RETIRED MILITARY LEADERS URGE OPPOSITION TO PAUL AMENDMENT

September 21, 2012

Dear Senator:

As co-chairs of the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition's <u>National Security Advisory Council</u>, a group of more than 110 retired three- and four-star generals and admirals, we believe that the International Affairs Budget -- U.S. foreign assistance -- is critical to America's national security.

Like all Americans, we are concerned about the recent events that have taken place in Cairo, Benghazi, and other parts of the Arab world. However, a wholesale suspension of U.S. assistance to nations in this region is not in America's security interests.

U.S. assistance is not a gift to recipient nations. It is not a tool to make other countries like us. It's a critical component, along with a robust military, of America's national security strategy. These programs pay dividends in terms of our national security and preventing another 9/11.

America must remain strongly engaged in the world. We urge opposition to the amendment offered by Senator Rand Paul to suspend U.S. assistance to several nations in the most volatile regions of the world.

Thank you for your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,

Admiral James M. Loy, USCG (Ret.) Co-Chair, National Security Advisory Council General Michael W. Hagee, USMC (Ret.) Co-Chair, National Security Advisory Council

M. W. Hoge

A full list of the National Security Advisory Council is attached



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