

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

November 13, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Trump,

As Members of Congress, we applaud your success in achieving historic peace agreements in the Middle East. To continue fulfilling this vital work, the United States relationship with Lebanon remains of tremendous importance. While Lebanon has gone through many challenges – there is still much more to be done to ensure a sovereign, independent, and prosperous Lebanon continues as a strong partner and ally.

Following the election of President Joseph Aoun and selection of Prime Minister Nawaf Salam to lead a functioning, accountable, and non-corrupt government, Lebanon has achieved significant change that brings hope for a future without the malign influence of Hezbollah. However, we cannot allow outside forces, malign actors, or bureaucratic stalemates to ruin this once-in-a-generation opportunity for the Lebanese people. Continued vigorous and creative U.S. leadership is needed.

The ongoing efforts to fully disarm Hezbollah both south and north of the Litani River by the Lebanese Armed Forces must continue and have our full support, substantive reforms to the banking system that meet international standards must be implemented, discussion of negotiations between Israel and Lebanon should be explored further, and the Lebanese diaspora population must be allowed to vote for the entirety of seats in Parliament in the upcoming May 2026 elections. We are watching closely the implementation of each step, and the upcoming elections will be pivotal to ensure that Hezbollah and its remaining political allies and aligned parties do gain any additional ground.

Under the 2017 electoral law, the diaspora was limited to voting for only six of the parliament's 128 seats. However, in 2018 and 2022, this law was suspended, the diaspora community was granted full voting rights for all seats, and they overwhelmingly supported reform-based, independent candidates. Currently, there is an ongoing effort by many Members of the Lebanese Parliament and as of this week, formally by the Lebanese government, to permanently ensure full voting rights for the Lebanese diaspora community. Unfortunately, corrupt political elites and aligned parties are intent on blocking democratic rights and progress.

This is truly a time for action. Iran's influence on Lebanon is weakened. Hezbollah continues to lose leaders, foot soldiers, infrastructure, financing, and influence. The U.S. should be prepared to use all the tools available to review and sanction, or freeze the assets – including dollar-denominated and other assets within the United States of those who continue to hinder democratic processes and reforms in Lebanon.

Speaker Nabih Berri is once again standing in the way of progress. Any continued delay by him or others to obstruct the democratic process and prevent an open parliamentary session to fairly address election law reform is unacceptable and would represent full alignment with Hezbollah and its political allies.

Lebanon's diaspora community has long sustained the people, who deserve a full and fair voice in elections for parliamentary representation. Corrupt political elites cannot continue to serve special interests at a time when the Lebanese people need decisive leaders. Given the economic, humanitarian, and national security interests at stake, we request your urgent attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Darin LaHood
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa
Member of Congress

cc/
The Honorable Marco Rubio
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Department of State
2201 C Street NW
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The Honorable Scott Bessent
Secretary of the Treasury
Department of the Treasury
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