

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-2107

August 25, 2025

The Honorable Marco Rubio  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Rubio,

We write to you today with urgency about the grave crisis that infants in Gaza face as a result of severe restrictions on the entry and distribution of humanitarian aid. Specifically, we write to you today asking that the United States use its full power and authority to immediately facilitate a massive surge in all humanitarian aid, and in particular infant formula, into Gaza to address this crisis. The United States and Israel, have a moral obligation to address the dire conditions that threaten the lives of Palestinian families.

After months of warnings from humanitarian aid organizations, Palestinians in Gaza are now dying of [starvation](#). The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification [warned](#) at the end of July that the “worst-case scenario of famine is currently playing out in the Gaza Strip.” At least 85 [children](#) have died of hunger-related causes and over [20,000 children](#) have been treated for malnutrition in Gaza since April. **Infants in particular are especially vulnerable to death by starvation and are [dying](#) of malnutrition. The lack of food and aid writ large means mothers do not have the basic nutrition [required](#) to sustain breastfeeding, rendering formula the only option for infant survival in many cases.**

Between March 2 and May 19, 2025, the Netanyahu government did not allow the entry of [any](#) humanitarian aid into Gaza. Since late May, the government has instituted a new system of humanitarian aid delivery, the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation (GHF), which has resulted in a catastrophic decrease in food supplies and other humanitarian aid. According to the Netanyahu government’s own [data](#), the GHF has delivered only a tiny [fraction](#) of the aid that could be delivered by the previous U.N.-coordinated distribution system. In addition, aid packages from the GHF do not include [baby formula](#). While aid distributed by the United Nations does include baby formula, an [average](#) of 69 trucks per day have entered Gaza according to Israeli government data—vastly below the 500 to 600 trucks per day the U.N. says are needed to meet humanitarian needs. As a result, Gaza is currently facing a [dire shortage](#) of [baby formula](#), depriving infants of what is their only hope against starvation.

**We the undersigned stand united in our fundamental American moral values that we must do everything possible to ensure children are not starving and that infants are not denied critical food aid.** This crisis is not one of funding or resources, but of access and political will. While we push for a long-lasting resolution and we are devastated that previous ceasefires were not upheld, we believe it is absolutely necessary to prioritize the safe delivery of the pallets of baby formula, [specifically ready-to-feed formula](#), sitting at the border of Gaza to ensure that we do not lose another newborn or infant to starvation.

**We therefore urge you to demand that the Israeli government immediately facilitate a massive surge of humanitarian aid to enter Gaza, including but not limited to baby formula and medical equipment required to treat infant and child malnourishment.** Specifically, all crossing points should immediately be reopened for the entry of humanitarian aid and allowed to operate simultaneously and

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consistently, and the Israeli government must take additional steps to vastly scale up the amount of aid allowed in through existing crossings and expand movement and access for international aid organizations throughout the Gaza Strip must also be taken, so that they can deliver this aid without diversion.

This moment demands moral clarity and decisive action. Our conscience as a nation and our values compel us to speak out. We appeal to you not only in your capacity as a government official but as a parent. No child should face the desperation and suffering we are witnessing in Gaza in real time and our hearts break for the children killed in Israel and Gaza. We must use our leverage to ensure the most vulnerable are protected and we implore you to take these steps to save innocent lives.

We request that you move with urgency and respond in writing no later than September 1st 2025.

Sincerely,



Ayanna Pressley  
Member of Congress




Brittany Pettersen  
Member of Congress



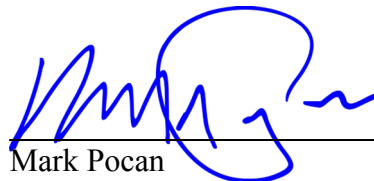
Delia C. Ramirez  
Member of Congress



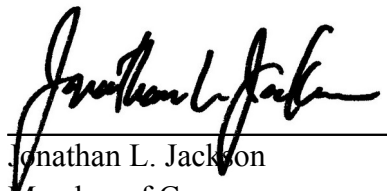
Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress



Mark Pocan  
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Jonathan L. Jackson  
Member of Congress



Cleo Fields  
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Mike Quigley  
Member of Congress



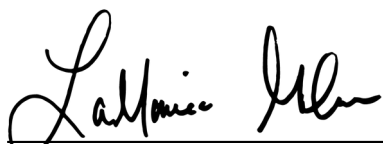
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.  
Member of Congress




Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress



Val Hoyle  
Member of Congress



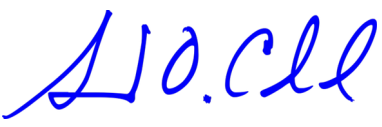
LaMonica McIver  
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress



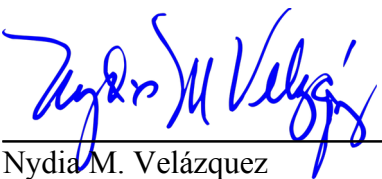
Lateefah Simon  
Member of Congress



Salud Carbajal  
Member of Congress



Dave Min  
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress

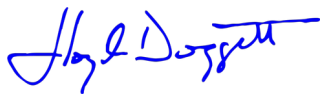


Troy A. Carter, Sr.  
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress

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Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress



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Yassamin Ansari  
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Member of Congress



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Rosa L. DeLauro  
Member of Congress



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Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



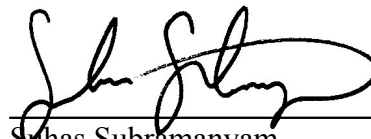
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Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
Member of Congress



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Bill Foster  
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Suhas Subramanyam  
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Eleanor Holmes Norton  
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Rashida Tlaib  
Member of Congress



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Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress



