

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



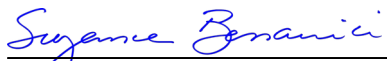
Brittany Pettersen
Member of Congress



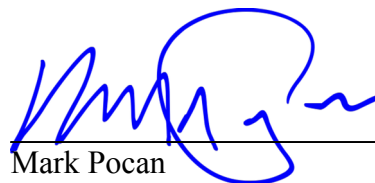
Delia C. Ramirez
Member of Congress



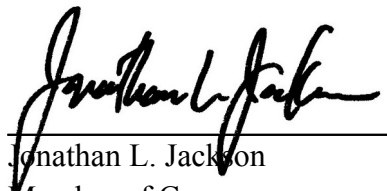
Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



Jonathan L. Jackson
Member of Congress



Cleo Fields
Member of Congress

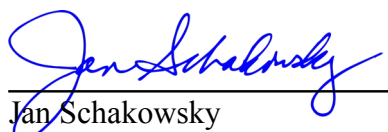
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Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



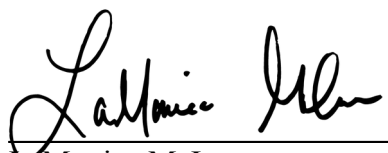
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress



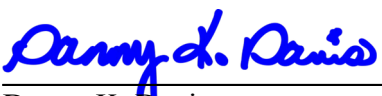
Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Val Hoyle
Member of Congress



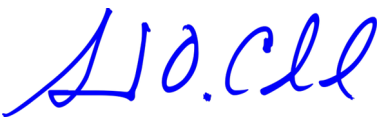
LaMonica McIver
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



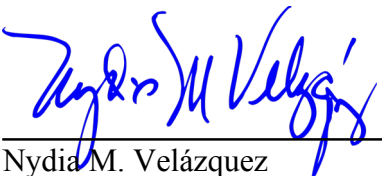
Lateefah Simon
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Salud Carbajal
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Dave Min
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Nydia M. Velázquez
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Troy A. Carter, Sr.
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Lloyd Doggett
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Yassamin Ansari
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Summer L. Lee
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Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress



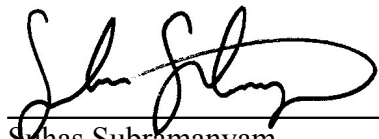
Jerrold Nadler
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Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress



Bill Foster
Member of Congress



Suhas Subramanyam
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton
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Rashida Tlaib
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Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress

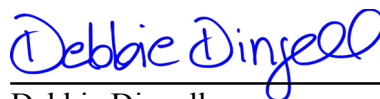


Ilhan Omar
Member of Congress

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Betty McCollum
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Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



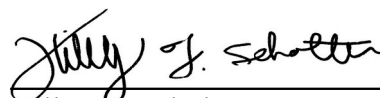
Herbert C. Conaway, Jr.
Member of Congress



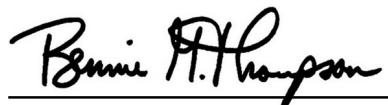
Bonnie Watson Coleman
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Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



Hillary J. Scholten
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Bennie G. Thompson
Member of Congress



Mary Gay Scanlon
Member of Congress

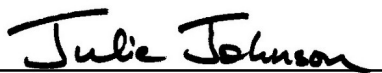


Teresa Leger Fernández
Member of Congress



Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress

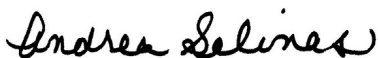
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Julie Johnson
Member of Congress



Jasmine Crockett
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Andrea Salinas
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Melanie Stansbury
Member of Congress



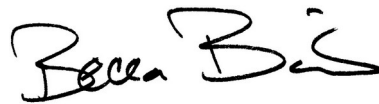
Veronica Escobar
Member of Congress



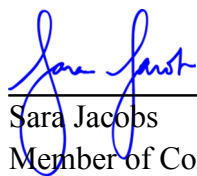
Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
Member of Congress



