

CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

455 NORTH REXFORD DRIVE · BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210

Julian A. Gold, Mayor

April 11, 2023

The Honorable Ted Lieu 2454 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Representative Lieu:

On behalf of the City of Beverly Hills, I am pleased to share the City's **support** for the Mahsa Amini Human Rights and Security Accountability (MAHSA) Act. The MAHSA Act strengthens our sanction protocols against the Islamic Republic of Iran by imposing new sanctions on Iran's Supreme Leader and his inner circle for human rights violations against the Iranian people and for supporting terrorism.

H.R. 589 is named after Mahsa Amini, a 22-year-old woman, who was detained and beaten to death by Iran's Morality Police for allegedly violating the clerical regime's oppressive dress code for women. This horrific act against Mahsa Amini triggered widespread, pro-women's rights and prodemocracy demonstrations throughout Iran calling for the end of mullah rule. The Iranian regime's response to these peaceful demonstrations has been brutal, bloody, and deadly. Iranian security forces have been conducting mass arrests and torture to intimidate protesters. Security forces, in an effort to terrorize and subdue the Iranian people, also have used live ammunition against demonstrators, reportedly killing hundreds of men, women, and children. These governmentsponsored attacks against the Iranian people must be condemned for the gross human rights violations they represent.

H.R. 589 imposes further United States' sanctions on Iran's governing elite. The bill would require the executive branch to determine sanctions on Iran's Supreme Leader, the officials of the Supreme Leader's Office, the Supreme Leader's appointees, Iran's president, and economic conglomerates affiliated with the Supreme Leader. The measure would also impose visa bans on corrupt Iranian elites and their immediate family. H.R. 589 is intended to hold the most malicious elements of Iran's regime accountable for human rights abuses and conduct of terrorism while avoiding collateral damages on ordinary Iranians.

The City of Beverly Hills **supports** H.R. 589 and urges Congress to adopt the bill to show the leaders of the Islamic Republic of Iran that the United States and the world will hold them accountable for their acts of barbarity against their own people.

Sincerely,

Julian A. Gold, M.D. Mayor, City of Beverly Hills