

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:

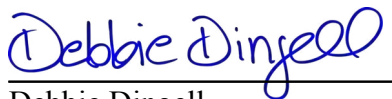
1. A detailed explanation of the specific concerns or procedural issues identified that led to the suspension of visas.

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.

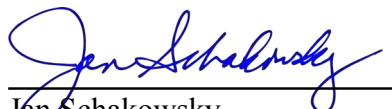
Sincerely,



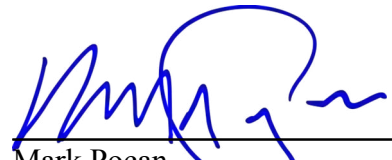
Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



Kim Schrier, M.D.
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



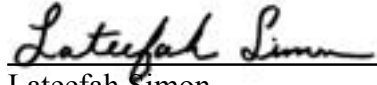
Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



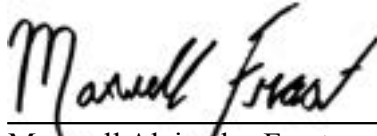
Becca Balint
Member of Congress




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



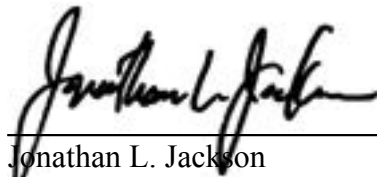
Sean Casten
Member of Congress



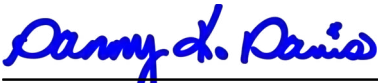
Maxine Waters
Member of Congress



Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress



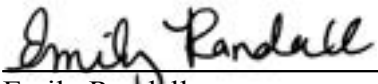
Jonathan L. Jackson
Member of Congress



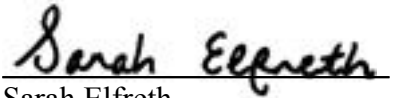
Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



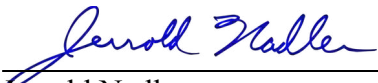
Mike Levin
Member of Congress



Emily Randall
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Sarah Elfreth
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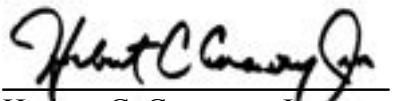
Jerrold Nadler
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Joe Courtney
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Steve Cohen
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Herbert C. Conaway, Jr.
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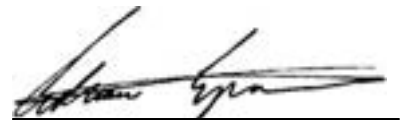
Dan Goldman
Member of Congress



Ilhan Omar
Member of Congress



Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress



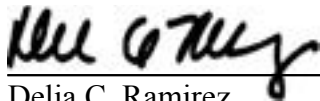
Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress



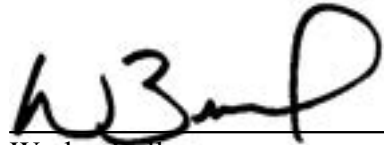
Deborah K. Ross
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Troy A. Carter, Sr.
Member of Congress



Delia C. Ramirez
Member of Congress



Wesley Bell
Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress



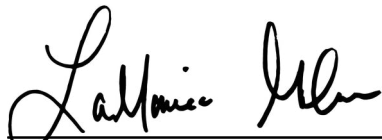
Dina Titus
Member of Congress



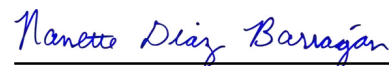
Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress



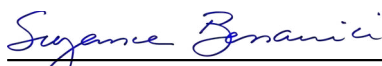
Eric Sorensen
Member of Congress



LaMonica McIver
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Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



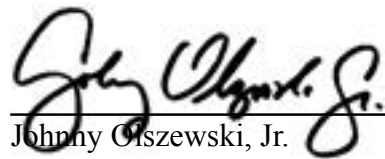
Suzanne Bonamici
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Kevin Mullin
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Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



Johnny Olszewski, Jr.
Member of Congress



Mike Quigley
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Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress



