



October 2, 2022

President Joseph Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20500

RE: The Risk of Sole Authority to Launch Nuclear Weapons

Dear Sir,

The FBI search for classified nuclear weapons documents at former President Trump's residence brings to mind another enormous problem with US security policy: currently one individual is empowered with the sole authority to launch nuclear weapons. Once launched, a nuclear-armed missile cannot be recalled or ordered to self-destruct; it is on a committed path to destruction.

President Biden, you have the power to change this devastatingly risky policy. I urge you to revoke the presidential sole authority to launch nuclear weapons and urge Congress to codify that change.

Specifically, any launch order should require the consent of two high-level officials in the presidential line of succession. This proposal was included in a February 2021 letter to you from Representative Jimmy Panetta and Representative Ted Lieu, along with 29 other members of Congress, requesting you to consider ending sole authority by installing additional checks and balances into the system: <https://act.ucsusa.org/SoleAuthorityLetter>.

As the risk of nuclear war continues to grow, you have the power to take concrete, immediate steps to build a more stable nuclear weapons system, one that isn't subject to the whims and questionable judgment of one person alone.

I urge you to revoke the presidential sole authority to launch nuclear weapons and to urge Congress to codify that change. That will make nuclear war less likely and bring everyone closer to the safe world we all deserve.

Sincerely,

Print Name _____

Address _____
