

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 24, 2023

Chairman Mario Diaz-Balart
Subcommittee On State, Foreign
Operations, and Related Programs
House Appropriations Committee
HT-2 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Ranking Member Barbara Lee
Subcommittee On State, Foreign
Operations, and Related Programs
House Appropriations Committee
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Diaz-Balart and Ranking Member Lee,

As you consider the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations bill, we respectfully request that you provide \$2 million for the U.S. Department of State's Office of the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism and report language to ensure adequate staffing levels and continuity for this office between Administrations.

Antisemitism is a tangible and growing threat faced by both the American Jewish community and Jews around the world. In 2019, then United Nations Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief, Dr. Ahmed Shaheed, published a report on antisemitism that shared "serious concern that the frequency of antisemitic incidents appears to be increasing in magnitude" and that "antisemitism is toxic to democracy and mutual respect of citizens and threatens societies in which it goes unchallenged."¹ in several countries around the world. The fact that stereotypes about Jewish control of business and the financial markets, and questions of Jewish loyalty – to their country or their community – remain widespread only heightens the need for the work of the Special Envoy. This trend has been evidenced further by the Special Rapporteur's 2022 action plan that noted antisemitism has only expanded since his 2019 report.

The Office of the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism plays a critical role in encouraging and advising foreign governments to take measures to ensure the safety and security of their respective Jewish communities, including developing national action plans and appointing national coordinators. Over the last two years, the Special Envoy and her team have traveled to more than ten countries meeting with foreign leaders and civil society, and more recently convened counterparts across Europe to discuss best practices to address the challenges facing their Jewish communities. While we applaud these efforts, we know there are many more countries that deserve attention and that could benefit by an official visit focused on combating antisemitism. We also understand that the Special Envoy has had to decline invitations for engagement due to lack of resources. Additional resources would allow for increased attention and further specialization by the Special Envoy and staff to address the serious and ongoing challenges that exist around the globe.

¹ https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsourc/UN/Antisemitism_09202019.pdf

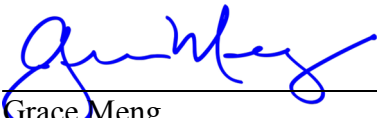
To support these important efforts, we urge you to include \$2 million for the Office of the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism. This will make clear to the world the United States' steadfast commitment to combating antisemitism and will help the Special Envoy continue to address the alarming rise in antisemitism while advancing partnerships and opportunities to engage with like-minded international partners.

In addition, we also request the inclusion of the following report language in the FY24 SFOPS report to ensure continuity of staff in the Office of the Special Envoy between Administrations. This will ensure that the Special Envoy's work to combat antisemitism continues without delay no matter who is in office.

The Committee recognizes the need for adequate staffing in the Office of the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism to carry out its work to combat antisemitism overseas. Not later than 45 days after the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall brief the Committees on Appropriations of the State Department's plan to ensure continuity of staff within the Special Envoy's Office between Administrations and before a new Special Envoy is confirmed.

Thank you for your support of the Office of the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism and for your consideration of this request to ensure robust resources and the necessary staffing levels to combat this hate across the globe.

Sincerely,



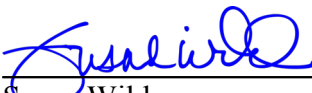
Grace Meng
Member of Congress



Kathy Manning
Member of Congress



Christopher H. Smith
Member of Congress



Susan Wild
Member of Congress



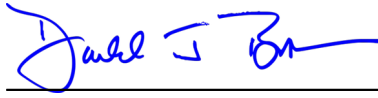
Maria Elvira Salazar
Member of Congress



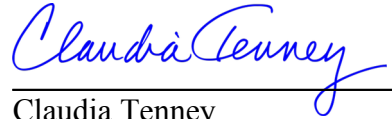
David Kustoff
Member of Congress



Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress



Don Bacon
Member of Congress



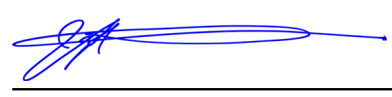
Claudia Tenney
Member of Congress



Shontel M. Brown
Member of Congress



Brian Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress



Jefferson Van Drew
Member of Congress



Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



Bill Johnson
Member of Congress



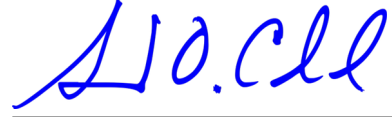
Gus M. Bilirakis
Member of Congress



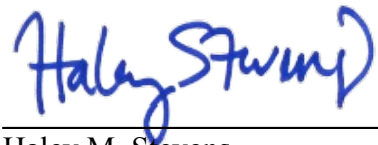
Andy Kim
Member of Congress



Jenniffer González-Colón
Member of Congress



Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress



Haley M. Stevens
Member of Congress



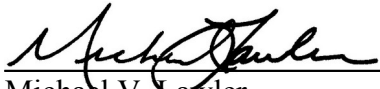
Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress



