The Honorable Mike Pompeo  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Pompeo,

We thank you for your leadership in encouraging a speedy resolution to Mr. William Anh Nguyen’s case during your meetings with the General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Nguyen Phu Trong, Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc, and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Pham Binh Minh on July 9, 2018. We are also grateful for the professional and effective work of your staff to date on this matter. We write to you today to ask that you take additional action to secure Mr. Nguyen’s release and return him to his family in the United States without further delay.

As you may know, on June 9, Mr. Nguyen arrived in Ho Chi Minh City for a short vacation before his upcoming graduation at the National University of Singapore in July. The following day, Mr. Nguyen attended peaceful demonstrations opposing the Vietnamese government’s plans to establish special economic zones (SEZs). As Vietnamese police attempted to contain these demonstrations, Mr. Nguyen was taken into police custody and investigated under Article 318, “Disturbing the Public Order.” He was subsequently charged under the criminal component of Article 318, and scheduled for trial on July 20, 2018. If convicted, Mr. Nguyen faces a possible sentence of 2 to 7 years in a Vietnamese jail and/or a fine. As elected representatives of Mr. Nguyen’s family and the greater Vietnamese-American community, we remain very concerned about the seriousness of the pending charges and the sentence he faces.

One of our most important responsibilities as elected representatives is to protect the American people, both at home and abroad. Writing today as a bipartisan and bicameral group of Members of the House and Senate, we strongly urge you to use all diplomatic means at your disposal to ensure Mr. Nguyen’s swift return to the United States.

Consistent with the mission of your Department, there is no doubt that a favorable resolution to this matter will advance the national interests of the United States and its people.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Gomez  
Member of Congress

John A. Culberson  
Member of Congress

Chris Smith  
Member of Congress
John Cornyn  
United States Senator

Ted Cruz  
United States Senator

J. Luis Correa  
Member of Congress

Alan Lowenthal  
Member of Congress

Robert Pittenger  
Member of Congress

Randy Weber  
Member of Congress

V. O. M  
Member of Congress

Al Green  
Member of Congress

Ro Khanna  
Member of Congress

Grace F. Napolitano  
Member of Congress

Luis V. Gutiérrez  
Member of Congress

Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress

Scott H. Peters  
Member of Congress

Gone Green  
Member of Congress

Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senator

Kamala D. Harris  
United States Senator