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IOWA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

March 13, 2023

Dear President Biden:

Terrorism is a serious law-enforcement issue. Terror attacks and the consequences of those attacks threaten American lives, our national security, and our civil liberties. Your administration has already given [almost one billion dollars](#) to the U.N. agency that employed terrorists. We urge you to stop before compounding the problem by giving access to as much as [ten billion dollars](#) to one of the world's top funders of terrorism—Iran.

On November 14, 2023, you issued a [120-day sanctions waiver](#) giving Iran access to more than ten billion dollars out of frozen accounts located in Iraq, Oman, and Europe. [In December](#), the Treasury Department confirmed that at least two transactions had been conducted out of these funds for unknown sums and unknown purposes.

We, the attorneys general of Iowa, Alaska, Arkansas, Georgia, Idaho, Louisiana, Montana, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, and Virginia, take seriously the deadly threat that terrorism poses to our country and our citizens. As our States' top law enforcement officials, we write, five months after the horrific [Iran-sponsored terror attack on Israel](#) and five months into non-stop [Iran-sponsored terrorism](#) directed against U.S. interests, to urge you to stop giving sanctions relief to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

We do not know whether more transactions have been conducted using Iran's frozen terror fund. But we do know what Iran has been doing with its money since you issued the November waiver: Attacking and killing Americans, attempting to shut down international shipping through the Red Sea, and launching non-stop terrorist attacks against Israel on multiple fronts.

Iran's nefarious activities operate against a background that includes your failure to secure our border. [More terror suspects than ever before](#) are using the border surge as cover to cross into the United States. Giving Iran access to more money increases the risk that an Iran-sponsored terrorist will sneak into our country. And there is no sign that your Administration is going to secure the border anytime soon.

In January, Iraqi terror militias [funded by Iran](#) killed three American soldiers at an outpost in Jordan who were defending our country from ISIS terrorism. [Iran's Houthi terror group in Yemen](#) has launched countless missile and drone attacks against U.S. Navy ships in the Red Sea as it tries to paralyze international trade.

Money is fungible, so the \$10 billion sanctions waiver is subsidizing this mayhem. At the same time, with no transparency as to the European and Middle Eastern banks involved in processing transactions with or for Iran—and no disclosure of the nature of the transactions, let alone the names of the Iranian counterparties—this waiver puts American multinational banks and companies at risk of unknowingly engaging in illegal or even criminal terrorist finance activities.

Given our duty to enforce State money-laundering and terrorism statutes, and our deep concern for our national security, we ask that you keep Iranian funds—in Iraq, Oman, Qatar, Oman, and anywhere else—frozen.

Sincerely,



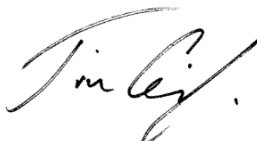
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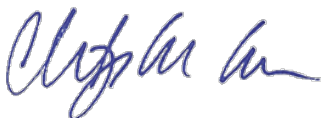
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