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January 21, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Speaker U.S. House of Representatives H-232 U.S. Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer Majority Leader U.S. Senate S-221 U.S. Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Kevin McCarthy Republican Leader U.S. House of Representatives H-204 U.S. Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell Republican Leader U.S. Senate S-230 U.S. Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader McCarthy, Leader Schumer and Leader McConnell:

The events of January 6, 2021 raised concerns amongst federal law enforcement agencies, lawmakers, and the public regarding security protocols for the presidential inauguration on January 20, 2021. In turn, the Secret Service requested thousands of additional National Guardsmen and women to assist in providing security for the inauguration. In total, over 25,000 National Guard members from all 50 states and three U.S. territories were posted in the National Capital Region.

While the need for a force of this size is questionable, these service members took time away from their families and jobs to answer the call of duty. They succeeded in securing the Capitol and ensured the success of yesterday's inauguration ceremony and related inaugural events. These men and women of the National Guard deserve our utmost respect and gratitude.

It is unfortunate that these service members spent so much time travelling to Washington, D.C. and seeing the U.S. Capitol from the outside, but will not be able to see it from the inside. Before their departures home, I believe they should each have the opportunity to tour the very building they spent the last two weeks protecting. It is the very least we can do to show our gratitude for these fine men and women. I encourage you to work with National Guard leadership to coordinate such an opportunity for these service members.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Glenn Grothman
Member of Congress