

Last updated: Friday, August 27th 2021

Compiled in coordination with [Afghans For a Better Tomorrow](#)

HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT

This document is an attempt to centralize contact information and demands for US politicians regarding Afghanistan. When using it to make calls, we recommend having it open on a browser in two windows if possible, one with contact information visible and one with the script up. The doc is organized as follows:

The first part of this document helps you know **who to contact**. There's reference for looking up your senators and representatives — the most important calls you can make as a constituent — and for key members of committees with supposed interest in Afghanistan. For the committees, each chairperson and ranking minority member is listed with numbers for their DC offices. **Please call every number on the list. If a member is from your state or district, consider clicking through to their website to call their local offices as well.** You will likely reach many voicemails, as people are teleworking during COVID. **Please leave a voicemail message reading through the script as your comment to your rep.**

The second part gives you a **script of what to say**. This section will be updated as often as possible by trusted folks aligned with Afghan community organizations. It will prioritize the demands of the current moment, as people's circumstances are changing by the hour. Improvise or abbreviate the script as you feel fit and comfortable to do; the key points we are demanding are highlighted in a light yellow. Check [here](#) (or elsewhere on the internet!) for some advice on calling your reps.

The last parts of the document are **additional and on-going demands** and **further (re)sources**. We may draw from these additional demands to rapidly update the call script.

WHO TO CONTACT

Find your Senators and Representatives:

Congressional Switchboard (just call and provide your zip code):

202-224-3121

Manual lookup:

<https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>

<https://www.senate.gov/senators/senators-contact.htm>

House Committees:

Committee on Armed Services ([full list of members](#))

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Adam Smith | Chairman, D WA | (202) 225-8901 |
| Mike Rogers | Ranking member, R AL | (202) 225-3261 |

Committee on Veterans' Affairs ([full list of members](#))

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Mark Takano | Chairman, D CA | 202.225.2305 |
| Mike Bost | Ranking member, R IL | (202) 225-5661 |

Committee on Homeland Security ([full list of members](#))

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Bennie Thompson | Chairman, D MS | (202) 225-5876 |
| John Katko | Ranking member, R NY | (202) 225-3701 |

Committee on Foreign Affairs ([full list of members](#))

| | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Gregory Meeks | Chairman, D NY | (202) 225-3461 |
| Michael McCaul | Ranking Member, R TX | 202-225-2401 |

Senate Committees:

Committee on Foreign Relations ([full list of members](#))

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Robert Menendez | Chairman, D NJ | (202) 224-4744 |
| James Risch | Ranking member, R ID | 202-224-2752 |

Committee on Homeland Security ([full list of members](#))

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Gary Peters | Chairman, D MI | (202) 224-6221 |
| Rob Portman | Ranking member, R OH | 202-224-3353 |

Committee on Veterans' Affairs ([full list of members](#))

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Jon Tester | Chairman, D MT | (202) 224-2644 |
| Jerry Moran | Ranking member, R KS | (202) 224-6521 |

Committee on Armed Services ([full list of members](#) | [full list of staff](#))

| | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Jack Reed | Chairman, D RI | (202) 224-464 |
| James Inhofe | Ranking member, R OK | (202) 224-4721 |

8/27 IMMEDIATE PRIORITY

Hello, My name is _____ and I live at _____ in _____. My number is _____.

I am calling to urge that the US extend the deadline to evacuate Afghans at risk of repression and targeting by the Taliban past the arbitrary August 31st date. Flights are leaving empty. Thousands of US citizens, permanent residents, Afghans with SIV and other visas, and those eligible for humanitarian parole cannot reach Hamid Karzai International Airport, let alone leave the country. Stopping evacuations at this time would be unconscionable.

The US government must set up a system that ensures orderly and safe passage into the airport for evacuation. Additionally, we must continue to provide government-run evacuation flights.

It's imperative that the US government also establish a centralized crisis line to assist in the evacuations of US citizens, green card holders, and other vulnerable Afghans, including women, civil society activists, LGBTQ+, religious and ethnic minorities, and other endangered groups.

The US government must also drop all immigration red tape and paperwork for those seeking refuge by giving humanitarian parole to those who seek it and waiving the \$575 processing fee for Afghan applicants. This is vitally important in order for third-party countries to serve as landing bases for evacuation flights. Countries are currently not allowing this because they are reluctant to take in Afghan refugees. The US government must be the ones to take lead on this effort.

Throughout this effort, we need to maintain the commitments we've already made. We must push international funds and INGOs to continue operating and supplying aid on the ground. Further, the Department of Homeland Security must designate Afghans for Temporary Protected Status to prevent deportations or other returns to Afghanistan, which would be almost certain death sentences. USCIS must also expedite the adjudication of pending affirmative asylum cases of Afghan nationals.

Thank you.

ADDITIONAL / ON-GOING DEMANDS

The US must also leverage its diplomacy to ensure that third-party processing countries drop visa requirements for those fleeing Afghanistan. These requirements are difficult to meet in the best of times, let alone during a humanitarian disaster and political collapse of a country.

Support H.R. 4736, the Improving Access for Afghan Refugees Act, and acts akin to the same including the Afghan Allies Protection Extension Act, Afghan Allies Protection Act, Save Our Afghan Allies Act, Hope for Afghan SIVs Act.

Dedicate additional funding to be made immediately available to the remaining NGOs, especially those focused on protecting Afghan women, children, and religious and ethnic minorities.

We continue to urge the Biden Administration to ensure the safety of the most vulnerable by using diplomacy to pressure the Taliban into an immediate, unconditional ceasefire. The only solution to Afghanistan's crisis is peace. We are continuing our call on all parties to the conflict to agree to an immediate, unconditional ceasefire.

(RE)SOURCES

[Updated, compiled list of resources](#)

[Mobilize 4 Change Congressional petition](#)

[Afghans For A Better Tomorrow urgent message \(8/14\)](#)

[Congressional letter and links to established emergency aid orgs working in Afghanistan](#)

[Pathways to migration to the US, UK, EU and Canada](#)

[Afghanistan Relief Card \(helpful for sharing on social profiles\)](#)

[Resources on Afghanistan - for finding Afghan perspectives, donating, volunteering, and learning more](#)