

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0539

April 26, 2021

The Honorable Barbara Lee
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on State, Foreign
Operations, and Related Programs
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Hal Rogers
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on State, Foreign
Operations, and Related Programs
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Lee and Ranking Member Rogers:

As you begin work on the fiscal year 2022 State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Bill, I urge that your committee add language supporting access to information within North Korea.

Inclusion of this language and adequate funding for broadcasting operations into North Korea is essential because it is the best way to promote change in North Korea is to disseminate outside information. Outside information encourages defections and challenges the propaganda-driven narratives the Kim regime uses to maintain its control.

At fiscal year 2022 level funding from previous fiscal years, the program will be able to continue serving as the backbone of U.S. information dissemination into North Korea. Specifically, I request you to include the following language in the FY22 State, Foreign Operations and Related Agencies Appropriations bill:

“BROADCASTS.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “International Broadcasting Operations” shall be made available to maintain broadcasts into North Korea at levels no lower than the prior fiscal year.”

I urge you to support this funding level for broadcasting operations into North Korea. Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'YK', written in a cursive style.

Young Kim
Member of Congress