

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 6, 2024

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson:

We write to encourage you to invite Prime Minister Fumio Kishida of Japan to address a Joint Session of Congress during his Official Visit to the United States in April 2024. This year marks the 64th anniversary of the signing of the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty as well as the 5th anniversary of the signing of the U.S.-Japan Trade Agreement and U.S.-Japan Digital Trade Agreement. Inviting Prime Minister Kishida to address Congress would be a timely and tangible expression of the unwavering commitment of the United States to our Alliance and to a Free and Open Indo-Pacific.

The U.S.-Japan Alliance is the cornerstone of U.S. security interests in the Indo-Pacific. The United States has more active-duty service members in Japan than any other foreign country. In recent years, the Alliance has stood up to critical challenges in the region, including North Korean nuclear and missile threats and the Chinese military's aggressive actions in the Taiwan Strait, South China Sea, and elsewhere.

Our Alliance with Japan is also fundamental to stability and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific. Japan—a vibrant democracy with strong people-to-people ties with our country—is the fifth-largest goods trading partner with the United States. Japanese firms are the second-largest source of foreign direct investment in our country. Moreover, the United States and Japan have worked closely together to broaden critical multilateral partnerships in the region, including the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue with India and Australia as well as the Trilateral partnership with South Korea.

A strong U.S.-Japan Alliance is more important than ever. Inviting Prime Minister Kishida to address a Joint Session of Congress would further enhance our bilateral diplomatic ties and highlight the shared strategic interests and values between our two nations. We thank you for your consideration on this important matter.

Sincerely,



Bill Hagerty
United States Senator



Maize K. Hirono
United States Senator



Dan Sullivan
United States Senator



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator



Charles E. Grassley
United States Senator



Tim Kaine
United States Senator



Bill Cassidy, M.D.
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



John Barrasso, M.D.
United States Senator



Brian Schatz
United States Senator



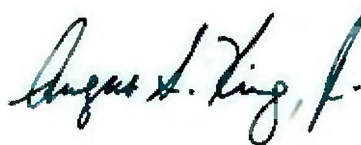
Mitt Romney
United States Senator



Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator



Mike Crapo
United States Senator



Angus S. King, Jr.
United States Senator



John Cornyn
United States Senator



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator



Lisa Murkowski
United States Senator



Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator



Todd Young
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



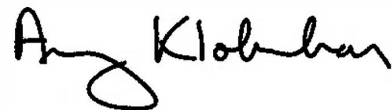
James E. Risch
United States Senator



Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator




Steve Daines
United States Senator



Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator



Marsha Blackburn
United States Senator



Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator



Thom Tillis
United States Senator



Ted Cruz
United States Senator



Lindsey O. Graham
United States Senator