

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 3, 2025

The Honorable Pete Hegseth
Secretary of Defense
U.S. Department of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301

Secretary Hegseth,

We write regarding the Department of Defense's recent decision to pause shipments of critical munitions and arms to Ukraine. This decision places Ukraine's future in jeopardy, encourages Vladimir Putin, and sows doubt among our closest allies. We urge you to reverse this decision and redouble your efforts to support Ukraine as it fights for its future.

The following munitions are reportedly being suspended:

- Patriot Advanced Capability - 3 (PAC-3) Interceptors
- 155mm artillery shells
- Guided Multiple Launch Rocket Systems (GMLRS)
- Stinger MANPADS
- AIM-7 Sparrow air-to-air missiles
- AGM-114 Hellfire air-to-ground missiles

We recognize the threat our adversaries present in the Indo-Pacific and Middle East, and the need for deterrence. We also appreciate the need to maintain critical stockpiles of arms and munitions for our own use. However, the decision to halt shipments to Ukraine, reportedly to redirect them to other theaters, is a strategic mistake. While the Administration has repeatedly stressed the need to reallocate resources to the Indo-Pacific, we would remind you that the Russian Federation remains the most immediate and pressing threat to our security, and that of our allies.

Against all odds, Ukraine continues its defense against Vladimir Putin's murderous assault. Last week, President Putin launched the largest aerial attack on Ukraine since the beginning of the war. This is precisely the wrong moment to curtail aid to Ukraine. Instead of redirecting assets, we must meet the moment and provide Ukraine with the arms it needs to defend itself. We urge you to rescind this decision, and to release the remaining assistance already appropriated in the Presidential Drawdown Authority valued at \$3.8 billion, and the remaining \$300 million in funding appropriated to the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative.

We request you answer the following questions in writing and in a classified briefing by July 31st, 2025:

- What arms and munitions initially scheduled for delivery to Ukraine have been paused as a result of this decision?
- Where are those munitions being redirected?
- Are other munitions scheduled to be redirected? If so, where are they being sent?
- Based on Department of Defense assessments, how long would Ukraine be able to maintain its rates of expenditure for those munitions before their reserves are exhausted?

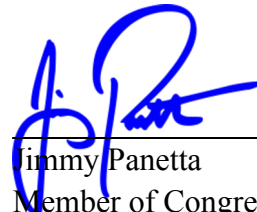
Mr. Secretary, peace through strength requires us to use our strength. Congress stands ready to provide you with the authorities and funding to replenish our munitions stockpiles to prepare for future conflicts. However, Ukraine's fight for freedom is not hypothetical. It is happening now and we must stand with them by providing the arms they need to defend themselves.

Thank you for your earnest attention to this matter and we look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



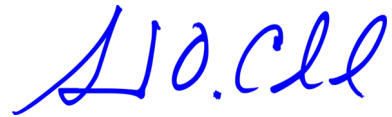
Peter Welch
United States Senator



Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator



Chris Deluzio
Member of Congress



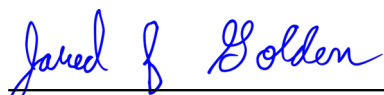
Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress



Chrissy Houlahan
Member of Congress



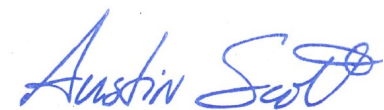
Donald Norcross
Member of Congress



Jared Golden
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



Austin Scott
Member of Congress



John Garamendi
Member of Congress



Jason Crow
Member of Congress



Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator



Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator



Marilyn Strickland
Member of Congress



Maggie Goodlander
Member of Congress