

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

January 14, 2021

The Honorable Zoe Lofgren
Chairperson
Committee on House
Administration
1309 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rodney Davis
Ranking Member
Committee on House
Administration
1740 Longworth HOB
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Chairperson Lofgren and Ranking Member Davis,

We write to you to express our gratitude for the National Guard, law enforcement, and other public safety personnel that are currently protecting Congress and preparing to safeguard the inauguration. While it is a sad state of affairs that we require such protection to defend our Capitol, we are deeply grateful for their service to our nation. They are not only defenders of our democracy but are welcomed guests during this time.

In order to demonstrate our gratitude and hospitality during these extraordinary times, we respectfully request that members of the National Guard, law enforcement, and other public safety personnel are permitted to use shower and locker room facilities within the House. Providing the men and women that are working to keep us safe the small comforts of a hot shower and a place to refresh is the least we can do to thank them for their services. It is unclear how long they may need to protect and defend the Capitol complex, and providing access to showers to freshen up can make all the difference after long shifts. Additionally, we ask that you consider the procurement of cots, bedding, or other materials that would allow personnel forced to overnight in the Capitol complex or those on rest status some comfort.

We also request that the House Dining facilities provide these personnel with hot meals, free of charge, to the extent that is practicable while also ensuring the safety of staff. Our dining facilities offer a wide range of healthy options rarely available to mobilized units. We should not only offer as many dining options as we can, but also provide members of the Guard with free meals three times a day. Should cost be an issue, we stand ready to find ways to ensure that the costs of meals remain free to those serving.

We are grateful for the Guardmembers, law enforcement, and public safety personnel that are working tirelessly to keep us safe. While the Capitol complex buildings are meant for conducting the People's business and do not provide many comforts for sleeping, eating, and resting, any accommodations we can make to ease their stay is the least we can do to show our gratitude. Thank you for your consideration of our requests and your support for those keeping us safe.

Sincerely,



Cindy Axne
Member of Congress



Jason Crow
Member of Congress

Andre Carson
Member of Congress

David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress

Nanette Diaz Barragan
Member of Congress

Chrissy Houlahan
Member of Congress

Andy Kim
Member of Congress

Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress

James P. McGovern
Member of Congress

Seth Moulton
Member of Congress

Chris Pappas
Member of Congress

Mike Quigley
Member of Congress

Tim Ryan
Member of Congress