

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

February 13, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States of America
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump:

We write to urge you to retract your dangerous February 4, 2025, comments declaring that the civilian Palestinian population of the Gaza Strip be permanently relocated, and that the United States “take over” the territory, “own” it, and turn it into the “Riviera of the Middle East.”¹

Now more than ever, the United States must play a constructive role in the resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. That is why we are alarmed that an American president would advocate for the forcible removal and permanent displacement of two million people. Such an act would not only be morally indefensible, but it would also violate the Geneva Convention, jeopardize US interests and troops, and undermine our global standing.² The mere suggestion that American men and women in uniform or other U.S. personnel should be ordered to carry out such a crime in a volatile war zone is reckless and dangerous. Even to attempt the forcible removal of two million people would lead to an untold number of American casualties and a monumental increase in terrorism worldwide.

Following Hamas’s October 7th massacre – the deadliest mass murder of Jews since the Holocaust – and the devastation caused by the ensuing Israel-Hamas war, the region is in dire need of real solutions. The United States cannot promote forced displacement as a solution to this conflict. Such a move risks destabilizing the delicate ceasefire currently in place, endangering hostages still being held by Hamas, fueling extremist sentiments, and serving as a recruiting tool for terrorist organizations. As evidenced by the 1970 Black September in Jordan and the Palestinian insurgency in Lebanon of the 60s and 70s, hosting a Palestinian population in neighboring countries will neither guarantee Israel’s security nor substitute a long-term political solution.

Your remarks also risk jeopardizing the opportunity for the United States to work with our Arab partners – who have reaffirmed their commitment to comprehensive regional peace based on the rebuilding of Gaza and a pathway to a two-state solution. Rather than pursue the illegal and immoral path you have proposed, we urge you to work with Israel, as well as regional and global partners, to uphold the ceasefire agreement and bring all of the hostages home. Together, we can develop a realistic, internationally-backed, and funded plan to make Gaza livable for its existing residents as quickly as possible.

Our commitment to Israel's security is unwavering, and we will work together to ensure that Israel never experiences another terrorist attack from Gaza like the one on October 7, 2023. A comprehensive regional agreement, including normalization between Israel and Saudi Arabia and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state alongside the Jewish and democratic State of Israel, is the only viable long-term solution that can guarantee peace, stability, and security for both the Israeli and Palestinian people.

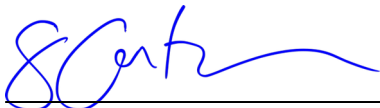
¹ <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/02/04/us/politics/trump-gaza-strip-netanyahu.html>

² https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/atrocity-crimes/Doc.33_GC-IV-EN.pdf

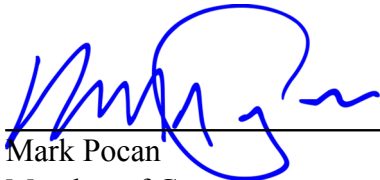
We look forward to working with you to advance equality, dignity, and lasting peace. However, we will not waver in our opposition to policies that undermine U.S. interests, law, and America's principled moral position.

Sincerely,

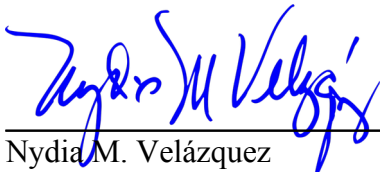
Sincerely,



Sean Casten
Member of Congress



Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



Brad Sherman
Member of Congress



Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress



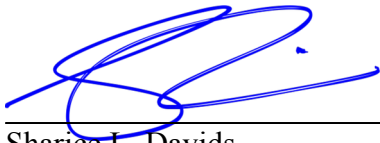
Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



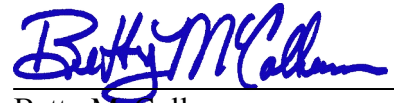
James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