Becca Balint
Member of Congress



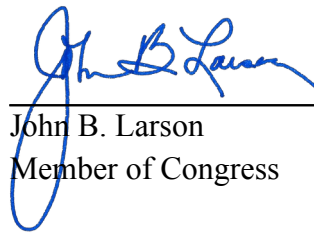
Sara Jacobs
Member of Congress



Deborah K. Ross
Member of Congress



Kristen McDonald Rivet
Member of Congress

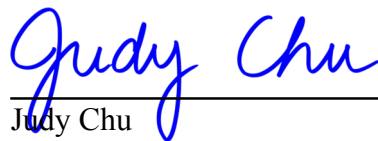


John B. Larson
Member of Congress

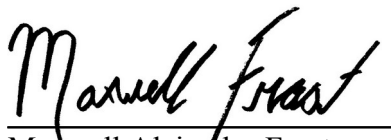
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Derek T. Tran
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Maxwell Alejandro Frost
Member of Congress



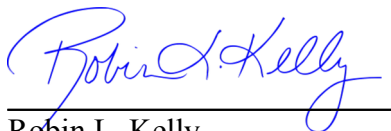
Greg Casar
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Maxine Dexter
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Joaquin Castro
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Steve Cohen
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Chris Deluzio
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Chellie Pingree
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Seth Magaziner
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Sean Casten
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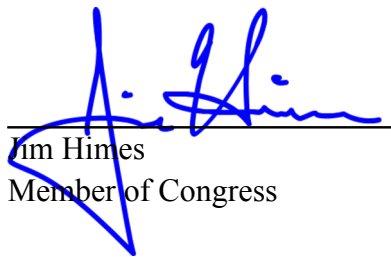
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Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress



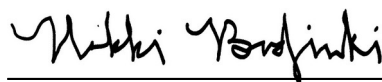
Sarah McBride
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Jim Himes
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Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress



Nikki Budzinski
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



Sam T. Liccardo
Member of Congress



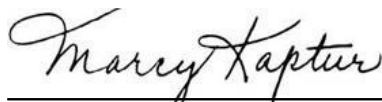
Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress



John Garamendi
Member of Congress



Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress

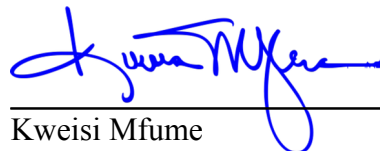


Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress

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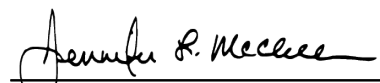
Nancy Pelosi
Member of Congress



Kweisi Mfume
Member of Congress



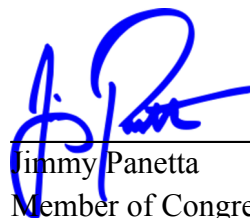
Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



Jennifer L. McClellan
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



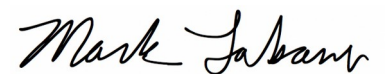
Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



Doris Matsui
Member of Congress



Adam Smith
Member of Congress



MARK TAKANO
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



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



Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress

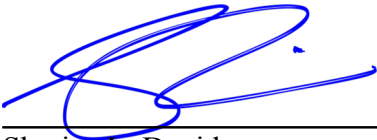
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Jason Crow
Member of Congress



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



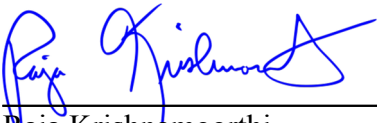
Dwight Evans
Member of Congress



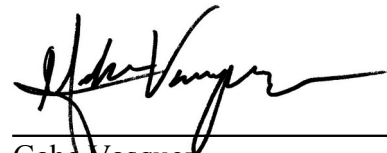
Eric Sorensen
Member of Congress



JM Tokuda
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi
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Gabe Vasquez
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Valerie P. Foushee
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