

[REDACTED]

DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON, DC

AUG 19 2022

The Honorable Ron Wyden
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jerry Moran
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Wyden and Moran:

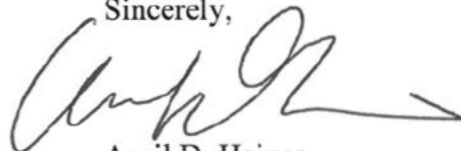
(U) I am writing on behalf of the President regarding your 25 May 2022 letter in which you urged the Biden administration to begin the process of updating Executive Order 13526, *Classified National Security Information*, as well as make meaningful investments in automatic declassification and other modernizing technologies necessary to adapt the classification and declassification system to a digital environment. As you correctly stated in your letter, it is my continued view that deficiencies in the current system undermine our national security, as well as critical democratic objectives.

(U) [REDACTED] That is why I am pleased to inform you that departments and agencies are participating in a White House-led process to address these issues—a process the Intelligence Community (IC) fully supports. This process will engage all key stakeholders, to include the Congress, advocacy organizations, and academic partners, to obtain a wide range of viewpoints on the challenges associated with standardizing information management, classification, declassification, and the control of sensitive information.

(U) In addition, I previously shared with you examples that illustrate efforts currently underway within the IC to improve the declassification process, many of which have the potential for improving other agencies' processes as well. These examples represent areas of investment that we believe will allow us to enhance and modernize the declassification process and methods for identifying and prioritizing material that is in the public interest for review. I have since updated that information for the next Fiscal Year, and am including this update in my response.

(U) I remain appreciative of your efforts in this realm and hope to work with you further on these challenges, which I also know are of great importance to the President. If you have additional questions, you may contact Legislative Affairs [REDACTED]

Sincerely,



Avril D. Haines

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Upon removal of attachments, this document is UNCLASSIFIED [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The Honorable Ron Wyden
The Honorable Jerry Moran

Enclosure:

(U) ODNI Document, Declassification Efforts Currently Underway within the IC, July 2022 [REDACTED]

Cc:

The Honorable Antony J. Blinken
The Honorable Lloyd J. Austin, III
The Honorable Merrick Garland
The Honorable Jennifer M. Granholm
The Honorable Alejandro Mayorkis
Mr. Jake Sullivan
Mr. Mark A. Bradley