STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0065
(916) 319-2065
FAX (916) 319-2165

DISTRICT OFFICE
6281 BEACH BOULEVARD, SUITE 304
BUENA PARK, CA 90621
(714) 521-6505
FAX (714) 521-6515

ASM.CA.GOV/QUIRK-SILVA

Assembly
California Legislature

SHARON QUIRK-SILVA
CHAIR: COMMITTEE ON JOBS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND THE ECONOMY
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SIXTY-FIFTH DISTRICT

COMMITTEES
CHAIR: JOBS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND THE ECONOMY
ACCOUNTABILITY AND ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW
HEALTH
HIGHER EDUCATION
VETERANS AFFAIRS

August 15, 2017

The Honorable Rex W. Tillerson
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
Washington D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Tillerson,

Today, on the 72nd anniversary of National Liberation Day of Korea, we wish to express our profound concern over the statements previously made by President Trump last week. His words dramatically increased tensions with North Korea, a nation with nuclear weapons capability. This rhetoric is dangerous, and instead requires a diplomatic and more level-headed approach.

Orange County, California is home to the second largest Korean population in the United States of America. Our Korean community exemplifies the American Dream, and the proud and rich history of a people in search of opportunity, and the freedoms America presents to those who want to make a better life for their families and children. Furthermore, the many veterans in the Orange County Korean community uphold the highest ideals of the United States through their dedicated service and considerable sacrifice.

On behalf of our proud Korean community here in Orange County, and throughout the State of California, we urge you to do everything in your power to ensure that President Trump and other Administration officials understand the importance of speaking and acting with the utmost caution and restraint on this delicate issue. This conflict would endanger our servicemembers and regional allies abroad. To allay these concerns, the Trump Administration should publicly declare its agreement with the constitutional requirement that any preemptive attack on North Korea must be debated and authorized by Congress.

We strongly support your recent statements calling for direct talks with North Korea and offering assurances that our country is not their enemy and does not seek war or regime change. This accords with the approach that 64 Members of Congress urged in the letter to President Trump, and is also backed by leading experts on US-North Korea policy, including former Secretary of Defense William Perry, former Secretary of State George Schultz and former Senator Richard Lugar who have

Printed on Recycled Paper

stated that our country "should make clear that the United States does not have hostile intentions toward North Korea."

On the occasion of the 72nd anniversary of liberation, we wish for freedom, peace, and well-being for the people of the United States and the Republic of Korea, against constant threat from North Korea. We look forward to supporting the administration's diplomatic initiatives and avoid a potential war that will harm the Korean community in Orange County, and throughout America.

Sincerely,

Sharon Quirk-Silva
Assemblymember, 65th District

Tom Daly
Assemblymember, 69th District