ROBERT L. TURNER
9TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

## Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-3209

2104 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3209 PHONE: (202) 225-6616 FAX: (202) 226-0218

> 82–20A ELIOT AVENUE MIDDLE VILLAGE, NY 11379 PHONE: (718) 426–5000 FAX: (718) 426–5184

www.bobturner.house.gov

May 16, 2012

Ambassador Mark D. Wallace Chief Executive Officer United Against Nuclear Iran P.O. Box 1028 New York, NY 10185-1028

Dear Ambassador Wallace,

I would like to express my support and appreciation for the work of United Against Nuclear Iran ("UANI"). UANI is the most effective bi-partisan organization working to effectively confront the danger of a nuclear-armed Iran, and it effectively and actively contributes to our efforts to stop the Islamic Republic's nuclear program.

UANI's programs, projects and resources, such as its 'private sanctions' campaigns' as well as legislative and regulatory initiatives, effectively increase the economic pressure against Iran. At a time when the United States and the international community are working to further isolate Iran diplomatically and economically, UANI's work is essential. For example, this Congress has passed and is currently considering bold legislative initiatives to counter the Iranian threat – initiatives conceived and developed with input from UANI and other concerned groups. UANI's efforts to utilize the purchasing power of the federal government to compel international businesses to choose between doing business with the U.S. or Iran have resulted in numerous multinational companies ending their Iran business. UANI understands that if companies are forced to make a choice between the U.S. and Iran, that the economic imperatives make such a choice clear – leave Iran.

Specifically, I agree that four areas, as identified by UANI, will be of particular importance as we work towards implementing further sanctions legislation to economically isolate Iran, namely Banking, Insurance and Reinsurance, Disclosure and Debarment and Shipping ("BIDS"). UANI's BIDS strategy is particularly compelling as it would deny Iran access to crucial international finance and trade services. This strategy lays the necessary groundwork for additional sanctions action by the U.S. Congress to compel Iran to abandon its illicit nuclear program.

A bill which I introduced, H.R. 4070, works to advance the goals held by UANI and helps to right an old injustice. H.R. 4070 allows for the seizure of Iranian assets held by American banks, so that victims and the families of those killed in the Iranian-backed 1983

Beirut barracks bombing and 1996 Khobar Towers bombing can receive the financial compensation awarded to them by the federal courts- they deserve nothing less.

The U.S. and the world are waking up to the reality that nuclear weapons in the hands of Iran's radical leadership will fundamentally destabilize the region and dramatically increase the risk of a nuclear conflict. Existing efforts must be sustained and additional measures applied, to ensure that we are implementing the most robust sanctions in history. With these issues in mind, I applaud UANI's efforts to keep attention focused on Iran's attempts to develop a nuclear arsenal, threatening not only the Middle East, but the world

Sincerely,

Robert L. Turner Member of Congress