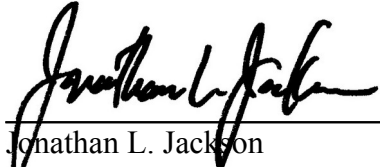
Val Hoyle
Member of Congress



Sharice L. Davids
Member of Congress



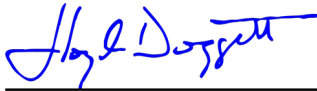
Betty McCollum
Member of Congress



Jonathan L. Jackson
Member of Congress




Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress



Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress



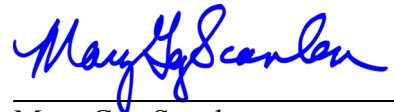
Becca Balint
Member of Congress



Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress



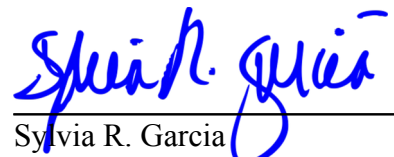
April McClain Delaney
Member of Congress



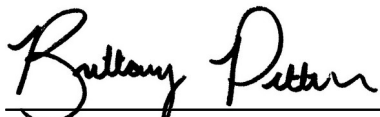
Mary Gay Scanlon
Member of Congress



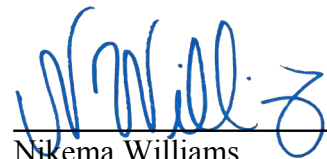
Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress



Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress




Brittany Pettersen
Member of Congress



Nikema Williams
Member of Congress



Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress



Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress



Ro Khanna
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



Bill Foster
Member of Congress

/s/

Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress



Seth Magaziner
Member of Congress



Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress



Veronica Escobar
Member of Congress



Dwight Evans
Member of Congress



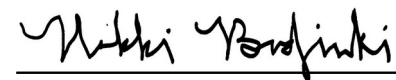
Sydney Kamlager-Dove
Member of Congress



Sam T. Liccardo
Member of Congress



Lizzie Fletcher
Member of Congress



Nikki Budzinski
Member of Congress



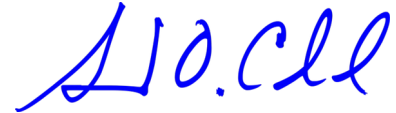
Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress



Lori Trahan
Member of Congress



Frank J. Mrvan
Member of Congress



Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress



MARK TAKANO
Member of Congress



Maxine Waters
Member of Congress



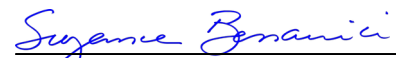
Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress



Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



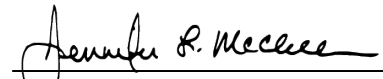
Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress



Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress



Derek T. Tran
Member of Congress



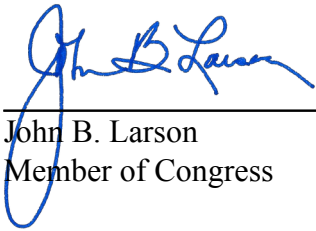
Jennifer L. McClellan
Member of Congress



Kevin Mullin
Member of Congress



Troy A. Carter, Sr.
Member of Congress



John B. Larson
Member of Congress



Robert Garcia
Member of Congress



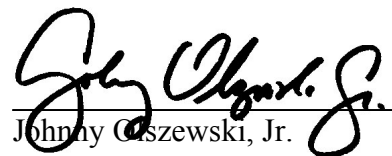
Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress



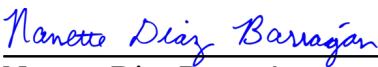
Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



