Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

November 10, 2025

The Honorable Brian Mast Chairman House Committee on Foreign Affairs 2170 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Mast,

We write to request you schedule a markup for H.R. 3045, the West Bank Violence Prevention Act in the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

The legislation now has 100 cosponsors in the House, signaling that it enjoys broad support. Additionally, the Senate has recently introduced a companion bill led by Senators Booker, Shaheen, Reed, Warner, Coons, and Bennet.

The West Bank Violence Prevention Act would codify and enshrine into law <u>Executive Order 14115</u> of 2024, which sought to prevent acts of violence in the West Bank and to punish those who commit such acts.

The legislation, like the Executive Order, applies to any foreign person who commits an act of violence in the West Bank, regardless of their nationality. Determinations under the Executive Order were made regarding both Palestinian and Israeli organizations and individuals.

Unfortunately, the Executive Order is no longer in effect. As a result, violent extremist organizations like the Palestinian group <u>Lions' Den</u> and the Israeli settler group <u>Hilltop Youth</u> are <u>no longer designated</u> under the Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List (SDN List). With their assets no longer frozen, these groups continue wreaking terror in the West Bank unencumbered.

According to the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, settler violence increased by <u>an estimated 30 percent</u> over the first few months of 2025 compared to the same period in 2024. Such violence has reached a fever pitch, causing the West Bank to become "<u>a tinderbox</u>," one match away from igniting into catastrophe.

As the ceasefire in Gaza continues to command attention in the region and around the world, it is incumbent upon us not to overlook the situation in the West Bank, which continues to deteriorate. Preventing acts of violence, which have killed and injured American citizens, is the most fundamental and basic step to help bring stability to the region. The passage of the West Bank Violence Prevention Act is an important effort by the United States Congress towards that goal, which begins with you scheduling a markup of this legislation. Together, we hope the

eventual passage and enactment of such legislation will help improve the reality on the ground for Israelis and Palestinians, in service of ultimately achieving a long-term peace through a negotiated and viable two-state solution.

Sincerely,

Serrold Nadler

Member of Congress

Adam Smith

Member of Congress

im Himes

Member of Congress

CC: The Honorable Gregory W. Meeks, Ranking Member, House Committee on Foreign Affairs
The Honorable Jim Jordan, Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary
The Honorable Jamie Baskin Baskin Member, House Committee on the Judiciary

The Honorable Jamie Raskin, Ranking Member, House Committee on the Judiciary