

**U.S. House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

August 25, 2025

The Honorable Marco Rubio  
Secretary  
U.S Department of State  
2201 C St NW  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Rubio,

We write to urge you to swiftly reverse the State Department's recent decision to halt temporary medical-humanitarian visas for children from Gaza.

On August 16th, the State Department announced it will stop approving all visitor visas for people from the war-torn Gaza strip -- including children in need of urgent medical care -- while conducting a "full and thorough review of the processes and procedures" used to issue these visas. This pause comes in the wake of severely injured Palestinian children arriving in the United States on temporary visas to receive medical care in recent weeks. The announcement of the sudden pause came via social media and contained no details on what a full and thorough review entails or any evidence of security risks. The lack of clarity regarding how long this halt will last is concerning.

This pause will deny children the medical care they desperately need. It is wrong to prevent children who are caught in the middle of this horrific conflict from receiving lifesaving medical care. In addition, this decision ignores the fact that all Palestinians leaving Gaza for medical treatment or to accompany family members receiving medical treatment are already subject to rigorous vetting by the Israeli government, including an Israeli security clearance, identity verification, and an assessment whether they are linked to Hamas.

Prior to this announcement, several children from Gaza have come to the United States to receive medical treatment. These cases have gone on without incident. We appeal to you to immediately reverse the State Department's decision and resume allowing those from Gaza with approved temporary medical-humanitarian visas to enter the United States to receive the lifesaving care they need.

In light of these facts, we respectfully ask the Department to provide:

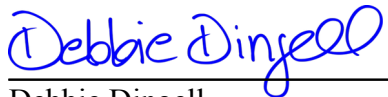
1. A detailed explanation of the specific concerns or procedural issues identified that led to the suspension of visas.

2. The criteria and timeline for the ongoing review process, how long it is expected to take, and what safeguards are being considered to prevent interruption of emergency medical care programs.
3. A commitment to temporarily exempt urgent medical-humanitarian cases involving children from Gaza from the suspension until the review is complete.

We would appreciate any clarification regarding the policy's basis and a reassessment of its impact on vulnerable individuals and families in desperate need. We expect a written response 30 days after receiving this letter.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely,



