



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-0906

October 23, 2023

The Honorable Joe Biden  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington D.C., 20502

Dear President Biden,

In light of recent news that members of your party are encouraging Palestinians to be paroled into the United States following Hamas's attack on innocent Israelis on October 7, 2023,<sup>1</sup> we write to you to remind the administration that no authority exists to grant categorical parole and we are deeply opposed to any potential attempts to parole into the U.S. Palestinians en masse following Israel's counteroffensive against Hamas in Gaza.<sup>2</sup>

In the past week, we have seen disgraceful protests in cities and college campuses across America in support of Hamas' attack against Israel. It is deeply concerning that some of these gatherings have put on display hatred and vitriol against the Jewish people. For example, the New York City Democratic Socialists of America chapter gathered in Times Square the day after Hamas's initial attack, celebrating it as a "resistance," with one protestor saying he "might do the same thing because there's nothing left to lose."<sup>3</sup> Stanford University suspended one of its professors after students reported him shamefully defending Hamas as "freedom fighters" and later forcing Jewish students to stand alone in the corner of the room to signify Palestinian life in Gaza.<sup>4</sup> These protests even made their way to the halls of Congress as Palestinian supporters flooded the Cannon House Office Building rotunda falsely claiming Palestinians were being 'ethnically cleansed.'<sup>5</sup>

We would remind you that the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) prohibits you from categorically paroling mass groups of aliens into the U.S. Section 212 (d)(5)(A) of the INA sets strict limits on DHS's ability to parole aliens into the U.S., stating that such action may only be done "on a case-by-case basis for urgent humanitarian reasons or significant public benefit."<sup>6</sup> Additionally, the law clearly states that parole authority cannot be used to circumvent the refugee program and parole an individual alien into the U.S., only "the [Secretary] determines that compelling reasons in the public interest" exist to do such according to Section 212 (d)(5)(B) of

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<sup>1</sup> <https://nypost.com/2023/10/14/progressives-call-for-us-to-take-refugees-from-gaza/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/gaza-braces-israeli-ground-assault-fears-conflict-spreading-grow-2023-10-15/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.nydailynews.com/2023/10/08/pro-palestine-rally-in-times-square/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://nypost.com/2023/10/13/stanford-teacher-suspended-for-singling-out-jewish-students/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.fox5dc.com/news/pro-palestinian-protest-underway-at-capitol-rotunda-uscp-detains-some-demonstrators-israel-hamas-war-capitol-hill-jewish-voices-for-peace>

<sup>6</sup> <https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=granuleid:USC-prelim-title8-section1182&num=0&edition=prelim>

the INA. Your decision to flippantly violate such laws in the past two years is why 21 states have brought litigation against your administration in hope of terminating your unlawful Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua, Venezuela parole program.<sup>7</sup>

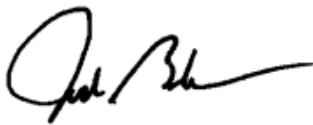
Given concerns of terror attacks in our homeland, it is important as ever that matters are not made worse by attempting to parole Palestinians into our country. This should be obvious considering the DHS OIG report of Operation Allies Refuge which found your claim false that Afghans paroled by your administration “already completed extensive background checks,” and that information from many Afghan refugees like “name, date of birth, identification number, and travel document data, was inaccurate, incomplete or missing.”<sup>8,9</sup>

As a solution, we urge your administration to encourage Egypt to take in Palestinian refugees. Palestinian civilians obtaining refuge in Egypt would allow them to stay in a culturally akin country, separate them from Hamas, and simultaneously prevent Americans at home from being put in harm’s way.

At this critical time, our nation must remain committed to defending our homeland. We remind you that you do not have the authority to grant parole en masse as specified under existing U.S. law. We oppose any efforts to parole into the U.S. any Palestinians from Gaza.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Josh Brecheen  
Member of Congress



Andy Ogles  
Member of Congress



Jeff Duncan  
Member of Congress



Clay Higgins  
Member of Congress

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<sup>7</sup> <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/texas-trial-to-begin-in-lawsuit-over-biden-parole-policy-for-migrants-from-4-countries>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/07/30/statement-of-president-joe-biden-on-the-arrival-of-the-first-flight-of-operation-allies-refuge/>

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.oig.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/assets/2022-09/OIG-22-64-Sep22-Redacted.pdf>