September 25, 2014

ISCAP@nara.gov
John P. Fitzpatrick, Executive Secretary
Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel
Attn: Mandatory Declassification Review Appeals
c/o Information Security Oversight Office
National Archives and Records Administration
700 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Room 503
Washington, DC 20408.

Re: ISCAP Appeal No. 2014-089

Dear Mr. Fitzpatrick:

We, the undersigned members of the 113th United States Congress, submit this letter to express our strong support for the above-referenced appeal, which we understand seeks the mandatory declassification of Pages 416 through 443 of the 107th Congress’s Joint Inquiry into Intelligence Community Activities before and after the Terrorist Attacks of September 11, 2001 (the “Joint Inquiry”).

As elected representatives of the American people, we take very seriously our duty to protect national security interests, as well as our duty to uphold the foundational principle of transparent and open government. With those guiding principles in mind, we have reviewed the 28 classified pages and conclude that the information contained therein is not properly classified at this time. More specifically, we firmly believe that declassification of the 28 pages would enhance, not harm, U.S. national security interests.

As you know, the Joint Inquiry report acknowledged that the classified 28 pages contain information regarding “specific sources of foreign support for some of the September 11 hijackers while they were in the United States.” We believe that declassification would advance national security by contributing to the national debate over the lingering mystery of how the September 11 attacks were financed and whether the perpetrators received support from persons or entities linked to foreign governments.

We applaud the Panel’s impressive track record of declassifying important historical material for which classified treatment is no longer warranted. We are confident that you will continue to exercise your statutorily-granted authority in a reasoned and independent manner and will agree that the time has come to declassify the 28 pages in question.

Finally, we understand that the persons who filed this appeal have offered to make witnesses available to the Panel. These witnesses are in a unique position to shed light on the key issues in this appeal. Potential witnesses include former U.S. Senator Bob Graham (D-
Fla.), who co-chaired the Joint Inquiry, as well as 9/11 family members to whom President Obama has previously expressed a willingness to declassify the 28 pages. We encourage the Panel to hear from these witnesses in person, as we believe they can offer further support for our position that the 28 pages at issue in this appeal should be declassified.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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Thomas Massie                9/25/14

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Walter B. Jones              9/25/14

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Walter Jones                 9/25/14

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Stephen Lynch                9/25/14

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Paul Broun                   9/25/14

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Ted Yoho                     9/25/14

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Mark Sanford                 9/25/14

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Howard Coble                 9/25/14

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Steve Stockman               9/25/14