

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 22, 2024

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

As you know, on October 7, 2023, the terrorist organization Hamas waged a brutal attack against Israel from the Gaza Strip, killing more than 1,200 Israelis and foreign nationals—including at least 35 U.S. citizens.¹ In response to these attacks, Israel declared war on Hamas, mobilizing hundreds of thousands of troops and conducting both air and ground operations to eliminate the terrorist group and return its hostages.

Congress responded swiftly to these attacks, with the House passing legislation to condemn the barbaric attacks by Hamas,² and to provide security assistance to our ally Israel.³ Unfortunately, inaction by the Senate has delayed this important funding from reaching the frontlines as Israel continues to face rocket attacks from Hamas, Hezbollah, Palestine Islamic Jihad (PIJ), and the Houthis. Adding further challenge to this debate, U.S. Senate Majority Leader, Chuck Schumer—at the behest of those in his party advocating for a ceasefire in Gaza—has called for Israel to replace Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, naming him as an “obstacle to peace.”⁴

Israel is one of our strongest allies, and our commitment to their defense spans across multiple administrations when the first 10-year Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed by President Clinton and Prime Minister Barak in 1999.⁵ Israel is in an existential battle for national survival and as Congress debates additional funding to Israel, it is important that we not lose sight of our unwavering commitment to Israel’s long-term security and promoting American interests in the region. Therefore, we ask that you invite Prime Minister Netanyahu to address a Joint Session of Congress to discuss the current status of the Israel-Hamas conflict, and the need for continued security assistance.

Thank you for your consideration of this request, and for your commitment to the future of the State of Israel.

Sincerely,


¹ UN-OCHA, "Hostilities in the Gaza Strip and Israel | Flash Update #137," March 12, 2024; Department of State, "Secretary Antony J. Blinken at a Press Availability," Tel Aviv, Israel, November 3, 2023.

² See: Standing with Israel as it defends itself against the barbaric war launched by Hamas and other terrorists, H. Res. 771, 118th Cong. (2023). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-resolution/771?s=6&r=1>.

³ See: Israel Security Supplemental Appropriations Act, H.R. 6126, 118th Cong. (2023). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/6126?s=2&r=1>.

⁴ Mary Clare Jalonick & Ellen Knickmeyer, "Top Democrat Schumer calls for new elections in Israel, saying Netanyahu is an obstacle to peace." AP News, March 14, 2024. <https://apnews.com/article/schumer-netanyahu-israel-palestinians-elections-1ebf21e4c9c0f6f42478bb26e1db7a9b>

⁵ See Joint Statement by President Clinton and Prime Minister Ehud Barak, July 19, 1999.



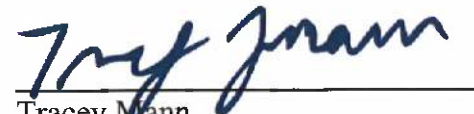
Scott Fitzgerald
Member of Congress



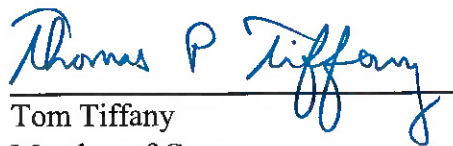
Warren Davidson
Member of Congress



Charles J. "Chuck" Fleischmann
Member of Congress



Tracey Mann
Member of Congress



Tom Tiffany
Member of Congress



Andrew Ogles
Member of Congress



Doug Lamborn
Member of Congress



Jen A. Kiggans
Member of Congress



Mike Collins
Member of Congress



Burgess Owens
Member of Congress



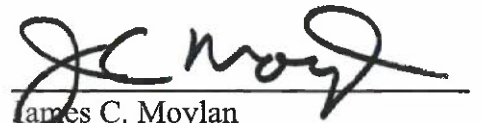
Mary E. Miller
Member of Congress



Guy Reschenthaler
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Tom McClintock
Member of Congress



James C. Moylan
Member of Congress



Barry Moore
Member of Congress



Mike Carey
Member of Congress



W. Gregory Steube
Member of Congress



Joe Wilson
Member of Congress



Victoria Spartz
Member of Congress



James R. Baird
Member of Congress



William R. Timmons, IV
Member of Congress



Troy Balderson
Member of Congress



Elise M. Stefanik
Member of Congress



Glenn Grothman
Member of Congress



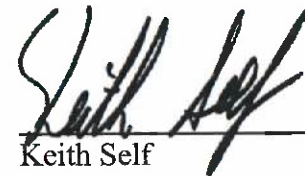
Troy E. Nehls
Member of Congress



Mike Flood
Member of Congress



Ron Estes
Member of Congress



Keith Self
Member of Congress



Nancy Mace
Member of Congress



Marcus J. Molinaro
Member of Congress



Clay Higgins
Member of Congress



Josh Brecheen
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Mark Alford
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Derrick Van Orden
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Brian J. Mast
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Nicole Malliotakis
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Dan Newhouse
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Jefferson Van Drew
Member of Congress



Lori Chavez-DeRemer
Member of Congress



Bill Posey
Member of Congress



August Pfluger
Member of Congress



C. Scott Franklin
Member of Congress



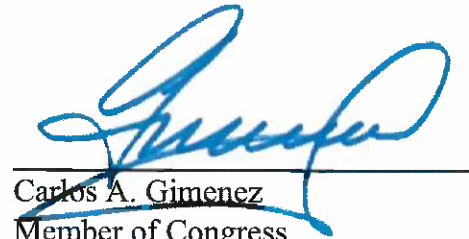
Aumua Amata Coleman
Radewagen
Member of Congress



Dusty Johnson
Member of Congress



Michael R. Turner
Member of Congress



Carlos A. Gimenez
Member of Congress



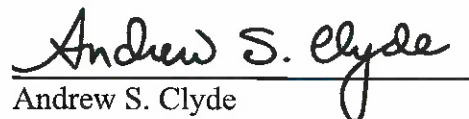
Randy K. Weber, Sr.
Member of Congress



David Rouzer
Member of Congress



Don Bacon
Member of Congress



Andrew S. Clyde
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Perry". The signature is stylized with a large, circular flourish at the end.

Scott Perry
Member of Congress