

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

August 21, 2025

The Honorable Donald Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20500

The Honorable Marco Rubio
Secretary
US Department of State
2201 C St NW
Washington, DC 20451

Dear President Trump and Secretary Rubio:

Across the United States, tens of thousands of members of the Korean American community are seeking to reunify with their loved ones who were separated from family as a result of the Korean War. These divided families have relatives living on both sides of the 38th parallel, marking the divide between North and South Korea. Seven decades after the armistice, the lack of reunification opportunities—or even information about the whereabouts of family members—remains a source of deep pain for many.

Congress has sought to assist divided families by engaging our diplomatic resources in reunification efforts. In 2023, the bipartisan Divided Families Reunification Act, H.R. 826, became law.¹ Accordingly, the Secretary of State must “consult with officials of South Korea, as appropriate, on potential opportunities to reunite Korean American families with family members in North Korea.” The Secretary must also include representatives of the Korean American community in such efforts.

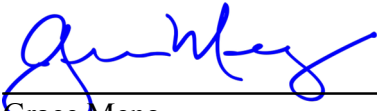
With South Korean President Lee’s coming visit to the White House on August 25, we believe your Administration has a golden opportunity to engage our Korean counterparts in advancing efforts to reunify divided families.

Seven decades after the armistice, time is running out. We urge you to include divided families in the conversations with South Korea as it is an issue of great importance to Korean Americans across the nation. We respectfully request a response from you prior to President Lee’s upcoming visit regarding this request, and another update immediately following the visit to better understand how we can continue supporting these families in their reunification efforts.

Sincerely,

¹ Public Law 117-263, Section 5599B

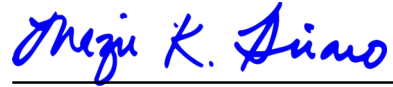
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Grace Meng
Member of Congress



Young Kim
Member of Congress



Mazie K. Hirono
United States Senator