 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Dean:

I am writing in response to the Biden administration's efforts to seek Congressional approval of the potential sale of \$20 billion in F-16 fighter jets to the Turkish regime. I urge you and your colleagues to reject this ill-conceived and strategically flawed approach to dealing with President Erdogan in the hopes of reversing his bad behavior.

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January 27, 2023

The Honorable Robert Casey
393 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Casey:

I am writing in response to the Biden administration's efforts to seek Congressional approval of the potential sale of \$20 billion in F-16 fighter jets to the Turkish regime. I urge you and your colleagues to reject this ill-conceived and strategically flawed approach to dealing with President Erdogan in the hopes of reversing his bad behavior.

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The Honorable John Fetterman
Dirksen Senate Office Building, Suite B40B
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Fetterman:

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