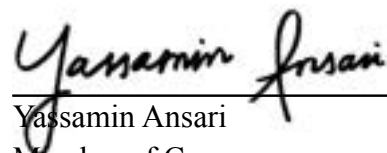
Seth Moulton
Member of Congress



Paul Tonko
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



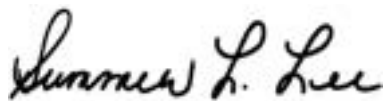
Yassamin Ansari
Member of Congress



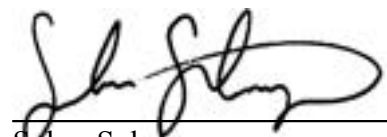
Gabe Amo
Member of Congress



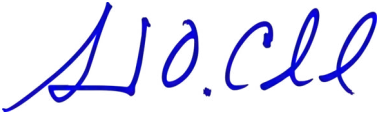
Ayanna Pressley
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Summer L. Lee
Member of Congress



Suhas Subramanyam
Member of Congress



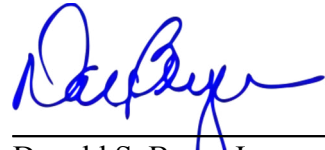
Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress



Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress



Chris Pappas
Member of Congress



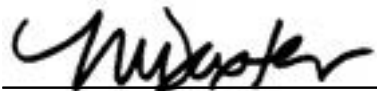
Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress




Bill Foster
Member of Congress



Val Hoyle
Member of Congress



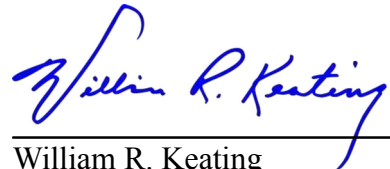
Maxine Dexter
Member of Congress



Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress



Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress



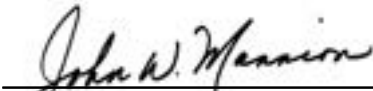
William R. Keating
Member of Congress



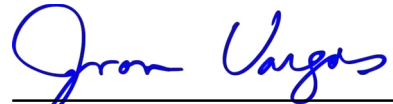
Valerie P. Foushee
Member of Congress



Nellie Pou
Member of Congress



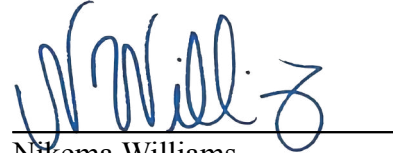
John W. Mannion
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



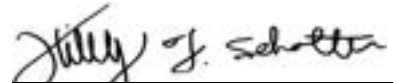
Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



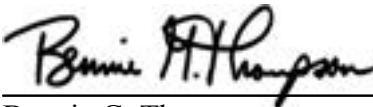
Nikema Williams
Member of Congress



Robert Garcia
Member of Congress



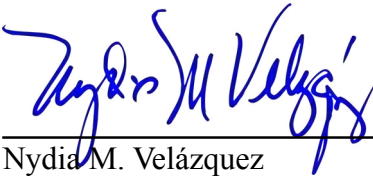
Hillary J. Scholten
Member of Congress



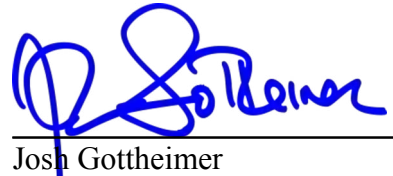
Bennie G. Thompson
Member of Congress



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



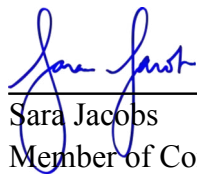
Veronica Escobar
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



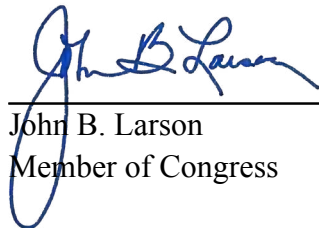
Shontel M. Brown
Member of Congress



Sara Jacobs
Member of Congress



Derek T. Tran
Member of Congress



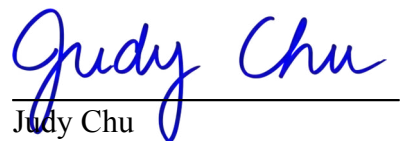
John B. Larson
Member of Congress



Greg Stanton
Member of Congress



Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress



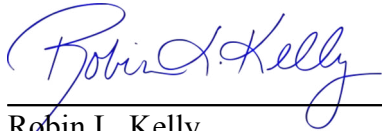
Judy Chu
Member of Congress



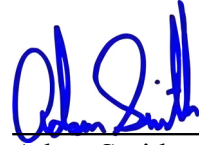
Greg Casar
Member of Congress



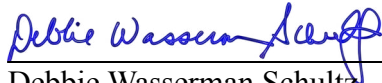
Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress



