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COMMITTEE ON
ARMED SERVICES

COMMITTEE ON
SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY

May 5, 2014

The Honorable John Kerry
Secretary of State
The United States Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

Secretary Kerry,

I write to you today regarding the arrest and detention of former Marine Andrew Tahmooressi. According to reports, Mr. Tahmooressi mistakenly entered Mexico on April 1, with three weapons which he owned legally in the United States. He was subsequently arrested by Mexican authorities and has sustained injuries while in custody. I understand that a trial is scheduled for May 28. I am gravely concerned about reports of Andrew's mistreatment while in custody and fear the potential harm that may come to Andrew during a protracted legal process.

Mr. Tahmooressi bravely served two tours of duty in Afghanistan in support of our nation and in defense of our freedom. He stood up for America as a member of our armed forces and deserves to have America standing behind him now. That is why I am writing to respectfully urge the State Department to give this matter its full attention. I strongly request that you engage the Mexican government to ensure that Andrew receives fair treatment and an expedited hearing of the facts.

I urge that everything possible be done to ensure his safety, well-being, fair treatment and quick return. I am continuing to monitor this situation very closely. Please keep me updated on any new developments in this very important case as they happen.

Sincerely,

Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress

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