## Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

February 14, 2020

The Honorable Michael Pompeo Secretary U.S. Department of State 2201 C Street, NW Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Pompeo:

As members of the Wisconsin delegation, we write to express our strong opposition to your department's reported efforts to facilitate the repatriation of certain Hmong residents of the United States, including those who are legal permanent residents, to Laos. This action is a cause of extraordinary concern to the 49,000 members of the Hmong community living in Wisconsin, and we strongly urge you to reconsider this course immediately.

Most of the Hmong residents with deportation orders come from refugee families. We reject the continued deportations of immigrants and refugees without regard for human rights and due process. We condemn the efforts to deport Hmong Americans, most of whom are refugees who have already faced separation from their families during and after the Lao Civil War.

As Members of Congress from Wisconsin, we are proud to represent many Hmong constituents who are a valued part of our state. We are troubled that you would negotiate with the Laotian government to facilitate returning those who came here fleeing persecution and violence and have been in the United States for years. We strongly urge you to cease efforts to deport Hmong people living in the U.S. immediately.

Sincerely,

Mark Pocan

Member of Congress

Gwen Moore

Member of Congress

Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator