November 18, 2010

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

We write to urge you to use your constitutional power to extend clemency to Jonathan Pollard, thereby releasing him from prison after the time he has already served. Mr. Pollard committed serious crimes and he has expressed remorse. Such an exercise of the clemency power would not in any way imply doubt about his guilt, nor cast any aspersions on the process by which he was convicted. Those who have such views are of course entitled to continue to have them, but the clemency grant has nothing to do with that.

We believe that there has been a great disparity from the standpoint of justice between the amount of time Mr. Pollard has served and the time that has been served -- or not served at all -- by many others who were found guilty of similar activity on behalf of nations that, like Israel, are not adversarial to us. It is indisputable in our view that the nearly twenty-five years that Mr. Pollard has served stands as a sufficient time from the standpoint of either punishment or deterrence.

In summary, we see clemency for Mr. Pollard as an act of compassion justified by the way others have been treated by our justice system. We urge you to use the clemency power in this case.

Sincerely,

Barney Frank
Member of Congress

Edolphus Towns
Member of Congress

Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress

Anthony Weiner
Member of Congress
Letter to President Obama re: Jonathan Pollard Clemency Request

Henry A. Waxman
Member of Congress

Gregory W. Meeks
Member of Congress

Michael E. McMahon
Member of Congress

John W. Olver
Member of Congress

Theodore E. Deutch
Member of Congress

Donald M. Payne
Member of Congress

Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress

Steven R. Rothman
Member of Congress

Gary L. Ackerman
Member of Congress

Maurice D. Hinchey
Member of Congress

Janice D. Schakowsky
Member of Congress

Eliot L. Engel
Member of Congress

Robert A. Brady
Member of Congress

Shelley Berkley
Member of Congress

Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress

Ron Klein
Member of Congress
Robert E. Andrews
Member of Congress

Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress

Niki Tsongas
Member of Congress
List of Signatories

1. Rep. Barney Frank
15. Rep. Donald M. Payne
20. Rep. Ron Klein
22. Rep. Steve Kagen
29. Rep. Laura Richardson
32. Rep. Patrick J. Kennedy
34. Rep. John J. Hall
List of Signatories, continued

35. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee
38. Rep. Danny K. Davis