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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-0922

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The Honorable Barack Obama
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing you today to join hundreds of others in my ardent support for you to extend clemency to Jonathan Pollard. Mr. Pollard is currently serving his 26th year of a life sentence term for espionage against the United States.

Mr. Pollard, no doubt, committed a serious crime in submitting United States classified documents to Israel. While I do not condone this crime, I believe that Mr. Pollard has served his time. Spending more than 5 years in solitary confinement in one of the most secure prisons in the United States, Mr. Pollard has learned his lesson. He has spoken out both publicly and privately, expressing incredible remorse for his crime, a crime which would normally carry a maximum 10-year sentence.

After serving 26 years behind bars, Jonathan Pollard's health is deteriorating, as is his wife's. If we can consent to the release by the British of the Lockerbie bomber back to Libya due to health concern, how can we justify keeping Mr. Pollard behind bars when his crimes were clearly not as serious as a terrorist who murdered hundreds of Americans?

Jonathan Pollard has served his time and has been sufficiently punished – it is time to grant him clemency.

Very Respectfully,

Allen B. West
Member of Congress