

DOUG LAMBORN  
5TH DISTRICT, COLORADO

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

CHAIRMAN,  
ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0605**

2402 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
202-225-4422  
FAX 202-226-2638

DISTRICT OFFICE:

1125 KELLY JOHNSON BOULEVARD, SUITE 330  
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80920  
719-520-0055  
FAX 719-520-0840

WEBSITE:

Lamborn.house.gov

May 2, 2017

The Honorable Rex W. Tillerson  
Secretary of State  
2201 C Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Tillerson,

We write to share our concerns about the Palestinian Authority's (PA) official policy of paying terrorists who commit acts of terror in Israel. In light of PA President Mahmoud Abbas' upcoming visit with President Trump and his administration, we urge you to address this issue directly with him. It is absolutely unacceptable that the United States continues to give foreign aid to an entity such as the Palestinian Authority that rewards terrorist acts, such as the murder of Taylor Force.

Taylor Force was brutally murdered by a Palestinian terrorist during an educational tour in Israel in March of 2016. Taylor was an Eagle Scout, West Point graduate, Iraq and Afghanistan veteran, and American citizen. He represents everything right and good about our country, and everything any parent could want their son or daughter to be.

The day after the attack, President Abbas' ruling Fatah party praised Taylor's murderer as a "hero and martyr", giving him a hero's funeral with thousands in attendance. PA law requires financial rewards for such attacks, to the tune of \$315M a year, or 8% of the PA budget. It is egregious that American taxpayer dollars are going into the pockets of Taylor's murderer.

The Taylor Force Act, H.R. 1164 in the House, and S. 474 in the Senate, would withhold economic assistance to the PA until you are able to certify that the PA is:

1. Taking credible steps to end terrorist acts against American and Israeli citizens perpetrated by individuals under its jurisdictional control, such as the March 2016 attack that killed former United States Army officer Taylor Force.
2. Publicly condemning acts of violence, and taking steps to investigate or is cooperating with investigations of such acts to bring the perpetrators to justice.
3. Terminating payments for acts of terrorism against U.S. and Israeli citizens to any individual who has been imprisoned after being fairly tried and convicted for such acts of

terrorism and to any individual who died committing such acts of terrorism, including to a family member of such individuals.

Given that Abbas is scheduled to meet with you and President Trump in the coming days, we urge you to ask him why he re-signed this PA official policy of paying terrorists into law, and make clear to him that his praise of Taylor's murder will have consequences.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue. We look forward to working with you to pass this important bill and stop rewarding terrorists for murdering innocent civilians.

Sincerely,



Doug Lamborn  
Member of Congress



Lee Zeldin  
Member of Congress



Bill Johnson  
Member of Congress



Trent Franks  
Member of Congress



Mario Diaz-Balart  
Member of Congress



Pat Tiberi  
Member of Congress



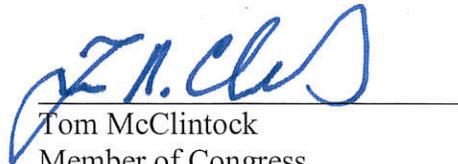
French Hill  
Member of Congress



Doug LaMalfa  
Member of Congress



Dennis A. Ross  
Member of Congress



Tom McClintock  
Member of Congress