Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

November 2, 2023

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
S-221, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
S-230, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-204, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Majority Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McConnell, Speaker Johnson, and Minority Leader Jeffries,

We respectfully request the swift passage of the President's request for Fiscal Year 2024 emergency supplemental funding, which includes aid for the United States Agency for International Development's International Disaster Assistance account to meet rising humanitarian needs around the world including those related to the ongoing conflict in Gaza and Israel.

As a result of the ongoing conflict, more than two million people are in urgent need of lifesaving humanitarian assistance. Over one million people have fled the violence, stretching the already strained ability of the United Nations and humanitarian partners on the ground to provide food, medical treatment, and shelter to those in need. At this time, it is critical that the United States make clear its support for humanitarian assistance by responding swiftly and substantially. The ability to support and protect the civilian population in Gaza during this crisis is not only a foundation of international law, it is also critical in shaping the eventual long-term prospects of peace and stability in the region. A major humanitarian catastrophe and large-scale civilian casualties will make the U.S. stated goal of a two state solution even more challenging to ever realize.

The need for aid into Gaza could not be clearer with fuel supplies running low, organizations struggling to meet their mission, and hospitals in Gaza struggling to provide life saving care.[1] At

1 UN agencies reduce Gaza aid operations as fuel runs out

the time of this letter, 374 trucks, carrying essential supplies including food, water, and medical resources, have crossed into Gaza from Egypt through the Rafah border crossing. This number is a fraction of what is needed to meet the needs posed by the current crisis.[2] The Administration's request to expand aid is crucial, especially considering the potential crisis-induced displacement across borders. This extension, addressing evolving programming needs not only in Gaza but also in Israel, the West Bank, Lebanon, Jordan, Syria, and Egypt, deserves unwavering support so that the region may finally experience security and stability.

We believe that a prompt and robust humanitarian response is necessary to protect the lives of Palestinians, Americans, and Israelis - whose security will be weakened if we fail to meet the humanitarian needs in the region. It is for this reason that we again respectfully request the swift passage of President Biden's emergency supplemental appropriations request so that we may uphold our country's proud tradition of leading the international community in providing lifesaving relief by contributing funding for international humanitarian assistance. We appreciate your leadership and consideration.

Sincerely,

Andy Kim
Member of Congress

Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress

Sara Jacobs
Member of Congress

Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress

2 UN food chief criticizes strict Rafah crossing checks for limiting Gaza aid

Emilia Strong Sykes
Member of Congress

Sharice L. Davids
Member of Congress

Elissa Slotkin
Member of Congress

Nikema Williams
Member of Congress

Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress

Nikki Budzinski
Member of Congress

Frank J. Mrvan
Member of Congress

Morgan McGarvey
Member of Congress

Sydney Kamlager-Dove
Member of Congress

David J. Trone
Member of Congress

Andrea Salinas
Member of Congress

Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress

Brittany Pettersen
Member of Congress

Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress

Chris Pappas
Member of Congress

Haley M. Stevens
Member of Congress

Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress

Chrissy Houlahan
Member of Congress

John Garamendi
Member of Congress

Joyce Beatty
Member of Congress

Joe Courtney
Member of Congress

Stacey E. Plaskett
Member of Congress

Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress

Katie Porter
Member of Congress

Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress

Jasmine Crockett
Member of Congress

Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress

Susie Lee
Member of Congress

Matt Cartwright
Member of Congress

Abigail Davis Spanberger
Member of Congress

Gabe Vasquez
Member of Congress

Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress

Eric Sorensen
Member of Congress

Kevin Mullin
Member of Congress

Mike Levin
Member of Congress

Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress

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

Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress

Deborah K. Ross
Member of Congress

Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress

Shontel M. Brown
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Jason Crow
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Jimmy Gomez
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Valerie P. Foushee
Member of Congress

Madeleine Dean
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Sean Casten
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Angie Craig
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Bill Foster
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Julia Brownley
Member of Congress

Doris Matsui
Member of Congress

Betty McCollum
Member of Congress

Dwight Evans
Member of Congress

Donald M. Payne, Jr.
Member of Congress

Derek Kilmer
Member of Congress

Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress

Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress

Robert J. Menendez
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Darren Soto
Member of Congress

Glenn Ivey
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Greg Stanton
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Melanie Stansbury
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Gerald E. Connolly
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Daniel T. Kildee
Member of Congress

Seth Moulton
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Colin Z. Allred
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Chris Deluzio
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Patrick K. Ryan
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Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress

Susan Wild
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Bill Pascrell, Jr.
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Paul D. Tonko
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Shri Thanedar
Member of Congress

Judy Chu
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James A. Himes
Member of Congress

Troy Carter
Member of Congress

Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress

Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress

Norma J. Torres
Member of Congress

Yadira Caraveo, M.D.
Member of Congress

Kim Schrier, M.D.
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Mark Takano
Member of Congress

Lori Trahan
Member of Congress

John P. Sarbanes
Member of Congress

Diana DeGette
Member of Congress

Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress

André Carson
Member of Congress

William R. Keating
Member of Congress