BRIAN J. MAST
18TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

FOREIGN AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0918

February 8, 2021

President Joseph R. Biden Jr.
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden,

I am writing to respectfully request that you restore the POW/MIA flag to its rightful place atop the White House. In late 2019, the National POW/MIA Flag Act was signed into law with broad bipartisan support. That law requires the POW/MIA flag be displayed whenever the American flag is displayed on prominent federal properties, including the White House, and in a manner to ensure visibility to the public.

In 2020, the POW/MIA flag was removed from atop the residence and placed in a special memorial on the White House Grounds during a Memorial Day event. The flag was never returned following the event, and while I welcome the addition of a permanent memorial on White House grounds, it is not prominently visible from beyond the White House grounds.

According to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, more than 81,900 Americans remain captive, missing, or otherwise unaccounted-for. To say that the men and women who were captured or went missing while defending our nation went above and beyond the call of duty would be an understatement. The POW/MIA flag is a symbol and proclamation that we will never forget the tens of thousands of American service members who we have not brought home yet. They must never leave our thoughts and our hearts, and this symbol of our dedication to those who sacrificed everything for the United States of America must be visible at the heart of our great institutions, especially the White House.

I urge you to take swift action to restore the flag to its rightful place atop the White House to serve as a constant reminder of our debt and responsibilities that we owe to these patriots and their families.

Sincerely,

Brian Mast
Member of Congress