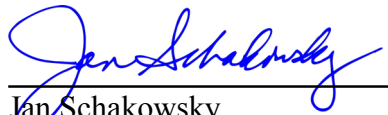
---

Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress



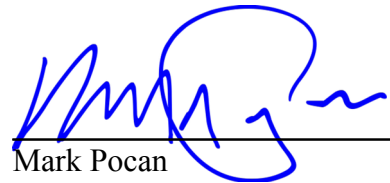
---

Kim Schrier, M.D.  
Member of Congress



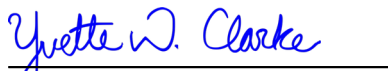
---

Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress



---

Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress



---

Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress



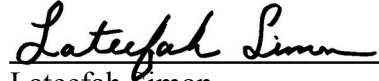
---

Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress



---

Becca Balint  
Member of Congress



---

Lateefah Simon  
Member of Congress



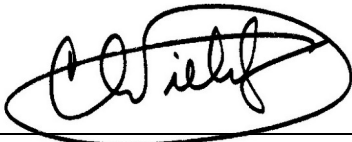
---

Jimmy Panetta  
Member of Congress



---

Maxwell Alejandro Frost  
Member of Congress



---

Cleo Fields  
Member of Congress



---

Betty McCollum  
Member of Congress



---

Gwen S. Moore  
Member of Congress



---

Pramila Jayapal  
Member of Congress



---

Sean Casten  
Member of Congress



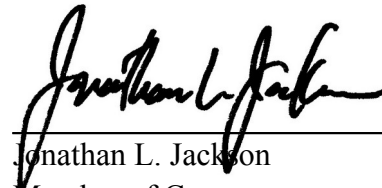
---

Maxine Waters  
Member of Congress



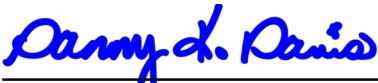
---

Rashida Tlaib  
Member of Congress



---

Jonathan L. Jackson  
Member of Congress



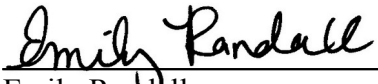
---

Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress



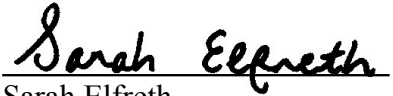
---

Mike Levin  
Member of Congress



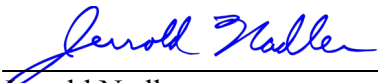
---

Emily Randall  
Member of Congress



---

Sarah Elfreth  
Member of Congress



---

Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



---

Joe Courtney  
Member of Congress



---

Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress



---

Herbert C. Conaway, Jr.  
Member of Congress



---

Dan Goldman  
Member of Congress



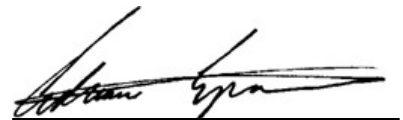
---

Ilhan Omar  
Member of Congress



---

Sylvia R. Garcia  
Member of Congress



---

Adriano Espaillat  
Member of Congress



---

Deborah K. Ross  
Member of Congress



---

Troy A. Carter, Sr.  
Member of Congress



---

Delia C. Ramirez  
Member of Congress



---

Wesley Bell  
Member of Congress



---

Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress



---

Dina Titus  
Member of Congress



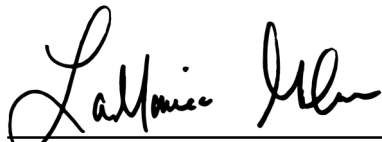
---

Scott H. Peters  
Member of Congress



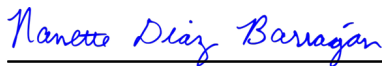
---

Eric Sorensen  
Member of Congress



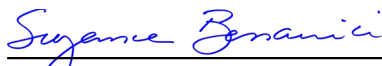
---

LaMonica McIver  
Member of Congress



