

Dear <Senator X, Congresswoman Y, Representative Z>:

I am writing to request your attention on the issue of international parental child abduction, in particular the repeated failure of South Korea to return abducted American children year after year. South Korea is a friend, ally, and treaty partner for the USA, yet the US State Department has listed it as non-compliant with its Hague Abduction Convention treaty obligations in both its 2022 and 2023 annual reports. The reason is that despite finalized return orders, confirmed by the Korean Supreme Court, the South Korean authorities have failed to actually enforce these court decisions. As a result, American parents have become cut off from their abducted children for many years, with no help from any government. You can find out more at this [change.org](https://www.change.org/p/reunite-all-children-abducted-to-south-korea-with-their-left-behind-parents) petition:

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I would like to request your help in resolving this issue. According to the *Sean and David Goldman International Child Abduction Prevention and Return Act* of 2014, Congress has already granted the State Department the diplomatic tools necessary to pressure foreign governments into resolving child abduction cases promptly. However, the State Department has generally avoided using anything stronger than a *démarche*. I ask you to hold hearings in which left-behind parents can speak out and request that the stronger diplomatic tools of the Goldman Act be used: e.g. extradition requests, visa restrictions, and cancellation of bilateral meetings on unrelated issues. In addition, I ask you to propose legislation targeted at South Korea and other non-compliant nations, denying them favors such as financial assistance or economic cooperation until they return our abducted children. Finally, please write a formal letter directly to the Korean embassy in Washington, DC. You can use this letter from 2020 regarding Japan as an example:

<https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/press/dem/releases/feinstein-tillis-urge-japanese-government-to-resolve-all-remaining-international-parental-abduction-cases>

I strongly believe that you as my representative can help these abducted children and their parents. By working together with the rest of your Congressional peers, we can ensure that the human rights of all of our citizens are respected, and that the rule of law is upheld internationally.

Thank you very much for your time,
<Your Name Here>