Wiley Nickel
Member of Congress



Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress



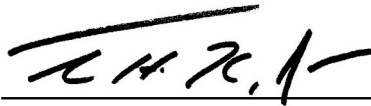
Michael V. Lawler
Member of Congress



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



Dwight Evans
Member of Congress



Thomas H. Kean, Jr.
Member of Congress



Dean Phillips
Member of Congress



Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



Jake Auchincloss
Member of Congress



Marc A. Veasey
Member of Congress



Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



Patrick K. Ryan
Member of Congress



Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress



John P. Sarbanes
Member of Congress



Jasmine Crockett
Member of Congress



Nicole Malliotakis
Member of Congress



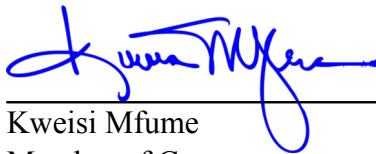
Jared Moskowitz
Member of Congress



Ritchie Torres
Member of Congress



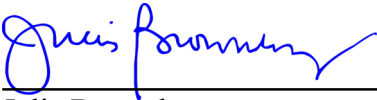
Nikema Williams
Member of Congress



Kweisi Mfume
Member of Congress



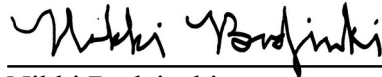
Jim Costa
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress



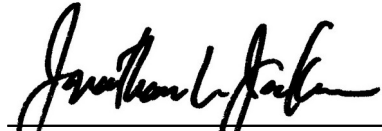
Nikki Budzinski



Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



Donald G. Davis
Member of Congress



Jonathan L. Jackson
Member of Congress



Adam B. Schiff
Member of Congress



Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress



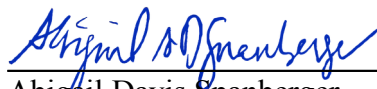
Bradley Scott Schneider
Member of Congress



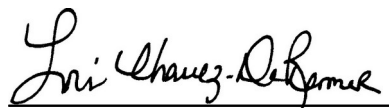
Chris Pappas
Member of Congress



Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress
Chairman, Subcommittee on
Health



Abigail Davis Spanberger
Member of Congress



Lori Chavez-DeRemer
Member of Congress



Kim Schrier, M.D.
Member of Congress



Elissa Slotkin
Member of Congress



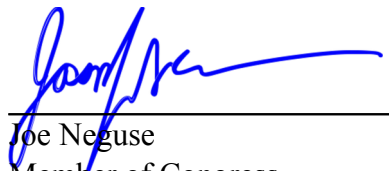
Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress



Dan Goldman
Member of Congress



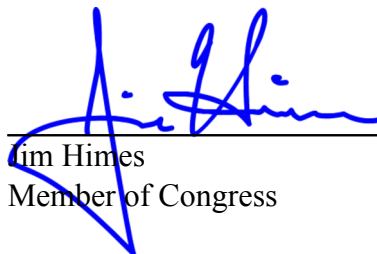
Chris Deluzio
Member of Congress



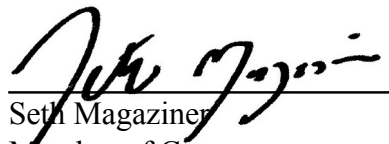
Joe Neguse
Member of Congress



Young Kim
Member of Congress



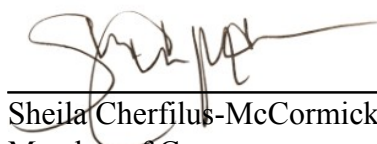
Jim Himes
Member of Congress



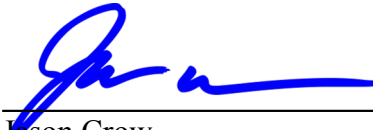
Seth Magaziner
Member of Congress



Anthony D'Esposito
Member of Congress



Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick
Member of Congress



Jason Crow
Member of Congress



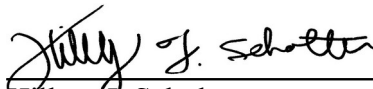
Sydney Kamlager-Dove
Member of Congress




Robert J. Menendez
Member of Congress



Troy Carter
Member of Congress



Hillary J. Scholten
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress



Max L. Miller
Member of Congress



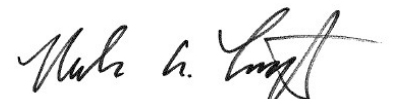
Colin Z. Allred
Member of Congress



Randy K. Weber, Sr.
Member of Congress



Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress



Nicholas A. Langworthy
Member of Congress



Lizzie Fletcher
Member of Congress



Mike Levin
Member of Congress



Mikie Sherrill
Member of Congress



Brad Sherman
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress