Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 10, 2014

The Honorable Barack Obama
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20500

The Honorable John Kerry
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2291 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear President Obama and Secretary Kerry:

As Members of the North Texas Congressional delegation, we are calling for an immediate travel ban to the United States from Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. The prompt implementation of this policy would greatly reduce the chances for Ebola to spread in the United States beyond the current case in Dallas, Texas. We have seen firsthand the significant impact that just one confirmed case of Ebola is having on our North Texas community and all available precautions, including a travel ban on affected countries, must be taken to stop the spread of the disease.

Last year, the State Department issued approximately 13,500 visas to residents of Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. Many US visas are valid for up to five years and would have been issued long before the outbreak of Ebola in West Africa and presently remain valid. The United States should immediately suspend all visas for travel to the United States and cease issuing new visas from Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone until the Ebola epidemic in West Africa has significantly subsided or ended.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please feel free to contact us at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Hon. Kenny Marchant
Member of Congress

Hon. Sam Johnson
Member of Congress

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Hon. Joe Barton
Member of Congress

Hon. Pete Sessions
Member of Congress

Hon. Louie Gohmert
Member of Congress

Hon. Roger Williams
Member of Congress