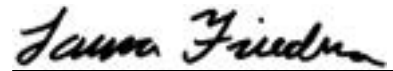
Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress



Adam Smith
Member of Congress



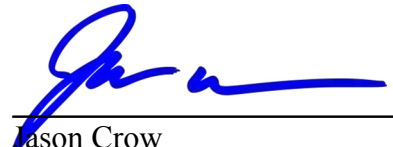
Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress



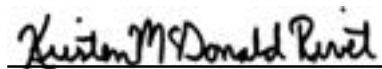
Laura Friedman
Member of Congress



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



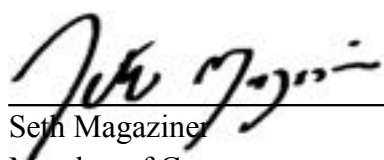
Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



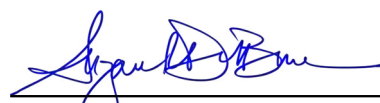
Chrissy Houlahan
Member of Congress



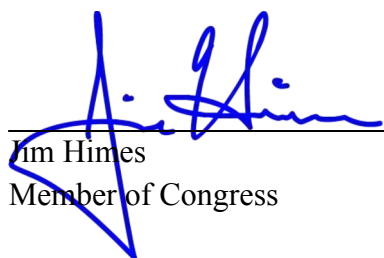
Bradley Scott Schneider
Member of Congress



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



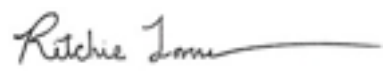
Sarah McBride
Member of Congress



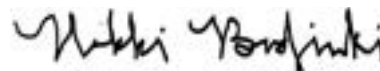
Patrick Ryan
Member of Congress



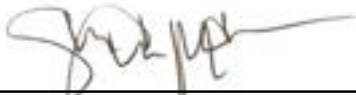
Haley M. Stevens
Member of Congress



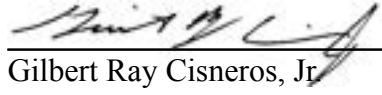
Ritchie Torres
Member of Congress



Nikki Budzinski
Member of Congress



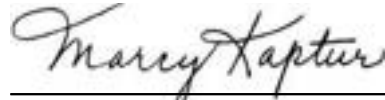
Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick
Member of Congress



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



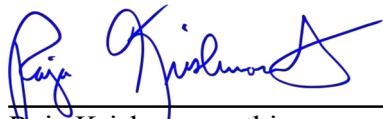
Brittany Pettersen
Member of Congress



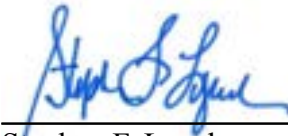
Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



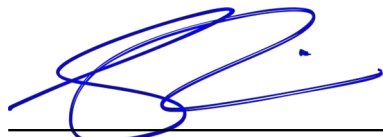
Doris Matsui
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi
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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



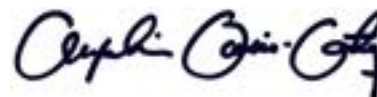
Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress



Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



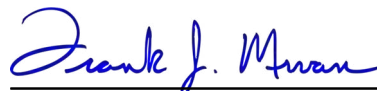
Angie Craig
Member of Congress



Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
Member of Congress



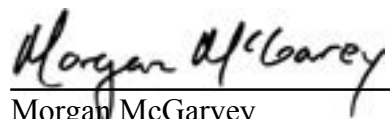
Lori Trahan
Member of Congress



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
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Greg Landsman
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