



Dear,

Thank you for your recent communication regarding the horrifying events impacting both Israelis and Palestinians. Together with colleagues, I have urged President Biden and Secretary of State Blinken to take every reasonable step to protect the many innocent people in Gaza. You may read our letter [here](#). The President is correct that "it is really important that Israel, with all the anger and frustration... that exists, is that they operate by the rules of war." That means recognizing that children and other noncombatants are to be valued and protected wherever they reside.

While I have long been critical of Netanyahu and his right-wing government, I do not favor terminating aid to Israel, especially in the immediate aftermath of so many brutal murders. I stand firmly with Israel in its right to respond to the horrifying Hamas atrocities and to put a stop to Hamas terrorism. An immediate cease-fire that leaves Gaza controlled by terrorists is both unrealistic and unacceptable. Yet I believe the Israeli response should be forceful and effective without adopting the savagery of Hamas.

After 9/11, American leaders responded to terrorism with some very good decisions and months later with some truly disastrous decisions that caused the unnecessary loss of thousands of lives and prolonged conflict and instability. Responding to the atrocities now is a necessary choice. Navigating a way forward that is not just striking out, but striking out in a way that achieves more genuine long-term security for both Israelis and Palestinians is much, much more difficult.

I recognize that my position does not satisfy all of your concerns. As we see everchanging developments on the ground and are surrounded by anger, sadness, and fear, it is important to continue respectful dialogue. In the challenging times ahead, I welcome your continued counsel.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lloyd Doggett', written in a cursive style.

Lloyd Doggett

P.S. To ensure that I remain updated on your priorities, please respond [here](#). I also hope you [subscribe](#) for occasional updates from my office, or send me an e-mail at Lloyd.Doggett@mail.house.gov.