The New York Times

Spurning Demand by the Taliban, Biden Moves to Split \$7 Billion in Frozen Afghan Funds

The president intends to use the Afghan central bank's assets to fund humanitarian relief and other needs in Afghanistan, and compensate victims of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

- 1. <u>Find your Member of Congress.</u> *Remember: you have two Senators and one Representative.*
- 2. Send this email to all three.
- 3. Call their office and read this email as a script.
- 4. Tweet your member of Congress and tag @POTUS @JoeBiden @WhiteHouse @StateDept. Click this <u>link to tweet</u>.
- 5. <u>Sign our petition</u> and spread the word.

Last Updated: Wednesday, February 16th 2022

Subject: Frozen Afghan Funds Must Go To Central Bank of Afghanistan

Hello [name of staffer/Senator/or Representative],

I'm writing in response to Biden's executive order issued last week, in which the administration is looking to move a <u>portion of Afghanistan's frozen funds to the families of 9/11 victims</u>.

As [name of the Member of Congress]'s constituent, I am outraged by this. These are public funds owned by the Afghan people.

This executive order and the economic strangulation of the Afghan economy serves as collective punishment on a people already on the brink of starvation. I urge the [Senator/Representative] to speak out swiftly against this. I urge my [Senator/Representative] to pressure the Biden administration to do the following:

- First, the administration must rescind the executive order and ensure all of the \$7.1 billion in reserves are used to allow the Central Bank of Afghanistan (or Da Afghanistan Bank, DAB) to perform its basic functions. None of the \$3.5 billion should be used for humanitarian means, an obligation that the United States can fulfill with its own resources. Afghan reserves belong to the Afghan people.
- Secondly, the United States should pay the salaries of unpaid loyal civil servants in Afghanistan and should provide Afghanistan with urgent and immediate sanctions relief.

- The United States should also make an outsized pledge in additional emergency funding for the United Nations' 2022 humanitarian appeal, in addition to its current contribution. The US has a moral obligation to repair harm to the Afghan people through this aid.
- Lastly, I urge you to support the <u>Merkley (D-OR)/Connolly (D-VA) letter</u> on Afghanistan's humanitarian crisis.

Thank you,

[Your name]