

November 17, 2021

Chairman Robert Menendez Senate Foreign Relations Committee U.S. Senate Washington, D.C. Ranking Member James Risch Senate Foreign Relations Committee U.S. Senate Washington, D.C.

by electronic mail

Dear Chairman Menendez and Ranking Member Risch,

As co-chairs of the Muslim-Jewish Advisory Council (MJAC), we request that you urgently hold a hearing to advancing the nomination of Professor Deborah Lipstadt for the post of U.S. Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism.

Professor Lipstadt is one of this country's, indeed the world's, foremost experts on modern antisemitism, its constant morphing and varied manifestations, as well as the multiple sources that feed it. The current challenges to confronting and combating antisemitism in an increasingly interconnected world are essential to both the interests of the United States and the values it seeks to model at home and abroad. Global leadership in the field of religious freedom is, indeed, a hallmark of U.S. foreign policy.

Dr. Lipstadt was a founding member of MJAC, a coalition of Muslims and Jews from across professional fields and the political spectrum, dedicated to working on domestic issues of common concern in a bipartisan manner. She has been an active contributor in our work to combat hate through advocacy and by raising awareness about antisemitism and anti-Muslim bigotry. In these tasks Dr. Lipstadt has always demonstrated that the difficult work of combating prejudice and bigotry must not be used as a tool towards political ends, and that the most constructive work on these issues is done in broad-based partnerships.

We can say with confidence that our country and our world will be well served with Professor Lipstadt as the U.S. Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism.

We hope you will ensure Professor Lipstadt receives a proper hearing before the Committee on Foreign Relations promptly and without delay.

Respectfully,

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Stanley Bergman MJAC Co-Chair Chairman of the Board & CEO, Henry Schein Inc.

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Farooq Kathwari MJAC Co-Chair Chairman of the Board, President & CEO, Ethan Allen Interiors Inc.