

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

April 20, 2016

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As you negotiate a new Memorandum of Understanding with Israel, we write to encourage you to reach an agreement that dramatically escalates U.S. foreign military assistance to Israel, securing \$5 billion annually in total assistance.

This is a matter of direct national security to the United States and to the security of Israel, and is critical to the stability of the Middle East.

If Israel were ever to fall – a prospect we must never allow to happen – it would mean that the U.S. would likely face a state-backed terror regime in the Middle East strong enough to control an entire global region, with weapons sufficient enough to threaten our homeland, and with leadership maniacal enough to do it.

The current Memorandum of Understanding between the U.S. and Israel, which expires in 2018, allocates \$3.1 billion in U.S. military assistance to Israel, providing the ability to procure sophisticated equipment, such as the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter, in addition to investments in ballistic missile defense capabilities, like the Iron Dome, Arrow and David's Sling. We believe now is the time to strengthen our commitment to the Jewish State to \$5 billion annually over the course of the next 10 year agreement.

In light of the recently-enacted Iran nuclear deal, which economically enriches Iran with \$150 billion in sanction relief, an increase in military aid to Israel to \$5 billion, which represents only 0.1% of our annual federal budget, would go a long way in ensuring Israel has adequate resources to respond to escalating threats in the region with their own personnel and assets. Now is the time to reaffirm our commitment to Israel by identifying \$2 billion in inessential spending that we can instead invest in protecting our closest ally in the Middle East.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu recently said, "without a secure Israel the Middle East would collapse and the result would be a catastrophe for Europe, for America and for the world." While we as a nation hope for peace, the truth is, we only defeat acts of terror with renewed strength.

Let's take this opportunity to prove through our actions that we stand with Israel, now and always.

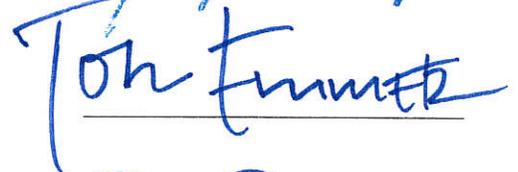
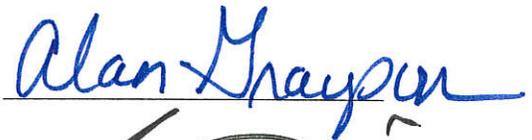
With Much Respect,



David W. Jolly  
Member of Congress



Gwen Graham  
Member of Congress



Doug Lomborn

Austin South

Steph Funt

Leonora Lance

Judy Forbes

Luigi

Kristen Simona

Juan Vargas

Diem. D. Dr.

Rob Woodall

Ling August

Kent Stanks

Mike Ahn

J.M. Ch

Colic. D.

Paul Cook

Luigi Ch

J. Corn

Dan Auerbach

Bill Johnson

CRA

J. May

Earl P. Jye

Frank Kroll

J. J. Miller

Mike Best

L. M. Bilukin

Judith Messer

Glenn Young

Bin Fum

Earl L. 'Buddy' Carter

M. S. [unclear]

Gene [unclear] (NY-24)