Johnny G. Ciszewski, Jr.
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



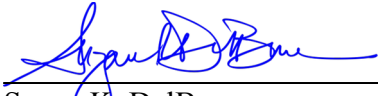
Doris Matsui
Member of Congress



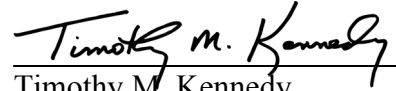
Ayanna Pressley
Member of Congress



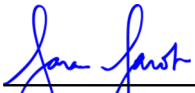
Bennie G. Thompson
Member of Congress



Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress



Timothy M. Kennedy
Member of Congress



Sara Jacobs
Member of Congress



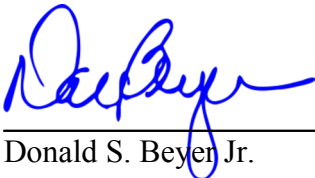
Chris Deluzio
Member of Congress



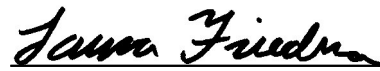
Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



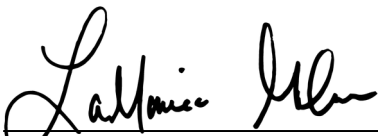
Sarah McBride
Member of Congress



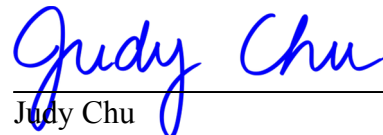
Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress



Laura Friedman
Member of Congress



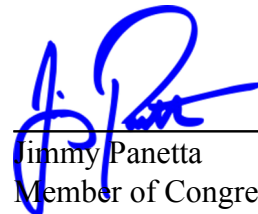
LaMonica McIver
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress



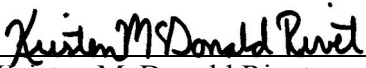
Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress

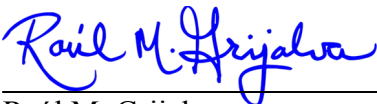


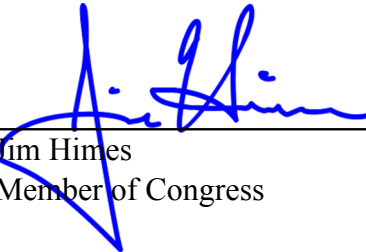
Valerie P. Foushee
Member of Congress





Gabe Amo
Member of Congress

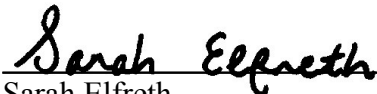

Kristen McDonald Rivet
Member of Congress



Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress



Jim Himes
Member of Congress

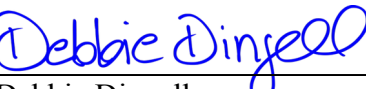

Jason Crow
Member of Congress

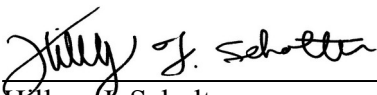

Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress



Sarah Elfreth
Member of Congress



Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.
Member of Congress



Sylvester Turner
Member of Congress

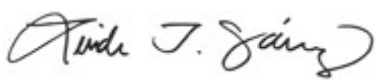

Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress

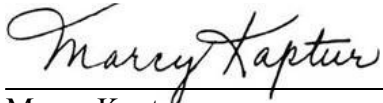

Hillary J. Scholten
Member of Congress


Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress


Julie Johnson
Member of Congress


Mike Levin
Member of Congress


Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress



Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress



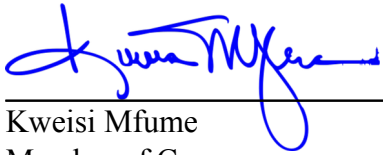
Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress



Maxwell Alejandro Frost
Member of Congress



Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress



Kweisi Mfume
Member of Congress



Chrissy Houlahan
Member of Congress



Gwen S. Moore
Member of Congress



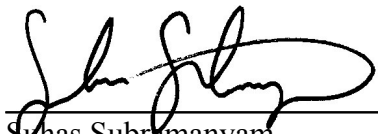
Al Green
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress



