

November 14, 2023

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
United States House of
Representatives
2468 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
United States House of
Representatives
2433 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Immediate and Significant Support for Israel

Dear President Biden, Speaker Johnson, Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, and Leader Jeffries:

We, the undersigned attorneys general representing 26 States, are writing to urge both Congress and the White House to provide financial and humanitarian assistance to Israel as she defends herself against those who seek her annihilation.

Over the past month, Americans have watched in horror as our beloved and staunch ally, Israel, has suffered unspeakable horrors from the terrorist attack and hostage-taking perpetrated by Hamas. We hear reports of Hamas using fellow Palestinians as human shields and engaging other tactics to endanger or harm innocent people so Israel can be blamed. We know such actions violate human rights laws.

We understand there are complex geopolitical interests underlying longstanding tensions in the area, but the threats to Israel are existential as she is surrounded by enemies, some of whom openly advocate for her eradication and that

of her people. Israel absolutely has a right to exist and must be able to defend herself. Israel's military response has been understandably aggressive. We believe she is rightfully targeting Hamas leaders and facilities while trying to minimize civilian casualties with efforts like 4-hour pauses.

Like many in our States, this coalition of attorneys general stands with Israel and urges Congress and the White House to provide immediate aid—including military resources, intelligence, and humanitarian assistance to Israel as she defends herself against those seeking her destruction. Since her inception, Israel has faced innumerable challenges and threats to her existence. And hatred for the Jewish people extends far beyond Israel's borders, as many Jews in communities around the world—including in America—are targeted for their ethnic heritage and faith.

We will stand against all acts of violence against Jewish community members everywhere in the world, including in our own States, where we have absolutely no tolerance for these hateful crimes.

Despite the ongoing and exhaustive necessity of preparedness, Israel—and the Jewish people—show unwavering determination, resolve, and unity when facing their enemies, standing together to show the world that they will not be defeated. As a democracy in the volatile Middle East, Israel's fight for survival and peace is fundamental for the future security of that region—and all allies of Israel. Their struggle inspires all who call themselves a friend of this small yet mighty country.

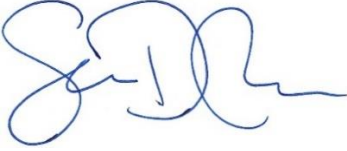
The atrocities in Israel from a month ago prove, yet again, and perhaps more so than at anytime since WWII, that the United States of America must stand with unwavering, unbending, and unrelenting support for the Jewish people during their great time of need. Israel must be supported through her efforts to protect herself from terror, and our nation must lead by example to show the world that America will not leave Israel's side until this war is completed and her citizens can live in peace.

That is why we are asking the federal government to immediately muster the resources and humanitarian assistance Israel requires to achieve victory over her enemies. As we show financial and other support for Israel and negotiate the release of hostages, we are sympathetic to any innocent Palestinian men, women and children in Gaza who are also suffering immensely by no fault of their own.

Time is of the essence to ensure that innocent lives are saved on all sides. The sooner Israel can end this current conflict with Hamas, the fewer lives will be lost and solutions can be revisited on a peace footing. For all of these reasons, we urge immediate and significant aid to our steadfast friend and ally.

Thank you all for your strong support of Israel and consideration of our request.

Sincerely,



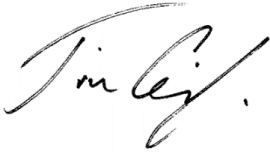
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Brenna Bird
Iowa Attorney General



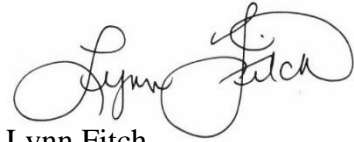
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