## Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

September 25, 2025

H.E. Benjamin Netanyahu Prime Minister of Israel Prime Minister's Office Kiryat Ben Gurion Jerusalem, Israel

H.E. Israel Katz Minister of Defense Ministry of Defense 37 Kaplan Street, HaKirya Tel Aviv, Israel

H.E. Gideon Sa'ar Minister of Foreign Affairs Ministry of Foreign Affairs 9 Yitzhak Rabin Boulevard, Kiryat HaLeom Jerusalem, Israel

Dear Prime Minister Netanyahu, Defense Minister Katz, and Foreign Minister Sa'ar:

As long-standing supporters of the U.S.—Israel relationship, Israel's security, and Israel's future, we are deeply opposed to proposals for unilateral annexation of territory in the West Bank. Such a move would not only violate international law but undermine decades of bipartisan U.S. policy and threaten the progress of the Abraham Accords, which offer Israel and its neighbors the opportunity to build a more secure, cooperative, and prosperous regional future. Unilateral annexation of the West Bank would plunge the region, already reeling from tens of thousands of deaths in the horrific Gaza war, into further chaos and violence.

Hamas's barbaric October 7 attacks murdered more than a thousand people, including American citizens, and took hundreds of hostages. Israel has the right and obligation, within the requirements of international law, to defend its people and bring every hostage home.

At the same time, longstanding and overwhelmingly bipartisan U.S. policy, as enacted in the bipartisan Israel Relations Normalization Act, supports direct negotiations toward a two-state solution to ensure a future for two peoples living side by side in peace, security, and mutual recognition. We are convinced that unilateral steps by either side, including Israeli annexation of territory in the West Bank or Gaza, would move Israelis and Palestinians further away from negotiations and further away from a just, sustainable peace.

We are particularly troubled by increasing public calls to unilaterally annex West Bank territory. Senior officials from the United Arab Emirates—core partners in the Abraham Accords—have

made clear that annexation is a red line, warning it would jeopardize the promise of regional normalization and integration with Israel. Moves toward annexation would undermine Israel's progress on normalization, prevent international cooperation to rebuild Gaza after this devastating war, risk instability in Jordan, and even further strain ties with key European partners.

We are likewise troubled by statements from ministers within your government contemplating annexation of Gaza or parts of it. Such steps would not only violate international law but exacerbate humanitarian and diplomatic challenges at a moment when broad international support for Israel is at risk.

We respectfully urge your government to refrain from steps toward unilateral annexation and to recommit to a negotiated outcome consistent with U.S. policy and the regional vision embodied in the Abraham Accords. That path best safeguards Israel's security and democratic ideals, advances regional cooperation against shared threats, and offers Israelis and Palestinians the possibility of living side by side in peace and dignity, freed from perpetual attacks on civilians and the threat of war.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bradley Scott Schneider

Member of Congress

Jamie Raskin

Member of Congress

Hakeem Jeffries

Member of Congress

Katherine M. Clark Member of Congress

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Pete Aguilar

Member of Congress

Nancy Pelosi

Member of Congress



Gregory W. Meeks Member of Congress

Sharice L. Davids Member of Congress

Jim Costa Member of Congress

April McClain Delaney Member of Congress

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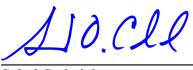
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Melanie Stansbury
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Marcy Kaptur Member of Congress

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