

# United States Senate

July 17, 2015

The Honorable John Kerry  
Secretary of State  
Department of State  
2201 C Street N.W.  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

It has come to my attention that you intend to bring to the United Nations Security Council—as early as next week—a resolution to void past United Nations resolutions that ban and place sanctions on Iran's nuclear activities.

Like many of my colleagues in the Senate, both Democrats and Republicans, I find this disturbing and urge you to reverse this course of action. The American people, through their representatives in Congress, need to be able to debate and either approve or disapprove the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action before additional steps on Iranian sanctions are taken.

This agreement should fully withstand the scrutiny of a process that has already been signed into law by the passage of the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act before it comes to any outside body whose members are not citizens of the United States. As a former member of the U.S. Senate, and chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, you should be well aware that your current course of action would undermine the legal and Constitutional prerogatives of the U.S. Congress.

As a former assistant secretary of state, I know that we both share a profound respect for the role diplomacy plays as an instrument of American power. I know you also respect the tradition of the State Department, which has a long history of respecting the Constitutional and statutory role of the Congress to debate, implement, and exert oversight of American foreign policy.

Therefore, I ask that you refrain from bringing any resolution to the United Nations Security Council for adoption until the American people, through their representatives in Congress, exercise their voice in debating and voting on one of the most important national security issues to confront our nation in decades.

Sincerely,



Dan Sullivan  
United States Senator