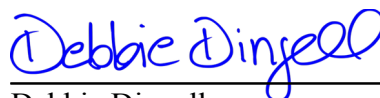
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Ilhan Omar  
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Betty McCollum  
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress



Sylvia R. Garcia  
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress



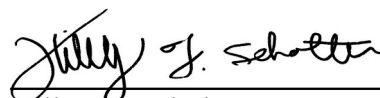
Herbert C. Conaway, Jr.  
Member of Congress



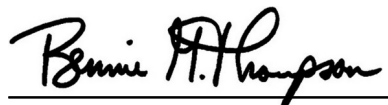
Bonnie Watson Coleman  
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney  
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Hillary J. Scholten  
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Bennie G. Thompson  
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Mary Gay Scanlon  
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Teresa Leger Fernández  
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Pramila Jayapal  
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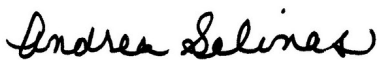
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Julie Johnson  
Member of Congress



Jasmine Crockett  
Member of Congress



Andrea Salinas  
Member of Congress



Melanie Stansbury  
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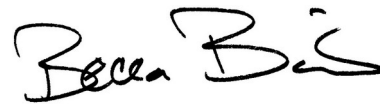
Veronica Escobar  
Member of Congress



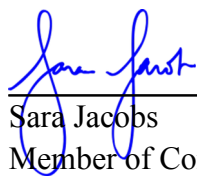
Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez  
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Becca Balint  
Member of Congress



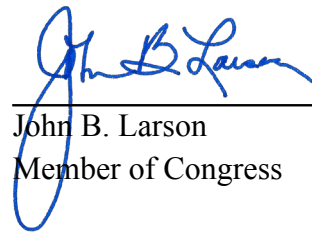
Sara Jacobs  
Member of Congress



Deborah K. Ross  
Member of Congress



Kristen McDonald Rivet  
Member of Congress

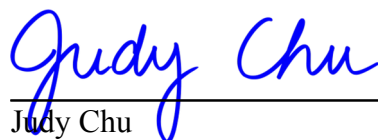


John B. Larson  
Member of Congress

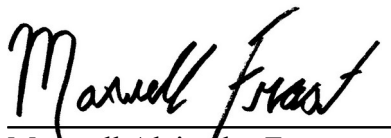
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Derek T. Tran  
Member of Congress



Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



Maxwell Alejandro Frost  
Member of Congress



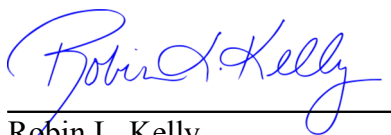
Greg Casar  
Member of Congress



Maxine Dexter  
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Joaquin Castro  
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Robin L. Kelly  
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Steve Cohen  
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Chris Deluzio  
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Seth Magaziner  
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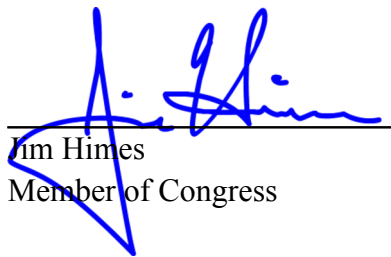
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Paul D. Tonko  
Member of Congress



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Sarah McBride  
Member of Congress



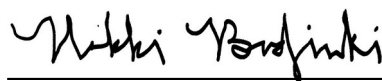
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Jim Himes  
Member of Congress



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Jesús G. "Chuy" García  
Member of Congress



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Nikki Budzinski  
Member of Congress



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Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress



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Sam T. Liccardo  
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Nanette Diaz Barragán  
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Ami Bera, M.D.  
Member of Congress



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John Garamendi  
Member of Congress



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Marcy Kaptur  
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Madeleine Dean  
Member of Congress

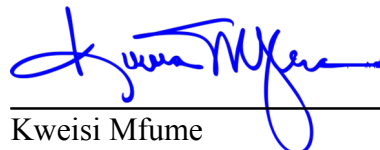


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Nancy Pelosi  
Member of Congress



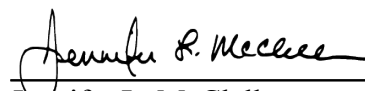
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Kweisi Mfume  
Member of Congress



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Mike Thompson  
Member of Congress



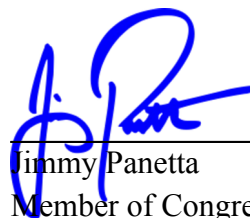
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Jennifer L. McClellan  
Member of Congress



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Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress



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Jimmy Panetta  
Member of Congress



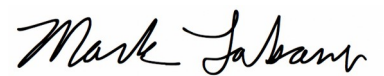
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Doris Matsui  
Member of Congress



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Adam Smith  
Member of Congress



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MARK TAKANO  
Member of Congress



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Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress



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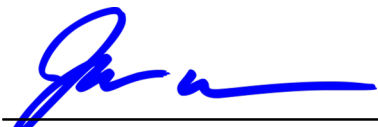
Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.  
Member of Congress



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Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress

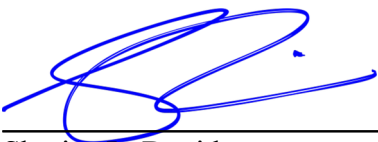
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Jason Crow  
Member of Congress



Ro Khanna  
Member of Congress



Sharice L. Davids  
Member of Congress  
Kansas Third District



Terri A. Sewell  
Member of Congress



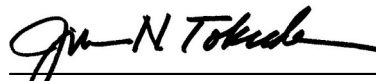
Lori Trahan  
Member of Congress



Dwight Evans  
Member of Congress



Eric Sorensen  
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JM Tokuda  
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi  
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Gabe Vasquez  
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Valerie P. Foushee  
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