

Congressman Kean,

I am writing to you as a constituent, a veteran, and an American who has seen war up close. I demand that you leverage every tool at your disposal as a Congressional Representative to restrict presidential war powers in accordance with the Constitution and to immediately take action to halt military action in Iran.

I graduated from West Point and served as an infantry officer during the height of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Over years in combat and hundreds of patrols, I learned the merciless truths of war.

It is difficult to articulate the horrors of seeing my brothers and sisters die violently or of seeing up close the aftermath of my own acts of violence. The sights, sounds, and smells never fade; they haunt my sleepless nights. The permanence of death is a hard-learned lesson.

I tell you this because I see violence treated casually by people who will never experience it. It's easier to be a war hawk when you know you'll never bleed.

War is a catastrophe. It must never rest on the will of a single person.

I demand action.

Publicly affirm Congress's sole authority to declare war.

Require full transparency on any military action.

Refuse to fund unauthorized escalation.

Enforce the War Powers Act.

Stop this war.

The men and women sent to fight deserve a government that takes war seriously enough to vote on it. The families who will grieve and the people who will die deserve at least that much.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Argyle Nelson', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Argyle Nelson

Summit, New Jersey

Veteran, U.S. Army