

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 1, 2010

His Excellency Ahmed Ali Aboul Gheit
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Arab Republic of Egypt
Cairo, Egypt

Dear Foreign Minister Aboul Gheit:

We are pleased to note that on March 7, 2010, the Jewish Community of Cairo will rededicate the historic Synagogue and the Yeshiva of Maimonides, who was a distinguished physician, scholar and Jewish leader of the 12th century and one of the most renowned figures of rabbinic Judaism. These sites have long been venerated both for Cairo Jewry and for Jews around the world. In recent years the Yeshiva and the adjacent early-19th century Synagogue had fallen into disrepair, and today's small Jewish community lacks sufficient resources to properly care for its Jewish heritage.

We want to commend the Government of Egypt and the Supreme Council of Antiquities for undertaking the important restoration and reconstruction work of the Yeshiva and Synagogue, which will be unveiled next month.

We understand that plans are also being considered and developed to restore and care for other Egyptian Jewish heritage sites, including synagogues and cemeteries in Cairo and Alexandria, as well as the possible establishment of a Museum of Jewish Heritage. We sincerely hope you will follow through on these efforts. They will serve as a tangible reminder of the religious and cultural diversity and harmony that are hallmarks of Egypt's past and, we foresee, of the entire region's future as well.

Again, we thank you for your country's commitment to the extensive restoration of these historical heritage sites. With warm regards,

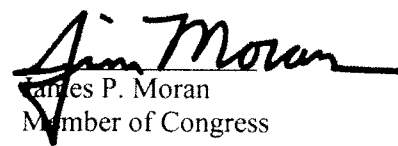
Sincerely,



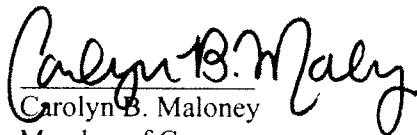
Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress



Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress



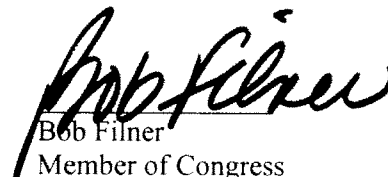
James P. Moran
Member of Congress



Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress



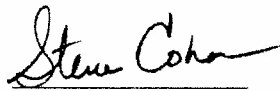
Linda T. Sánchez
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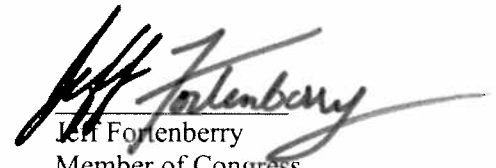
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Rush D. Holt
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Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



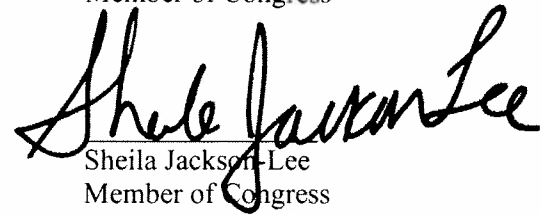
Jeff Fortenberry
Member of Congress



Jared Polis
Member of Congress



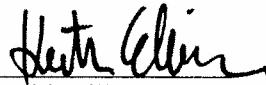
André Carson
Member of Congress



Sheila Jackson-Lee
Member of Congress



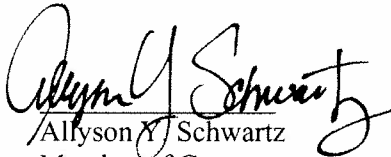
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Allyson Y. Schwartz
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Bill Pascrell, Jr.
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