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One Hundred Eighteenth Congress
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Foreign Affairs
2170 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

October 13, 2023

President Joseph R. Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden,

Hamas' gruesome terrorist rampage has started a war with one of our closest allies, resulting in the barbaric murder of over 1,300 people, including at least 27 Americans, with bodies still being counted as we write this letter. Disturbingly, Hamas has taken over 130 hostages.

We are horrified by Hamas' brutal war on Israel. Following this assault, we write to urge you to take all available action to ensure the \$6 billion in Iranian funds currently held in Qatar remains permanently off limits to the Iranian regime. According to your Administration, the \$6 billion transferred earlier this year remains in Qatar and has not yet been spent. We implore you to ensure the money cannot be touched by Iran, under any circumstances.

Money is fungible. We were previously alarmed by Iranian President Raisi bragging to the world that Iran would spend the \$6 billion "wherever we need it," particularly given Iran's ability and willingness to evade U.S. sanctions, including through fraudulent humanitarian transactions. Giving the regime access to funds in any form frees up money for Iran to spend on malign activities, including support for terrorist groups like Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad. Unclassified U.S. government assessments state that Iran has historically provided up to \$100 million annually in combined support to Palestinian terrorist groups, including Hamas. On October 10, National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan stated, "Iran is complicit in this attack in a broad sense because they have provided the lion's share of the funding for the military wing of Hamas, they have provided training, they have provided capabilities, they have provided support, and they have had engagement and contact with Hamas over years and years."

We urge you to immediately use all tools available to permanently ensure that none of these funds can be used by Iran or for the benefit of Iran, and to fully enforce all sanctions against the regime. This would prove that hostage-taking does not pay and ensure the U.S. is taking every

possible action to prevent any further Iranian support to Hamas and other terrorist groups and proxies.

The entire world has been shaken by the evil that Hamas unleashed on Israel this week. This is a moment of moral clarity. After the atrocities committed this week, the only appropriate action is to cut off all financial avenues currently available to Hamas' benefactor Iran.

Sincerely,



Michael T. McCaul
Chairman
House Foreign Affairs
Committee



Joe Wilson
Member of Congress



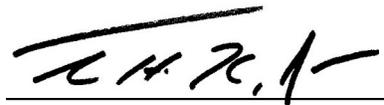
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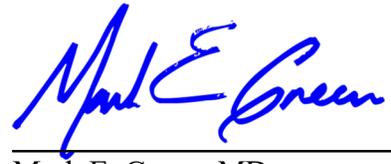
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