## Congress of the United States

## Washington, DC 20515

March 26, 2025

The Honorable Pete Hegseth Secretary of Defense 1000 Defense Pentagon Washington, DC 20301

The Honorable Tulsi Gabbard Director of National Intelligence Office of the Director of National Intelligence Washington, DC 20511 The Honorable Marco Rubio Secretary of State 221 C Street NW Washington, DC 20520

The Honorable Mike Waltz National Security Advisor 1650 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, DC 20503

Dear Secretary Hegseth, Secretary Rubio, Director Gabbard, and Mr. Waltz,

We write to express grave concern over your handling of sensitive information regarding military operations in Yemen and potential risks to our servicemembers carrying out this mission. *The Atlantic* reported that their Editor-in-Chief Jeffrey Goldberg was added to a Signal group chat on March 13 titled "Houthi PC small group." Fortunately, an American journalist was added and not anyone who could have used this information to cause significant harm to the United States.

As more evidence has come to light, the misconduct in the group chat has become further undefendable and inexcusable. You all jeopardized the lives of servicemembers. There must be accountability starting with the immediate resignation of Secretary Hegseth.

The degree of incompetence, carelessness, and irresponsibility is difficult to underscore. It is incomprehensible that the heads of the world's most powerful government were unknowingly sharing secret military plans and knowingly using an unsecure communications method to do so. A bad actor or foreign contact could have easily been added to this Signal group instead of Mr. Goldberg. This experience was so absurd that Mr. Goldberg thought it more likely to be a disinformation campaign or artificial intelligence than several key members of our government, many who sit on the National Security Council.

This encounter calls into question the way in which this operation was discussed. It was reported that classified or highly sensitive information was being shared over Signal. Information that if leaked to the wrong sources could have resulted in dire national security consequences. As the article goes on to state, there are legitimate questions on whether laws like the Espionage Act or laws on preserving official federal records were violated.

If you had not added a non-government individual to this Signal group, then this breach would never have come to light. This does not inspire confidence that other classified communications have been handled through proper channels or that this national security team is taking these issues seriously.

We hope you understand the gravity of this situation. The decisions you make have a significant impact on our national security and the safety of our servicemembers. We will be demanding accountability and transparency in what transpired. For the sake of our national security we ask that you fully and willingly cooperate with Congress in any forthcoming hearings or investigations.

Sincerely,

Salud Carbajal

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Marilyn Strickland Member of Congress Sarah Elfreth
Member of Congress

Derek T. Tran

Brad Sherman Member of Congress Greg Stanton Member of Congress

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