Suhas Subramanyam
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



Teresa Leger Fernandez
Member of Congress



Wesley Bell
Member of Congress



Mikie Sherrill
Member of Congress



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



John Garamendi
Member of Congress



Seth Moulton
Member of Congress



Emilia Strong Sykes
Member of Congress



Greg Stanton
Member of Congress



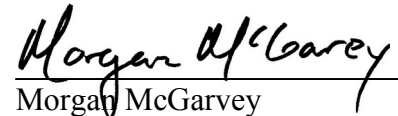
JM Tokuda
Member of Congress



Darren Soto
Member of Congress



Josh Harder
Member of Congress



Morgan McGarvey
Member of Congress




Dina Titus
Member of Congress



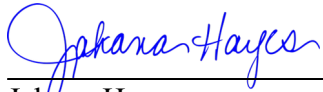
Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress



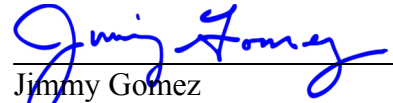
Eric Sorensen
Member of Congress



Kim Schrier, M.D.
Member of Congress



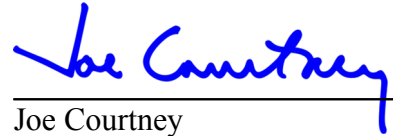
Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress



Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress



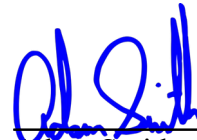
Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



Maxine Dexter
Member of Congress



Adam Smith
Member of Congress



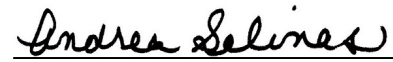
Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



Andre Carson
Member of Congress



Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



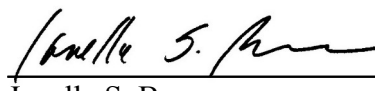
Andrea Salinas
Member of Congress



Emily Randall
Member of Congress



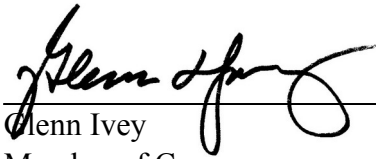
Marilyn Strickland
Member of Congress



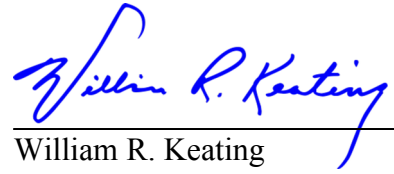
Janelle S. Bynum
Member of Congress



Joe Neguse
Member of Congress



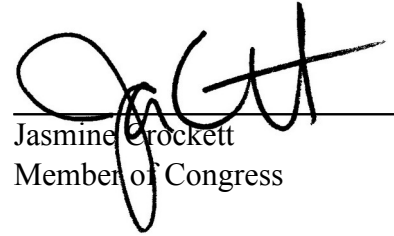
Glenn Ivey
Member of Congress



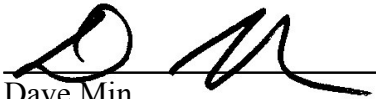
William R. Keating
Member of Congress



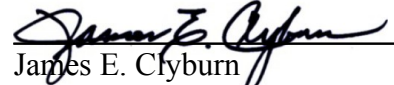
Deborah K. Ross
Member of Congress



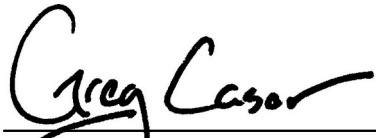
Jasmine Crockett
Member of Congress



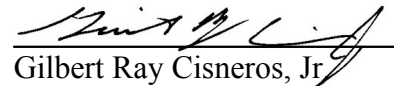
Dave Min
Member of Congress



James E. Clyburn
Member of Congress



Greg Casar
Member of Congress



Gilbert Ray Cisneros, Jr.
Member of Congress



Kelly Morrison
Member of Congress