Dear:

Despite the longstanding complex political and humanitarian issues in the Middle East that have defied solution to date, I am writing to urge you to [continue to] stand unambiguously in solidarity with Israel at this moment as it responds as a sovereign nation must respond to the unspeakable and fully intentional atrocities committed by Hamas last weekend.

Israel and the global Jewish community have just experienced the most lethal attack against Jews since the Holocaust. Our hearts are broken over the horrific acts of barbarity intentionally committed against innocent civilians. I ask you to reject in the strongest terms the moral confusion that some in our country subscribe to which suggests the recent atrocities committed by Hamas are justified or mitigated by any history or political purpose. While we understand and share profound sympathy for Palestinian civilians – themselves innocents displaced, suffering or dying as a direct or indirect result of Hamas' terrorist acts - we also know they have been placed in harm's way by their own depraved and dictatorial leadership. It is that leadership, not Israel, that must be responsible for their safety in the face of the regime change which must be accomplished for the safety of the Israeli citizenry.

During your own tenure as a leader, our own country has been forced into situations where we have been forced to wage war and violence against those who have harmed American innocents, lest that harm expand into even greater risk and damage. Such wars must be undertaken despite the risk of collateral damage which we must minimize but which cannot prevent when action is required to protect our homeland. Israel is offering Palestinian innocents warning and a chance to flee – which must suffice and is more than the innocents of southern Israel were offered before the rampage of death, rape and violation which has left a country terrorized.

We count on you to use your substantial influence to speak and act strongly in support of Israel's right to defend itself and to eliminate existential threats to its sovereignty and people. And to sustain the moral clarity and courage required to stand up to voices that would confuse Israel's acts of self-defense with Hamas' criminal atrocities.

Respectfully,