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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0603

May 3, 2019

The Honorable Mike Pompeo
Secretary
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

Mr. Secretary,

The United States must remain strong in its support of the Venezuelan people and the legitimate government of interim President Juan Guaidó. I want to thank you for your leadership during this critical time. I am concerned that the Venezuelan people and the government of interim President Guaidó are being prevented from entering their embassy in Washington, DC. As you are aware, the embassy is currently being illegally occupied by a small group of radical pro-Maduro Code Pink activists. It is an injustice to the Venezuelan people that they are unable to enter their embassy because this group of American extremists is preventing their access. Just this week, Ambassador Carlos Vecchio spoke in front of the embassy to supporters but was unable to enter despite being recognized by the United States as the legitimate Ambassador from Venezuela.

I was glad to see that U.S. envoy for Venezuela, Elliott Abrams stated that Code Pink was breaking the law and condemned their presence in the embassy. However, it is concerning that these trespassers are still being allowed to stay there in violation of the law and have not been removed. I respectfully urge that the Venezuelan Embassy be returned to the Venezuelan people and the legitimate government of Venezuela led by interim President Juan Guaidó as soon as possible, and that those who have been illegally occupying the embassy face the full consequences of their actions under the law. I am concerned about the precedent this sets in the eyes of other countries who have diplomatic relations with the United States and have established embassies here in Washington, as well as the message it sends to the Venezuelan people who are fighting to be free from the dictator, Nicholas Maduro.

I look forward to your prompt attention to this matter and await your response.

Sincerely,



Scott R. Tipton
Member of Congress