

Monday, October 6, 2025

The Honorable Senator John Hickenlooper
United States Senator of Colorado
316 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Hickenlooper,

We, the undersigned national and Colorado-based organizations and chapters, 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. At least 197 people, including 96 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 44 Colorado-based organizations:

American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)
American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC)
Center for Ethical Social Work Practice

CFJ-Colorado
Coloradans for Middle East Diplomacy & Peace
Colorado CD7 Watermelon (@cd7watermelon)
Colorado Friends of Standing Together
Colorado May Day Club
Colorado School of Mines Orediggers Against Apartheid
Colorado Springs Democratic Socialists of America
Colorado State University Students for Justice in Palestine
Defending Rights & Dissent
Democracy for the Arab World Now (DAWN)
Democratic Socialists of America, Boulder
Democratic Socialists of America, Fort Collins
Denver/Boulder Jewish Voice for Peace
Denver Community in Solidarity for Palestine
Denver Justice and Peace Committee - DJPC
Doctor's Against Genocide Colorado
Friends Committee on National Legislation Colorado Advocacy Team
General Strike US - Colorado
General Strike United States
GSUS Central Colorado
Havurat Shalom Denver
IfNotNow
Jewish Voice for Peace Action
Jewish Voices for Peace
Loretto Community
MaeBright Group
Middle East Justice project at First Unitarian Denver
Mountain View Friends Meetings
Northern Colorado Jewish Voice for Peace
Palestine Justice Network of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Pan Productions
Peace-seeking Iranian Veterans of Colorado
Present Nomads
Radical Communists of America
Queer Mikveh Project
Rocky Mountain Peace and Justice Center
Social Justice Council of Boulder Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
The Truth Project
Veterans for peace
Warm Cookies of the Revolution
Womxn from the Mountain