

Monday, October 6, 2025

The Honorable Senator Michael Bennet
United States Senator of Colorado
261 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Bennet,

We, the undersigned national and Colorado-based community and religious leaders and many other concerned individuals, write to express our profound concern and disappointment in your recent votes to approve weapons transfers to the Israeli military amid its ongoing assault on the Palestinian people in Gaza, in violation of U.S. and international humanitarian law.

At a time when respected human rights organizations and genocide scholars, including [two leading Israeli human rights groups](#), have concluded that Israel's actions in Gaza constitute genocide, your decision to further arm the Israeli military is unconscionable.

Even without using that term, you acknowledged in your July 2025 [letter](#) to Secretary of State Marco Rubio and Special Envoy Steve Witkoff that there is an “unacceptable humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip” and urged them to “push Israel to support the large-scale expansion of humanitarian assistance.” You rightly noted that the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation has failed to address the deepening crisis and has contributed to a mounting civilian death toll around its distribution sites.

Only [8% of Democrats and 32% of Americans](#) support Israel's current military actions.

Nearly two years into this war, [letters](#) alone do not provide the kind of leverage needed to pressure Israel to comply with international law, allow sufficient food into Gaza, or stop killing civilians seeking aid.

Over 100,000 women and children in Gaza are now experiencing acute, severe malnutrition. Hundreds of people, including more than 100 children, have already died from hunger. The World Food Program reports that one in three Gazans go without food for multiple days at a time. Your votes to continue sending offensive weapons have enabled this humanitarian catastrophe unfolding before the world, and rendered our country complicit in the crimes these weapons are being used to commit.

Under U.S. law, including the **Leahy Law** and **Section 620I of the Foreign Assistance Act**, the United States must not provide military assistance to foreign countries credibly implicated in gross human rights violations or that block U.S.-funded humanitarian aid. Yet despite leading and signing a letter acknowledging the escalating famine in Gaza, you have taken no meaningful action to enforce these laws or apply leverage to end the violence.

With this vote, the U.S. is supporting the continued killing of civilians, the targeting of children, the destruction of nearly all basic infrastructure, and what experts describe as a “minutely engineered” campaign of mass starvation. Your vote represents the [minority](#) of the Senate Democratic Caucus that chose to supply offensive weapons to Israel. This should be a moment of unity and moral clarity within the Democratic Party.

You both had the opportunity to stand with the majority of your Democratic Senate colleagues, vote to block further arms transfers, and send a clear message to Israel that there will be consequences for its actions. You failed to do so.

We call on you now to:

1. **Publicly support and vote for all future resolutions to block weapons transfers to Israel to put a stop to the war crimes.**
2. **Support and co-sponsor legislation that conditions or halts military assistance to Israel in accordance with U.S. and international law.**
3. **Demand an immediate and lasting ceasefire that returns the remaining hostages and allows for the flood of humanitarian aid to Palestinians distributed through the UN-led system.**

Coloradans are watching. This is a defining moral moment. We urge you to be on the right side of history moving forward.

Thank you for your attention to these crucial and timely initiatives to help end this conflict and save countless lives. We look forward to your response, and we are at your disposal to meet to discuss these matters further.

Signed,

The National Iranian American Council - Colorado Chapter

MPower Change Action Fund

Peace Action

And the following 20 Colorado Religious Leaders and Elected Officials:

Alison Coombs, Aurora City Council Member At-Large
Judy Danielson, Religious Leader, Mountain View Friends Meeting
Iman Jodeh, Senator

Rabbi Michael Kengmana, Religious Leader
Muhammad Kolila, Imam of Downtown Denver Islamic Center
Rabbi Adam Morris, Rabbi - Temple Micah
Rabbi Michael Kengmana
Sarah Parady, Denver City Council Member At Large
Jeslin Shahrezaei, Mayor Pro Tem City of Lakewood, CO
Shontel M. Lewis, Councilwoman
Reverend Ben David Hensley, Lakewood United Methodist Church
Reverend Morgan C. Fletcher
Reverend Rachael McClair, Religious Leader
Reverend Mike Morran, Religious Leader
Reverend Mike Morgan
Reverend Rachael McClair
Reverend Gareth Unruh
Reverend Morgan C. Fletcher
Reverend Gareth Unruh Religious Leader
Reverend Daniel Viehland, United Methodist Church

And the following 105 Colorado Residents, Business Owners, Community Organizers, and Public Servants:

