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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4313

HOUSE ARMED SERVICES
COMMITTEE

HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS
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HOUSE AGRICULTURE
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SELECT SUBCOMMITTEE ON
THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

HOUSE REPUBLICAN WHIP TEAM

October 19, 2023

The Honorable Patrick McHenry
Speaker Pro Tempore
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
H-204, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pro Tempore McHenry and Leader Jeffries,

On October 7th, Iranian-backed Hamas launched an unprovoked and barbaric attack against our greatest friend and ally in the Middle East, the Jewish State of Israel. The United States must take all necessary actions to unequivocally stand with Israel and provide the Israeli people and the Israeli military any required aid as the country fights for its very existence in the unprovoked war launched by Hamas terrorists. To that end, I demand that Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib be prevented from participating in any classified briefing about Israel's ongoing military operations, Israel's self-defense efforts, or any American military movements in and around the region.

While there has been broad bipartisan support for Israel's right to self-defense, we must not allow Hamas sympathizers in this body to serve as the mouthpiece for Palestinian terrorists. Rather than condemn the attacks by Hamas, Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib has chosen to side with Hamas by spreading misinformation. It has become clear that Congresswoman Tlaib's allegiance lies with Hamas, therefore she cannot be trusted with sensitive information. Her participation in classified discussions around Israel's self-defense would threaten the integrity of the operation and put American and Israeli lives at risk.

When the conflict first broke out, we all watched in horror as videos spread online of barbaric and medieval acts of terror being carried out by Iranian-backed Hamas against innocent Israeli citizens. Just days after the conflict began, Congresswoman Tlaib was asked if she condemned the atrocities Hamas terrorists committed against Israeli citizens, such as beheading babies or dragging women through the streets. Congresswoman Tlaib had no comment and refused to condemn these horrific acts.

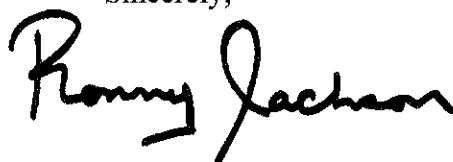
Only a few days later, videos and reports emerged of an explosion at a hospital in Gaza causing death and destruction. Despite the Israel Defense Forces stating clearly that they were not responsible, Congresswoman Tlaib chose to spread misinformation on social media by saying that Israel was the responsible party and stating, "Israel just bombed the Baptist Hospital killing 500 Palestinians (doctors, children, patients) just like that." Despite Israel's denial of these claims, video evidence to the contrary, a statement from President Biden absolving Israel, and the assessment of United States intelligence officials that Palestinian Islamic Jihad terrorists

were responsible, Congresswoman Tlaib has insisted on spreading misinformation by blaming Israel for the blast at the hospital in Gaza, which is indisputably false. In doing so, she has incited antisemitic violence and endangered many lives.

This antisemitic behavior is unfortunately nothing new from Congresswoman Tlaib. Just a few months ago in July, she took to the House floor to wrongfully describe Israel as an apartheid state before voting against a resolution which reaffirmed that Israel is not a racist or apartheid state. Back in 2021 when Israel had to defend itself yet again from unprovoked rocket attacks from Hamas, Congress took action to replenish Israeli missile defense stocks. However, Congresswoman Tlaib voted against this measure, instead siding once again with Hamas and Iranian-backed Palestinian terrorists.

Congresswoman Tlaib has made her stance clear that she would rather support Hamas and other Iranian terrorist proxy organizations than support the self-defense of Israel and American interests in the Middle East. Her words and actions have made it clear that she is unable to be trusted with sensitive information, thus she should be barred from receiving classified updates on the war occurring in Israel. I demand that her security clearance be revoked immediately and that she be prevented from participating in any relevant briefings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ronny Jackson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "R".

Ronny L. Jackson
Member of Congress