

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0609

The Honorable Chuck Schumer Majority Leader United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20150 The Honorable Mitch McConnell Republican Leader United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

October 19, 2023

Dear Majority Leader Schumer and Minority Leader McConnell:

We write today in the wake of over 1,400 Israeli civilians and at least 30 American citizens having been killed over the last week after brutal Hamas terrorists invaded Israel. Other Americans remain unaccounted for. Hamas has slaughtered farmers on their kibbutzim, massacred teenagers attending an outdoor concert, desecrated the bodies of raped and murdered women, and stolen children from their homes.

In response to these developments, it is critical we give prompt consideration to any request for financial aid or other material support requested by Israel. Based on the breadth of responses from members of Congress, there is a shared urgency to consider such a request.

That being said, we know there will no doubt be efforts to attach any funding to Israel to more aid to Ukraine, in excess of the already \$113 billion Congress has provided to Ukraine. These are two separate conflicts and it would be wrong to leverage support of aid to Israel in attempt to get additional aid for Ukraine across the finish line. Furthermore, it would be irresponsible and we should not risk a government shutdown by bundling these priorities together and thus complicating the process and lessening the likelihood of a funding package.

We note that 22 Members of the U.S. House of Representatives wrote to the then-leading candidates to be the next Speaker of the House urging them to deny attempts to couple these issues.

We urge you to keep separate attempts to provide military aid to Israel from additional funds to Ukraine or other matters.

Thank you for your consideration.

Roger Marshall, M.D.

United States Senator

Michael S. Lee

**United States Senator** 

Ron Johnson

United States Senator United States Senator

Cynthia Lummis United States Senator

L.D. Vance **United States Senator** 

Josh Hawley United States Senator

Tommy Tuberville United States Senator Mike Braun

**United States Senator** 

Marsha Blackburn **United States Senator** 

Jarsha Hackburn

**United States Senator**