Shoshana Aal, Psychologist
Andrea Adame, Public Servant, Library worker at LAPL
Jeanette Alexander, Jewish Voices for Peace (JVP)
Kevin Amirehsani, NIAC Colorado
Sergio Atallah Teacher - Retired
Anthony Beck, Public Servant, Community Organizer, Concerned Individual
Saadia Behar, Community Organizer
Mr. Saadia Behar, Concerned Individual
Mark Belkin, Concerned Individual
Tosha Blackburn, Concerned Individual
Erik Braaten, Concerned Individual
Sumayyah Brum, Concerned Individual
Leah Bry, Community Organizer, Concerned Individual, Member leader at Denver/Boulder Jewish Voice for Peace
Todd Buchanan, Concerned Individual
Terry Burnsed, Secretary of Palestine Committee Colorado May Day Club
Moirra Campbell, Concerned Individual
Arnie Carter, Concerned Individual
Holly Cheng, Public Servant, RN
Mary Ellen Chickering, Concerned Individual
Sheri Clark, Concerned Individual
Elizabeth Cordova, Concerned Individual
Rebecca Cover, Concerned Individual

Shoshanah Davis, Concerned Individual
Rex Dean, Organizer
David DeLay, Concerned Individual
David Estes, Concerned Individual
Ev Evnen, Religious Leader, Concerned Individual
Tom Feldman, Concerned Individual
Asher Firestone, JVP Organizer
Alida Fischer, Concerned Individual
Sarah Fitzpatrick, Public Servant, Youth art activist
Kayalen Geck, Concerned Individual
Merrill Glustrom, Writer, Concerned Individual
Anthony Gott, Concerned Individual
Patricia Gracian, Concerned Individual
Susan Green, Community Organizer, Colorado Friends of Standing Together
Suzi Grishpul, Concerned Individual
Eric Gross, Community Organizer, CD7 watermelon, Climate Defiance.
Derek Hammer, Concerned Individual
Wendy Handler, Concerned Individual
SarahDawn Haynes, Community Organizer, Climate, Justice, and Futures educator and organizer
Gazala Hays, Concerned Individual
Malka Howley, Concerned Individual
Eva Hutt, Concerned Individual
Kathy J, Religious Leader, Concerned Individual
Cyndrina Jean-Charles, Concerned Individual
Rae Jones, Community Organizer, Concerned Individual
Paul Kaitz, Concerned Individual, Registered voter
Ariel Kalishman Walsh, Concerned Individual
Cheryl Kasson, Concerned Individual, Member of Temple Micah, Denver, Colorado
Abhinav Kaul, Concerned Individual
Elena Klaver, Community Organizer, Jewish American distressed by Israeli genocide
Dianne Ladd, Community Organizer
Noah Leavitt, Community Organizer
Nori LePirate, Public Servant, Facilitator for General Strike US Central Colorado
Joyce Lisbin, Concerned Individual
Juli Loker, Concerned Individual
Julia Masters, Concerned Individual
Benjamin Mattox, Concerned Individual
Emily Milligan, Concerned Individual
Michelle Moran-Taylor, Concerned Individual
Genevieve Morrison, Community Organizer, Orediggers Against Apartheid
Jason Moses, Concerned Individual
Hannah Niederman, Community Organizer
Andrew Nusbaum, Concerned Individual
Katharine Otto, Concerned Individual

Eve Partridge, Concerned Individual
Juliana Pham, Concerned Individual
Dr. Jessica Bloomfield Plato
Caroline Portis, Concerned Individual
David Poundstone, Concerned Individual
Kara Powell, Community Organizer
Spencer R., Concerned Individual
Hannah Recht, Concerned Individual
Naomi Reshotko, Concerned Individual
Dr. Paula Rhodes, International Human Rights Educator, Advocate & Attorney
Curtis K Rogers, Community Organizer & City Employee
Mariam Sabr, Public Servant, Community Organizer, Director of Elementary and Student Success
Etta Sandry, Concerned Individual
Alex Schott, Concerned Individual
Jacqueline Schwartz, Concerned Individual
Ian Sharkey, Concerned Individual
Caryn Shebowich, Concerned Individual
Simone Shenassa, Other / Concerned Individual
Alex Sher, Community Organizer, Concerned Individual
Percy Slovut, Concerned Individual
Nikolai Smirnow, Concerned Individual
Andrea Stanton, Concerned Individual
Anne Belle Steele, Concerned Individual
Michele Stein, Concerned Individual, Jewish Voice for Peace
Ben Sweet, Sweet, Concerned Individual
Hypatia Tafoya, Concerned Individual
Bruce Thron-Weber, Concerned Individual, Mountain View Friends Meeting
Aaron, Trippe, Community Organizer, Concerned Individual
Derry Wagner, Concerned Individual
Sandie Weathers, Community Organizer & Founder CD7 Watermelon
Vivian Weinstein, Concerned Individual
Evan Weissman, Community Organizer
Reinna Welch, Concerned Individual
Summer Westerbur, Community Organizer & Colorado Business Owner
Sharon Wheeler, Other / Concerned Individual
Dr Joshua Wilson
Shane Wittstruck, Public Servant, Community Organizer
Talitha, Wright Concerned Individual
Ellie Yousif, Community Organizer, Advocacy and Communications Manager at American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC)
Rebeca Zuniga, Concerned Individual