July 20th, 2017

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, the Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
House Majority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-107, the Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Chairman Bob Goodlatte
House Committee on the Judiciary
2138 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Ryan, Majority Leader McCarthy, and Chairman Goodlatte:

We write regarding legislation that will secure residency for Charlie Gard and his parents. As you know, this is a time-sensitive issue related to a child’s fight for his life and the right of his parents to seek care for his condition. We urge you to bring legislation to the floor for a vote before the House of Representatives adjourns for the month of August.

As you know, eleven-month-old Charlie Gard suffers from the rare genetic condition, infantile-onset encephalomyopathic mitochondrial DNA depletion syndrome (MDDS), which causes progressive muscle weakness and brain damage. London’s Great Ormond Street Hospital planned to remove Charlie’s life support. His parents oppose this course of action and have been requesting experimental treatment that could improve his condition since last November. They have now raised sufficient funds to come to the U.S. to receive treatment from doctors who are specialized in MDDS. However, the Family Division of Britain’s High Court denied his parents’ request to travel to the U.S. for the experimental treatment.

Legislation has been introduced that would grant lawful permanent resident status in the U.S. to Charlie Gard and his parents in order that he may come to the U.S. to receive medical treatment and continue to fight for his life.

Not only does experimental treatment provide the only chance to save Charlie’s life, it also offers the opportunity for Charlie to positively impact the chance of recovery for others suffering from this condition in the future. Time is of the essence in this little boy’s life. Once again, we respectfully urge you to bring legislation to the floor before the House adjourns.

Sincerely,

Jaime Herrera Beutler
Member of Congress

Trent Franks
Member of Congress
Brad Wenstrup, DPM
Member of Congress

Jeff Fortenberry
Member of Congress

Bob Gibbs
Member of Congress

Doug Lamborn
Member of Congress

Jody Hice
Member of Congress

Glenn Grothman
Member of Congress

Kristi Noem
Member of Congress

Matt Gaetz
Member of Congress

Chris Smith
Member of Congress

Kevin Yoder
Member of Congress

Ann Wagner
Member of Congress

Jim Bridenstine
Member of Congress

Daniel Webster
Member of Congress

Robert Aderholt
Member of Congress

Kevin Cramer
Member of Congress

Dave Brat
Member of Congress
Andy Harris, M.D.
Member of Congress

Barry Loudermilk
Member of Congress

French Hill
Member of Congress

Evan Jenkins
Member of Congress

Ron DeSantis
Member of Congress

Bill Posey
Member of Congress

James Comer
Member of Congress

Andy Biggs
Member of Congress

Rodney Davis
Member of Congress

Chuck Fleischmann
Member of Congress

Leonard Lance
Member of Congress

Mark Meadows
Member of Congress

Sean Duffy
Member of Congress

Bradley Byrne
Member of Congress

John Faso
Member of Congress

Diane Black
Member of Congress
Vicky Hartzler
Member of Congress

Dan Lipinski
Member of Congress

Ralph Abraham, M.D.
Member of Congress

Martha Roby
Member of Congress

Tim Murphy
Member of Congress

Chris Stewart
Member of Congress

Jim Banks
Member of Congress

Bill Johnson
Member of Congress

Neal Dunn, M.D.
Member of Congress

John Moolenaar
Member of Congress

Louie Gohmert
Member of Congress

John Ratcliffe
Member of Congress
Rep. Warren Davidson
Member of Congress

Adrian Smith
Member of Congress

Roger Williams
Member of Congress