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Subject: Statement by HPSCI Chairman - HPSCI Chairman Urges All to Weigh the Intel & Fully Consider the Impact on US Interests



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HPSCI Chairman Mike Rogers Urges All to Weigh the Intelligence and Fully Consider the Impact on US Interests

“In response to the Assad regime’s brutal chemical weapons attack last week, President Obama will seek congressional authorization for the use of military force in Syria. Members of Congress and the American people have many questions about the dire situation in Syria, and I urge all Members to consider both the intelligence assessments underlying the President’s determination and the U.S. national security implications of action or inaction before arriving at a position.

“For two years, the Iranian-backed Syrian regime has been free to engage in the slaughter of its own people with little but rhetorical responses from the United States. Now that the regime has crossed our red line regarding the use of chemical weapons, we must carefully consider whether the credibility of the United States necessitates military action to enforce that position. We must also consider what message a failure to act would send to other adversaries and our allies around the world. And finally, we must debate whether a decision by Congress denying the President authority to respond with military force would fulfill U.S. national security interests.”

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