

From: "Rep. Michael Lawler" <repmikelowler@mail.house.gov> To: Peter.Finocchio@mail.house.gov Subject: Standing with Israel and Ensuring Americans are Safe Date: Fri, 13 Oct 2023 20:28:06 -0400 Unsubscribe: <https://lawler.house.gov/Forms/EmailSignup/?Delete=true&MessageID=301&Email=Peter.Finocchio@mail.house.gov>

Standing with Israel and Ensuring Americans are Safe body, table, td, a{-webkit-text-size-adjust: 100%; -ms-text-size-adjust: 100%;} /* Prevent WebKit and Windows mobile changing default text sizes */

img{-ms-interpolation-mode: bicubic;} /* Allow smoother rendering of resized image in Internet Explorer */ /* RESET STYLES */img { border: 0; height: auto; line-height: 100%; outline: none; text-decoration: none; }table { border-collapse: collapse !important; }body { height: 100% !important; margin: 0 !important; padding: 0 !important; width: 100% !important; }strong { font-weight: bold; } /* Editor reset */ /* FIRESIDE STYLES */.component img {max-width:600px;}.component table {mso-table-rspace:10pt; border-collapse:collapse;}.component { padding: 0px !important; }.press {padding-bottom: 0px;}@media all and (max-width:650px) { .image-1, .caption-1, .img-1 img, .image-1 tr, .image-1 td, .image-2, .img-2 img, .image-2 tr, .image-2 td {max-width: 100% !important; width: 100% !important;}.responsive-table {width:100% !important;}.responsive-table img {max-width:100% !important; height: auto !important;}.press .component, .press td {text-align:center;}.component { margin-left: 20px; margin-right: 20px;}.component .responsive-table { margin-left: 0px !important; margin-right: 0px !important;}.wide .video-thumb { width: 100% !important; height: auto !important; }.wide .video-container { width: 100% !important; }.component.full-width {margin-left: 0px; margin-right: 0px; } } /* CLIENT-SPECIFIC STYLES */ body, table, td, a{-webkit-text-size-adjust: 100%; -ms-text-size-adjust: 100%;} /* Prevent WebKit and Windows mobile changing default text sizes */ table, td{mso-table-lspace: 0pt; mso-table-rspace: 0pt;} /* Remove spacing between tables in Outlook 2007 and up */

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tr, .image-1 td {max-width: 100% !important; width: 100% !important;}
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td, .split .component, .split .component td, .split td {text-align:center;}
.component { margin-left: 20px; margin-right: 20px;} .component
.responsive-table { margin-left: 0px !important; margin-right: 0px !important;}
.wide .video-thumb { width: 100% !important; height: auto !important; }
.wide.video-container { width: 100% !important; } .scale1280x720
.video-thumb-padding {height: calc(((720 * (100vw - 50px)) / 1280) / 2 -
40px);} } Friday, October 13, 2023 Peter, My office continues to be in touch
regularly with Administration officials concerning the safety of American
citizens who are in Israel. Please see and share the below information
from the State Department for constituents who are in Israel. Citizens seeking
to be in touch with the U.S. Embassy in Israel can fill out THIS
FORM. They can also call 1-833-890-9595 or 1-606-641-0131.American
citizens calling from Israel can dial 03-519-7426. For the latest updates,
please monitor the messages to U.S. citizens from the U.S. Embassy in Israel
HERE. Any U.S. citizens in Israel should enroll their contact information
in the State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program
(STEP):<https://step.state.gov/step/> The State Department will post additional
updates to their travel advisory for Israel, the West Bank, and Gaza as they
are issued HERE. I have publicly called on the Administration to use every tool
in its tool chest to evacuate American citizens and get them home safe,
including indemnifying commercial airlines and sending military aircraft:
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Administration to use every tool in its tool chest to evacuate American
citizens and get them home safe, including indemnifying commercial airlines and
sending military aircraft: I will keep you posted on developments
as we learn of them. In the interim, please do not hesitate to reach out to my
district office at 845-201-2060 if you have any questions or if there is
anything we can do for you during this difficult time. Amid rising antisemitism
and Hamas' disturbing call for a global "Day of Rage," it is
imperative we do everything necessary to ensure the safety of Jewish
communities here in the United States. That is why today Congressman Ruben
Gallego (D-AZ) and I sent a joint letter calling for additional funding
for FEMA's Nonprofit Security Grant Program to protect synagogues and other

