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One Hundred Nineteenth Congress
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Foreign Affairs
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Washington, DC 20515

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The Honorable Donald J. Trump President of the United States The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The Indo-Pacific is vital to America's security and prosperity and remains at the center of our strategic competition with the People's Republic of China (PRC). As Beijing aggressively expands its influence in the region, your personal attendance at three critical multilateral summits this fall is essential to demonstrate U.S. leadership and counter PRC ambitions – the East Asia Summit (EAS) in Malaysia, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Summit in South Korea, and a Quad Leaders' Summit in India.

The PRC is our most serious geopolitical challenge since the Cold War and nowhere is this rivalry sharper than in the Indo-Pacific. In recent months, Beijing has escalated military pressure, economic coercion, and diplomatic engagement in the region. President Xi Jinping has sought to showcase China's military and diplomatic might to the world, while proclaiming that China will lead the international and regional order.

These summits represent irreplaceable opportunities to advance American interests. APEC's 21 member economies represent nearly two-thirds of the global economy and nearly half of global trade. Our Quad partnership with Australia, Japan, and India serves as the cornerstone for advancing our shared interests in the Indo-Pacific. And the East Asia Summit and Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) meetings in Malaysia will be a platform for you to rally regional partners against Beijing's malign activities that directly threaten regional peace and prosperity, whether in the South China Sea or the Taiwan Strait. Equally important, these forums provide opportunities to affirm that America remains at the center of global commerce and attract more foreign direct investment.

Your participation in these summits would be a powerful response to Xi's diplomatic campaign, reassuring allies and reaffirming America's leadership in the region. Our partners seek your leadership. Your presence and voice will demonstrate that America remains committed to a free and open Indo-Pacific. We urge you to announce your decision to attend these summits as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

GREGORY W. MEEKS

Ranking Member

House Foreign Affairs Committee

YOUNG KIM Chairwoman

East Asia and Pacific Subcommittee

AMI BERA

Ranking Member

East Asia and Pacific Subcommittee

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CC:

Hon. Marco Rubio Secretary of State

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