---

Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress



---

Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress



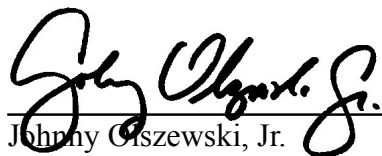
---

Kevin Mullin  
Member of Congress



---

Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress



---

Johnny Ciszewski, Jr.  
Member of Congress



---

Mike Quigley  
Member of Congress



---

Ami Bera, M.D.  
Member of Congress



---

Seth Moulton  
Member of Congress



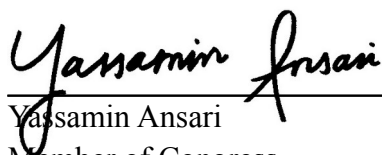
---

Paul Tonko  
Member of Congress



---

James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



---

Yassamin Ansari  
Member of Congress



---

Gabe Amo  
Member of Congress



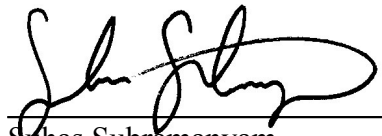
---

Ayanna Pressley  
Member of Congress



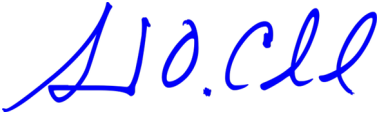
---

Summer L. Lee  
Member of Congress




---

Suhas Subramanyam  
Member of Congress



---

Salud Carbajal  
Member of Congress



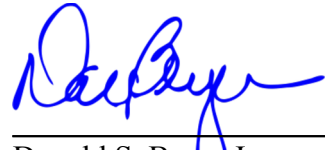
---

Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress



---

Chris Pappas  
Member of Congress



---

Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
Member of Congress



---

Bill Foster  
Member of Congress




---

Val Hoyle  
Member of Congress



---

Maxine Dexter  
Member of Congress



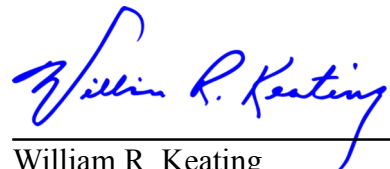
---

Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress



---

Rosa L. DeLauro  
Member of Congress



---

William R. Keating  
Member of Congress



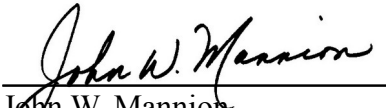
---

Valerie P. Foushee  
Member of Congress



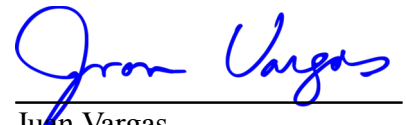
---

Nellie Pou  
Member of Congress



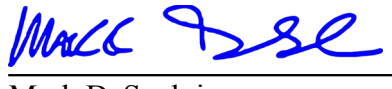
---

John W. Mannion  
Member of Congress



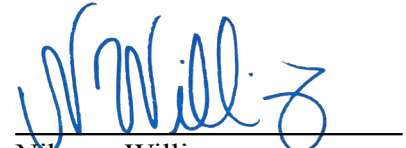
---

Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress




---

Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress



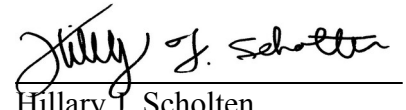
---

Nikema Williams  
Member of Congress



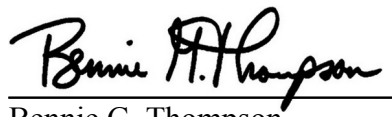
---

Robert Garcia  
Member of Congress




---

Hillary J. Scholten  
Member of Congress



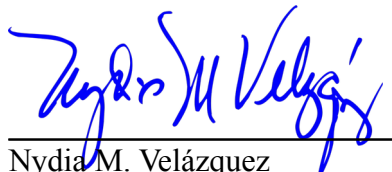
---

Bennie G. Thompson  
Member of Congress




---

Mary Gay Scanlon  
Member of Congress




---

Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress




---

Josh Gottheimer  
Member of Congress



---

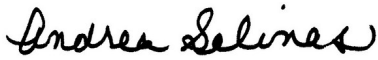
Emanuel Cleaver, II  
Member of Congress



