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President Joseph R. Biden  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden:

On November 17, 2023, your administration re-issued a sanctions waiver to allow Iran access to \$10 billion worth of frozen funds. This decision occurred just weeks after October 7, 2023, when Iranian-backed Hamas terrorists invaded Israel, brutally killing innocent civilians, and taking hostages, including U.S. citizens. This marked the beginning of a significant multi-front Iranian escalation against Israel, and against U.S. interests and servicemembers. Since then, your administration continues to allow Iran, the largest state sponsor of terrorism, access to billions of dollars at the price of American lives. I urge you to allow this \$10 billion waiver to expire this week.

Since October 7, Hamas and fellow Iranian proxy, Hezbollah, have continued to attack Israel. Iran-backed militias in Syria and Iraq have also engaged in over 170 attacks against U.S. personnel in the Middle East, killing three soldiers and wounding dozens.<sup>1</sup> At the same time, the Iran-backed Houthis have attacked commercial shipping in the Red Sea, constraining a major conduit for global trade. More recently, over the weekend of March 9, 2024, the U.S. military said they shot down at least 28 Houthi drones in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden. According to reports, this was the largest wave of attacks by the Houthis.<sup>2</sup>

However, despite these attacks on Americans and our interests, your administration has taken steps to allow Iran access to billions to fund additional terrorist activity that directly threaten Americans. While your administration claims the funds are strictly for "humanitarian purchases", we know that Iran has a long track record of evading sanctions and siphoning humanitarian funds for their hostile actions.

Your administration's stated justification for this \$10 billion waiver remains insufficient. Instead of cracking down on Iran, your administration rewards Tehran for their continued uranium enrichment, human rights abuses, and terror proxy escalation.

I urge your administration to re-establish deterrence, ramp up sanctions pressure, and let the \$10 billion waiver expire. We must reverse course and use every tool to stop these attacks against U.S. personnel and prevent Iran from fomenting a larger regional conflict in the Middle East.

Sincerely,

**BRYAN STEIL**  
Member of Congress

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.politico.com/news/2024/03/06/proxy-attacks-iraq-syria-red-sea-00145428>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-68524596>