

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

July 12, 2022

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500


Dear President Biden,

As members of the bicameral Abraham Accords Caucuses, we write to ask you to use your forthcoming trip to Israel and the Middle East to build on your Administration's support for the peace and normalization agreements between Israel and the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Sudan, and Morocco. In less than two years, the Abraham Accords have already transformed the region: enhancing Israel's security and acceptance, creating economic opportunities for Arab states, advancing American leadership in the Middle East, deepening security cooperation between the United States and CENTCOM partners, and promoting interfaith and intercultural dialogue. The lives and aspirations of the people in the region have been elevated by the accords, and we believe the future prospects are boundless. The Middle East, a region for too long defined by animosity and conflict, has seen great cooperation among the Abraham Accords countries, and we look forward to continuing our work together to ensure these partnerships continue to prosper and to help expand normalization with Israel to other countries.

While we celebrate these historic efforts, we also want to convey our disappointment and concern about the recently enacted Iraqi law that broadens the crime of normalizing relations with Israel. The "Criminalizing Normalization and Establishment of Relations with the Zionist Entity Law", passed the Iraqi Parliament on May 26, 2022, with 275 lawmakers voting in favor. Iraq is an important and valued security partner. Nevertheless, this law jeopardizes freedom of expression, promotes an environment of antisemitism, and could deter other states that have yet to normalize relations with Israel. We were disheartened by the support this law received and appreciate your Administration's condemnation of this measure, which does nothing to advance the cause of peace in the Middle East.


As you embark on travel to the Middle East later this month, we respectfully encourage you to raise Iraq's anti-normalization law during your visits with foreign leaders and make clear the United States' resolute condemnation. We also support your efforts during your trip to strengthen the existing Abraham Accords agreements and expand the agreements to additional countries. We appreciate your continued support of efforts that advance peace in the Middle East and hope you will place continued normalization of relations with Israel at the forefront of your agenda this month.

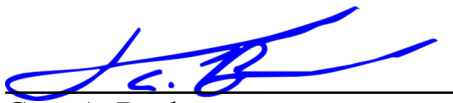
Sincerely,


  
Jacky Rosen  
United States Senator

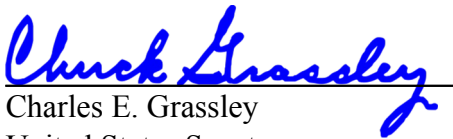
  
Bradley Scott Schneider  
Member of Congress

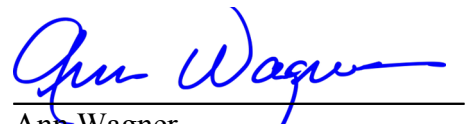
  
Joni K. Ernst  
United States Senator

  
Cathy McMorris Rodgers  
Member of Congress

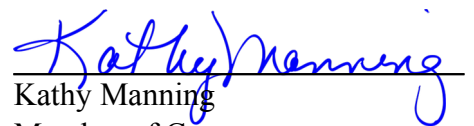
  
Cory A. Booker  
United States Senator

  
David J. Trone  
Member of Congress

  
Charles E. Grassley  
United States Senator


  
Ann Wagner  
Member of Congress

  
Kirsten Gillibrand  
United States Senator

  
Kathy Manning  
Member of Congress



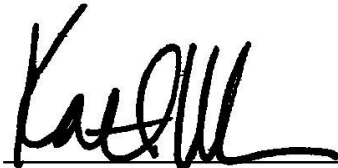
Tim Scott  
United States Senator



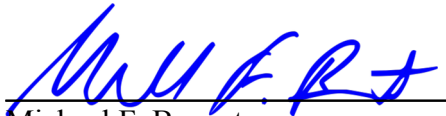
Brian Fitzpatrick  
Member of Congress



Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator



Kathleen M. Rice  
Member of Congress



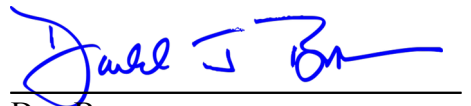
Michael F. Bennet  
United States Senator



Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress



Jake Auchincloss  
Member of Congress



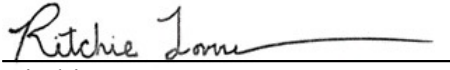
Don Bacon  
Member of Congress

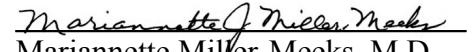



Stephanie Murphy  
Member of Congress

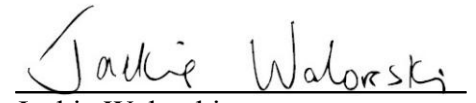


Lisa C. McClain  
Member of Congress

  
Ritchie Torres  
Member of Congress

  
Mariannette Miller-Meeks, M.D.  
Member of Congress

  
Josh Gottheimer  
Member of Congress

  
Jackie Walorski  
Member of Congress