Jewish community centers from targeted hate crimes and domestic terrorism. You can read our letter below: Ensuring the safety of our citizens is the most fundamental purpose of government. That is why I will continue fighting to ensure Americans in Israel as well as Jewish American families here in the United States are safe. It was sickening to see and hear about the atrocities committed by cold-blooded Hamas terrorists, including the indiscriminate murder of children, babies, and the elderly. That the New York City Democratic Socialists of America (NYC-DSA) held a rally celebrating these murderers was horrendous. I introduced H.Res.775 condemning them for this shocking display. You can read my statement below: With Iran backing Hamas's barbaric assault against Israel, it is crucial that we hold them accountable. Months ago, I introduced the SHIP Act, which will target bad actors like China who help Iran evade petroleum sanctions. That legislation now has over 200 co-sponsors. On Wednesday, Congressman Jared Moskowitz (D-FL), who introduced the SHIP Act with me, joined me on Morning Joe to discuss this legislation as well as the need to support Israel and stand up to both Iran and Hamas: In addition to the SHIP Act, which continues to garner more and more support, I introduced two new pieces of legislation aimed at combatting Iran. The first, H.Res.776, called on the Biden Administration to rescind its release of \$6 billion in frozen Iranian funds and lawfully enforce the Taylor Force Act. From the start, I was vehemently opposed to the \$6 billion hostage deal that freed these sanctioned funds for Iran to use. Although it was stated these funds would be for humanitarian purposes, the Iranian government itself contradicted this claim, saying they would spend the funds wherever they saw fit. In the days since I introduced this resolution, the United States and Qatar reached a deal to deny Iran these sanctioned funds. I hope that the Biden Administration will similarly renege on providing funds to the Palestinian Authority, which has refused to dismantle its pay-to-slay policies. The House Foreign Affairs Committee held a hearing on this very issue just two weeks ago. You can listen to my comments from that hearing below: I also joined my colleague Josh Gottheimer (D-NJ) this week in introducing the Iran-China Energy Sanctions Act. This important legislation will impose restrictions on correspondent and payable through accounts in the United States with respect to Chinese financial institutions that conduct transactions involving the purchase of petroleum or petroleum products from Iran. We know that China is working in tandem with Iran, Russia and North Korea to evade international sanctions and bolster each other's economies. That is exactly why I introduced the SHIP Act. With Iran backing Hamas' barbaric assault against Israel, it is crucial that we use every tool at our disposal to freeze Iran out and deter its enablers. You can read my full statement on the Iran-China Energy Sanctions Act below: I also introduced bipartisan legislation this week with Congresswoman Elissa Slotkin (D-MI) to reduce emissions and nutrient pollution. The Conservation and Regenerative Optimization Practices (CROP) for Farming Act, would prioritize payments from the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) to farm efforts that reduce nitrous oxide and methane emissions and store carbon in soil and plants. Between 2017 and 2020, only 23% of EQIP payments were

