Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

May 12, 2021

The Honorable Antony Blinken
Secretary
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Blinken:

We write to advocate for intercountry adoption, united by the belief that every child has a safe home with a loving family who is receiving the support it needs for a successful placement. The U.S. Department of State plays an instrumental role in this mission, and we encourage you to make intercountry adoption a priority in your dealings with countries working in partnership with the United States on such a meaningful and nonpartisan issue.

In particular, we are concerned about children in the People's Republic of China who are waiting to join their American adoptive families and respectfully request that the U.S. Department of State prioritize efforts to engage with the Chinese government to allow American adoptive families to travel to China so they can bring their adopted children home.

Several hundred American families have been approved and matched with children in China, but the pandemic has indefinitely halted many of these adoptions. In the interim, many children have been left without the love and protection of a family, and many families are still wondering when they will be able to bring their adopted children home. The United States maintains a concern for the security and welfare of children, and that is why we understand the need to enforce proper protocols that limit the spread of the coronavirus.

In fact, testing and quarantine periods can be implemented to address concerns about virus transmission. This is why we encourage the United States and China to hold diplomatic discussions at the highest levels to establish guidelines that allow American families to safely travel to China and unite with their adopted children.

We share the belief that uniting children with their adoptive families is a worthy and achievable goal and encourage your efforts to resolve this issue and renew the partnership in adoption between the United States and China. Many American families are eager to bring their children home and give them the affection and safety they deserve.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. As your partners in Congress, we look forward to working with you on this issue going forward.

Sincerely,

Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator

Roy Blunt
United States Senator

Cory A. Booker
United States Senator

Mike Braun
United States Senator

Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator

James Lankford
United States Senator

Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator

John Barrasso, M.D.
United States Senator

Tina Smith
United States Senator

Lindsey O. Graham
United States Senator

Patty Murray
United States Senator

Todd Young
United States Senator

Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator

John Thune
United States Senator

Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator

James M. Inhofe
United States Senator

Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator

Michael S. Lee
United States Senator

Ron Wyden
United States Senator

Richard Burr
United States Senator

Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senator

Jerry Moran
United States Senator

Edward J. Markey
United States Senator

John Hoeven
United States Senator

Sherrod Brown
United States Senator

John Boozman
United States Senator

Mark R. Warner
United States Senator

Dan Sullivan
United States Senator

Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator

Bill Cassidy, M.D.
United States Senator

Christopher S. Murphy
United States Senator

Josh Hawley
United States Senator

Raphael Warnock
United States Senator

Mitt Romney
United States Senator

Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator

Tim Scott
United States Senator

Joe Manchin III
United States Senator

Lisa Murkowski
United States Senator

Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator

Pat Toomey
United States Senator

Charles E. Grassley
United States Senator

M. Michael Rounds
United States Senator

Thom Tillis
United States Senator

Ron Portman
United States Senator

Roger Marshall, M.D.
United States Senator

Tommy Tuberville
United States Senator

Marco Rubio
United States Senator

Kevin Cramer
United States Senator

Tim Kaine
United States Senator

Roger F. Wicker
United States Senator