

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 30, 2022

The Honorable Robert Menendez
Chairman
Committee on Foreign Relations
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable James E. Risch
Ranking Member
Committee on Foreign Relations
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Menendez and Ranking Member Risch,

I write to encourage the Senate Foreign Relations Committee's expeditious consideration of the nomination of Ambassador Philip S. Goldberg to be the next U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Korea.

With President-elect Yoon Suk-yeol slated to take office on May 10, the United States urgently needs Senate-confirmed representation in Seoul to address regional and global challenges.

The U.S.-ROK alliance is vital to international peace and security. Last year, I visited Korea to meet with diplomatic, political, and industrial leaders, including with President-elect Yoon. I also inspected U.S. military facilities and consulted our military leadership in the ROK.

My visit affirmed that U.S.-ROK cooperation is strong. Our trade, diplomatic, and military-to-military relations are robust. While the United States has been ably served for the past 13 months by our Embassy team, the swift consideration and confirmation of a qualified ambassador will reinforce our commitment to this alliance and enhance the impact of our Embassy's daily efforts.

In December of 2021, I urged President Biden to nominate an ambassador to the ROK, and in February of this year, he appointed Ambassador Goldberg to fulfill this role. I respectfully urge the Foreign Relations Committee to consider this nomination at the first possible opportunity.

I thank you for your attention to this request and am ready to assist with this effort in any way that we can.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jon Ossoff", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jon Ossoff
United States Senator