

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 24, 2021

The Honorable Antony Blinken
Secretary of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Blinken:

As Hondurans head to the polls to elect their national and local representatives, it is critical that the United States strongly advocate for a free, fair, and peaceful electoral process. Should these elections be perceived as illegitimate by Hondurans and the international community, the country could face political instability and violence.

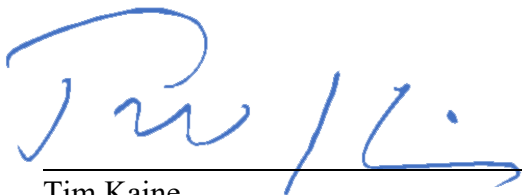
The general election scheduled this weekend is an important opportunity for Honduras to demonstrate the resilience of its democracy and commitment to the rule of law. The United States must use its influence with Honduras and within the region to support an open and transparent electoral process that is accepted by Hondurans and the international community.

Two hurricanes last year caused nearly \$2 billion worth of damage, and many Hondurans have suffered from economic uncertainty because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The obstacles to inclusive economic prosperity have convinced much of the country's population to consider emigration, including six out of ten millennials. We are pleased that the United States has supported Honduras throughout these difficult times, including through the donation of millions of doses of COVID-19 vaccines. Nevertheless, without a stable and democratically elected government, Honduras will be unable to fully meet these numerous challenges.

The United States and Honduras share an important and long-standing partnership. Our countries are united by extensive economic cooperation, shared regional concerns, and a deep cultural connection between our two peoples. We support the Honduran people's desire for an open and inclusive democratic society. Now more than ever, it is imperative that the United States stand with Hondurans in support of those aspirations and towards a brighter future.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Tim Kaine
United States Senator



Marco Rubio
United States Senator