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11 Iyar 5783, Lag B'Omer
May 9, 2023

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Senate Majority Leader
322 Hart SOB
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Speaker of the House
2468 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitchell McConnell
Senate Minority Leader
317 Russell SOB
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
House Minority Leader
2433 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Schumer, Mr. McConnell, Mr. McCarthy, and Mr. Jeffries,

The Coalition for Jewish Values represents over 2,000 traditional, Orthodox rabbis in matters of American public policy. We are writing to request your clear, bipartisan condemnation of an event scheduled to be held Wednesday, May 10 at the Capitol Visitors Center entitled "Nakba 75 and the Palestinian People."

In 1948, the British provided for a partition of the small portion of Mandatory Palestine between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea into twin Jewish and Arab states. The Zionist Jews accepted this proposal; the Arab League gathered its armies for what their leader promised would be a "war of extermination and a momentous massacre," intending to do to Jews in the Jewish Holy Land what Hitler had so recently done to Jews in Europe. The Arab *Nakba*, or "catastrophe," is that they fell 99% short of their genocidal goal, murdering 6,000 people, one-third of whom were civilians.

Quite recently, support for the right of self-determination of Jews living in their ancestral homeland was both unqualified and entirely bipartisan. It is unsurprising but appalling that the featured speaker at this event will be a Member of Congress who describes the only Middle Eastern country to give equality and voting rights to both Jews and Arabs as "apartheid."

We hope that our request will meet with your favorable response, and that you will condemn this event in the strongest terms as soon as possible. News of the event was made public only yesterday, and it is scheduled for Wednesday, May 10, as mentioned above.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yoel Schonfeld".

Rabbi Yoel Schonfeld
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yaakov Menken".

Rabbi Yaakov Menken
Managing Director