



CHARLES D. LAVINE  
Assemblyman 13<sup>th</sup> District

CHAIR  
Judiciary Committee

THE ASSEMBLY  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY

COMMITTEES  
Codes  
Ethics & Guidance  
Rules  
Insurance

July 25, 2025

Via Email

Honorable Ofir Akunis

Consul General of Israel in New York

800 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue

New York, New York 10017

Dear Consul General Akunis:

This is to express the gravest concern over the humanitarian crisis in Gaza. Noncombatants are being starved to death. There is no expectation that the so-called Gaza Humanitarian Foundation will address this crisis.

Making matters worse, Israel's Heritage Minister Amihai Ben-Eliahahu states "there is no nation that feeds its enemies, the British didn't feed the Nazis, nor did the Americans feed the Japanese, nor do the Russians feed the Ukrainians now." He boasts that Israel's government is "rushing toward Gaza being wiped out."

You and I met very briefly when you visited the State Capitol in Albany on June 6. Please let me know when you might return so that I can assemble a conference with Assemblymembers and Senators including the members of the National Association of Jewish Legislators.

I respectfully request that you share this letter with Prime Minister Netanyahu, his security cabinet and Ambassador Yehiel Leiter.

The glorification of blood and death produces nothing more and nothing less than more blood and more death. Hamas is a perfect example.

The government of Israel must take the necessary steps so that no child, woman, or man suffers needlessly in Gaza.

I am Zionist. I believe that both Israel and America were founded as and must continue to be aspirational, not desperational, nations. Lincoln's legacy demands that America and Israel must serve as "the world's last best hopes."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Charles D. Lavine".

Charles Lavine

Cc: Mike Huckabee