

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 17, 2022

The Honorable Chris Murphy  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Homeland Security  
Senate Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Homeland Security  
Senate Committee on Appropriations

Dear Chairman Murphy and Ranking Member Capito:

As the Subcommittee begins deliberations on the Fiscal Year 2023 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, we write to respectfully request that you provide \$2 million for the U.S.-Israel Homeland Security Program and \$6 million for the U.S.-Israel cybersecurity cooperation grant program.

Israel has emerged as a global leader in developing technologies for homeland security, including cybersecurity. Recognizing Israel's expertise, the United States is partnering with Israel through the U.S.-Israel Homeland Security Program to advance first responder technologies; secure critical infrastructure and public facilities; provide maritime, aviation, and border security; and prevent and respond to cyber-attacks. The Program is administered by the U.S.-Israel Binational Industrial Research and Development Foundation, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Science and Technology Directorate and the Israel Ministry of Public Security. Congress has supported the Program for years, having provided its initial authorization through the United States-Israel Advanced Research Partnership Act of 2016, P.L. 114-304. The U.S.-Israel Homeland Security Program received \$2 million in Fiscal Year 2022, and is leveraged by Israeli funding.

Examples of recent bilateral projects that support the U.S. homeland security mission include development of an unmanned search and rescue system to find victims under ruins and in disaster areas by locating their cellular phones, a wearable indoor positioning system that first responders can use when GPS and other satellite-based technologies fail, and an artificial intelligence-based analytics video security solution used to protect public facilities.

With cyber threats becoming increasingly sophisticated, Israeli innovations can provide the United States with cybersecurity solutions that enhance our homeland security. The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022, P.L. 117-81, established a grant program at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to support U.S.-Israel cybersecurity research and development and the demonstration and commercialization of cybersecurity technology. The Program, based on the *United States-Israel Cybersecurity Cooperation Enhancement Act of 2021* (S.1193), was authorized at a level of \$6 million annually for five years. Private companies, non-profit organizations, academic institutions, and government entities in Israel or the U.S. would be eligible for the grants, so long as they are engaged in a joint venture with a corresponding institution in the other country and do not pose a counterintelligence threat, as

determined by the Director of National Intelligence. Fully funding the U.S.-Israel cybersecurity cooperation grant program at \$6 million for Fiscal Year 2023 will enable implementation of this critical new bilateral cybersecurity program.

Thank you for your consideration and prior funding for U.S.-Israel homeland security cooperation. We look forward to continuing to work with you on these programs.

Sincerely,



Jacky Rosen  
United States Senator



Todd Young  
United States Senator



Sherrod Brown  
United States Senator



Joe Manchin III  
United States Senator



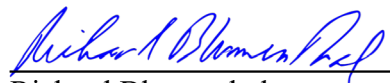
Margaret Wood Hassan  
United States Senator



Catherine Cortez Masto  
United States Senator




Cory A. Booker  
United States Senator



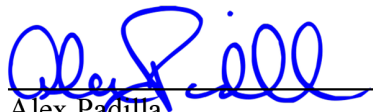
Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senator



Kyrsten Sinema  
United States Senator



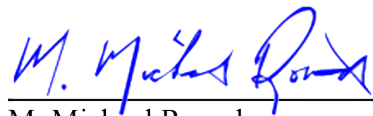
Rick Scott  
United States Senator



Alex Padilla  
United States Senator



Maria Cantwell  
United States Senator



M. Michael Rounds  
United States Senator



Christopher A. Coons  
United States Senator



Kirsten Gillibrand  
United States Senator