

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 11, 2020

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We commend your leadership in guiding the U.S-Israel relationship toward a closer relationship with our strategic partner and close friend, Israel. Many presidents before you pledged their commitment to Israel, but you have backed up your words with unprecedented achievements. The Abraham Accords achieved historic peace agreements between Israel and the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, and Sudan. We applaud your incredible efforts in bringing peace and stability to the Middle East. We have tremendous confidence that you will continue taking steps to address the so-called “Palestinian refugee” population.

America has provided \$1 billion to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) over the last four fiscal years, and nearly \$6 billion since UNRWA’s inception in 1950. We remain deeply concerned that hard-earned American taxpayer dollars are not being used properly. Your withholding of funds from UNRWA in January on the condition that they reform was a tremendous first step. American taxpayers deserve to know how their tax dollars are spent on Palestinian refugees and their descendants.

In order to investigate the matter, the Senate Report 112-172 to the Department of State, Foreign Operations, And Related Programs Appropriations bill in 2012 directed the Department of State to issue a report to Congress detailing “the approximate number of people who, in the past year, have received UNRWA services: (1) whose place of residence was Palestine between June 1946 and May 1948 and who were displaced as a result of the 1948 Arab-Israeli conflict; and (2) who are descendants of persons described in subparagraph (1).”

This mandate was reaffirmed by Congress in both the fiscal year 2014 and fiscal year 2015 consolidated appropriations bills. Finally, in 2015, the Obama State Department delivered the mandated report to Congress in classified form despite no apparent national security threat or known historical precedent for classifying such a report. We believe this classification was inappropriate and a deliberate attempt to conceal important information from U.S. taxpayers. We urge you to declassify the report without further delay.

We respectfully request that you instruct the Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration to declassify this report. The issue of the so-called Palestinian “right of return” of 5.3 million refugees to Israel as part of any “peace deal” is an unrealistic demand, and we do not believe it accurately reflects the number of actual Palestinian refugees. Just like your courageous

action to bring about unprecedented peace between several gulf states and Israel, it is time to end the fiction of the “right of return” and bring the conflict one step closer conclusion.

Mr. President, your tremendous efforts in furthering our relationship with Israel are unmatched by any President before you. We believe the declassification of this report will further solidify your legacy as the most Pro-Israel President in history.

Sincerely,



Doug Lamborn
Member of Congress



Jeff Duncan
Member of Congress



Brian Babin, D.D.S
Member of Congress



Andy Biggs
Member of Congress



Ted Budd
Member of Congress



Neal Dunn, M.D.
Member of Congress



Matt Gaetz
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert
Member of Congress



Glenn Grothman
Member of Congress



Vicki Hartzler
Member of Congress



Fred Keller
Member of Congress



Steve King
Member of Congress



David Kustoff
Member of Congress



Debbie Lesko
Member of Congress



Roger Marshall, M.D.
Member of Congress



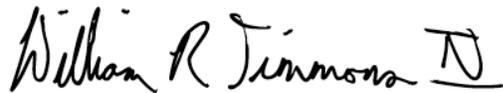
Ralph Norman
Member of Congress



Chip Roy
Member of Congress



Chris Stewart
Member of Congress



William Timmons
Member of Congress



Randy Weber
Member of Congress



Joe Wilson
Member of Congress



Lee Zeldin
Member of Congress