---

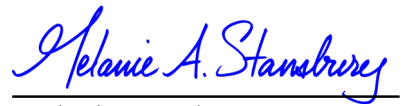
Julie Johnson  
Member of Congress





---

Andrea Salinas  
Member of Congress



---

Melanie Stansbury  
Member of Congress



---

Bonnie Watson Coleman  
Member of Congress



---

Veronica Escobar  
Member of Congress



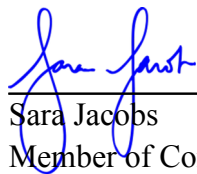
---

Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



---

Shontel M. Brown  
Member of Congress



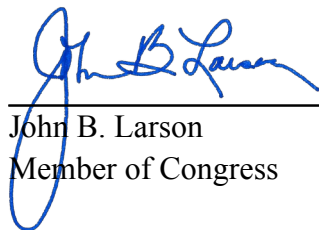
---

Sara Jacobs  
Member of Congress



---

Derek T. Tran  
Member of Congress



---

John B. Larson  
Member of Congress



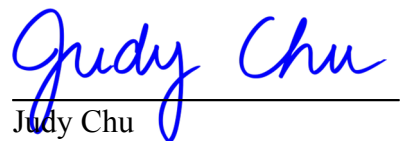
---

Greg Stanton  
Member of Congress



---

Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Member of Congress



---

Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



---

Greg Casar  
Member of Congress



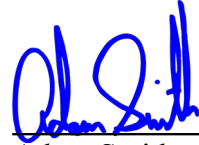
---

Joaquin Castro  
Member of Congress



---

Robin L. Kelly  
Member of Congress



---

Adam Smith  
Member of Congress



---

Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Member of Congress



---

Laura Friedman  
Member of Congress



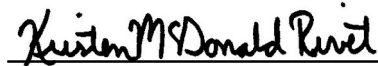
---

Josh Riley  
Member of Congress



---

Jason Crow  
Member of Congress



---

Kristen McDonald Rivet  
Member of Congress



---

Chris Deluzio  
Member of Congress



---

Lois Frankel  
Member of Congress



---

Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress



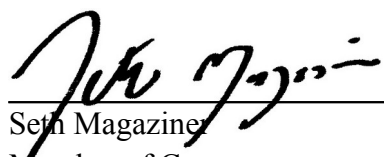
---

Chrissy Houlahan  
Member of Congress




---

Bradley Scott Schneider  
Member of Congress



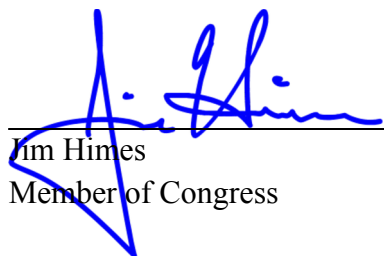
---

Seth Magaziner  
Member of Congress



---

Suzan K. DelBene  
Member of Congress



---

Jim Himes  
Member of Congress



---

Jesús G. "Chuy" García  
Member of Congress



---

John Garamendi  
Member of Congress



---

Sarah McBride  
Member of Congress



---

Patrick Ryan  
Member of Congress



---

Haley M. Stevens  
Member of Congress



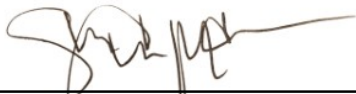
---

Ritchie Torres  
Member of Congress



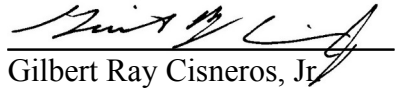
---

Nikki Budzinski  
Member of Congress



---

Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick  
Member of Congress



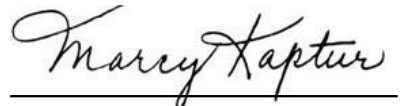
---

Gilbert Ray Cisneros, Jr.  
Member of Congress



---

Mike Thompson  
Member of Congress



---

Marcy Kaptur  
Member of Congress



---

Madeleine Dean  
Member of Congress



---

Joe Neguse  
Member of Congress



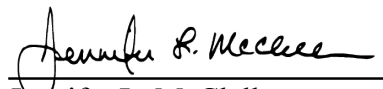
---

Nancy Pelosi  
Member of Congress



---

Marilyn Strickland  
Member of Congress



---

Jennifer L. McClellan  
Member of Congress



---

Brittany Pettersen  
Member of Congress



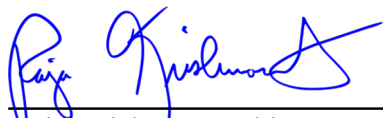
---

Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress



---

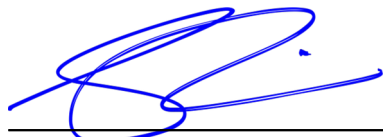
Doris Matsui  
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress



Sharice L. Davids  
Member of Congress  
Kansas Third District



Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.  
Member of Congress



MARK TAKANO  
Member of Congress



Luz M. Rivas  
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress



Terri A. Sewell  
Member of Congress



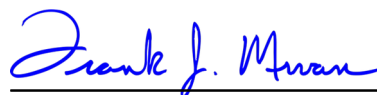
Angie Craig  
Member of Congress



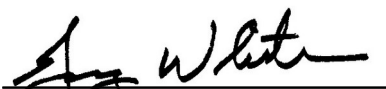
Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez  
Member of Congress



Lori Trahan  
Member of Congress

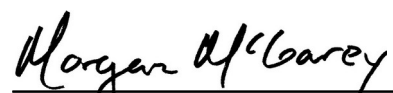


Frank J. Mrvan  
Member of Congress




---

George Whitesides  
Member of Congress



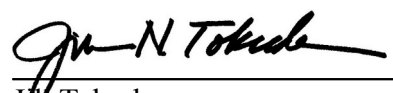
---

Morgan McGarvey  
Member of Congress




---

Dwight Evans  
Member of Congress




---

Jim Tokuda  
Member of Congress



---

Shri Thanedar  
Member of Congress



---

Greg Landsman  
Member of Congress