allocated to practices that mitigate pollution. As a member of the Conservative Climate Caucus and Co-Chair of the Appalachian Trail Caucus, ensuring that we preserve our environment for future generations is very important to me. Like the Advancing Research on Agricultural Climate Impacts Act I introduced earlier this year with Congressman Eric Sorensen (D-IL-17), this legislation will help our farmers and incentivize innovative practices that ensure a cleaner, better future for everyone. That's something we can all support, regardless of politics. You can read my full statement on this legislation below: I will keep you updated as these bills work their way through the House. I look forward to the House getting back to work soon on these and other important measures. With so much in the news about demonstrations against Israel, it has been heartening to see so many in our community rallying to Israel's aid. My team attended vigils in Rockland and Westchester this week as well as an Israeli flag-raising ceremony in Clarkstown. (Counter-clockwise from top) Vigils for Israel in Rockland and Westchester Counties and Israeli flag-raising ceremony in Clarkstown. I also joined East Fishkill Town Supervisor Nick D'Alessandro, State Senator Rob Rolison, Assemblyman Anil Beephan and so many other community leaders and Dutchess County residents over the weekend for East Fishkill Community Day. Rep. Lawler joins local leaders and residents at East Fishkill Community Day. Additionally, I had a member of my team join the Center For Safety & Change in celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month and recognizing Domestic Violence Awareness Month. I appreciate the work the Center For Safety & Change does to help survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking in our community. Rep. Lawler's office participates in the Center For Safety & Change Hispanic Heritage Month and Domestic Violence Awareness Month Recognition Event. My office and I look forward to continuing to get out across our community to meet with residents and their families where they are - as we have been doing since January. We look forward to seeing you and hearing your feedback on how we can better serve you and your family! One of the duties of serving you that I enjoy the most is representing members of our community for their amazing efforts. Earlier this week, my office was proud to join Croton Falls Community Church in recognizing Pastor Tim for 30 years of service and leadership. I am so grateful to our faith-based communities for the important roles they play in our community and I look forward to continuing to strengthen that partnership as we work together to serve all NY-17 residents. Rep. Lawler's office recognizes Pastor Tim of Croton Falls Community Church. My office also participated in the Clarkstown Lions Club's awards ceremony this week and help recognize an outstanding group of individuals who have given back to our Hudson Valley community through selfless volunteerism and leadership. Rep. Lawler's office joins local leaders to recognize Clarkstown Lions Club Honorees. Finally, we helped celebrate some of the amazing seniors in our community at the Town of Haverstraw's Fifteenth Annual Ninety-Plus Recognition Day Ceremony. These 90+ residents have given so much to our community and it was a privilege to join state and town leaders in recognizing their myriad contributions! Rep. Lawler's office joins Haverstraw community in celebrating 90+ honorees. If there is anyone you believe we should recognize

for their volunteerism or leadership in our community, please let my office know! I just received word that we will be needed back in Washington for votes on Monday. Unfortunately, this means we will need to postpone our scheduled Rockland County Town Hall. We will let you know as soon as we have a new date set. My district team and I will continue to get around to every town in the 17th District to listen to constituents and help residents - at town halls, mobile office hours, and events in the community. I will always put our community first and look forward to hearing from each and every one of you. Over the summer, I joined several of my colleagues in sending a letter urging the State Department to address the massive passport delays Hudson Valley residents and citizens across our country are facing. Just this week, the State Department announced shorter wait times for both routine and expedited passport applications received on or after October 2nd. The maximum processing time for a routine application is down from 13 weeks to 11 weeks, and expedited time is down from 7-9 weeks to 5-7 weeks. This is a step in the right direction and I will continue working with my colleagues to ensure these wait times continue to decrease. In the meantime, if you are having any difficulties with your passport application, please don't hesitate to contact our district team at 845-201-2060. Additionally, below are some tips from the State Department regarding passport applications: My office is still seeking a veteran for a two-year paid position through the Green and Gold Congressional Aide Program. This person will join our team as a district representative, attend local meetings and events on my behalf, and act as a facilitator between constituents and federal, state, and local agencies. To qualify for the Green and Gold Congressional Aide Program, veterans must meet all the following requirements: Honorably discharged, released from active duty within the last six years, pay grades at or below E-5, O-3, or W-2. Veterans promoted to the pay grades of E-6, O-4, or W-3 within 6-months of separation from active duty are eligible, granted they meet ALL other eligibility requirements. Veterans who are in receipt of a 20-year or Temporary Early Retirement Authorization (TERA) retirement are not eligible for the program. Interested veterans can [CLICK HERE](#) or below to apply. Finally, there is still time to participate in the Congressional App Challenge. [CLICK HERE](#) or on the flyer below for more information or to apply! If you have any questions about any of the above information, or if there is anything we can do for you or your family, please don't hesitate to contact my office at 845-201-2060 or reach out through my website at lawler.house.gov. Additionally, you can keep up with the latest news on my efforts by following us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram - and by opting in to periodic updates from my office by [CLICKING HERE](#). Sincerely, Michael V. Lawler Member of Congress 17th District, New York [Click Here](#) to view this email in your browser [Click Here](#) to be removed from this list