



**AVENUE
STRATEGIES**

MEMORANDUM

Date: November 14, 2017

To: All Members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee
Speaker of the House Paul Ryan
House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy
House Majority Whip Steve Scalise

From: Barry Bennett, Partner, Avenue Strategies Global, LLC*

Please see the attached letter from Brigadier General (Ret.) Dr. Shimon Shapira regarding certain language in H.R. 2712, the Palestinian International Terrorism Support Prevention Act of 2017. Dr. Shapira's career included working for many years in Israeli military intelligence.

Dr. Shapira's letter concludes that one of the findings contained within H.R. 2712 is factually incorrect.

For this reason, we strongly urge you to oppose House passage of H.R. 2712 as currently drafted.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barry Bennett', with a stylized, cursive script.

Barry Bennett

*Barry Bennett and Avenue Strategies Global, LLC are registered agents on behalf of the Embassy of the State of Qatar. This information and material is being distributed on behalf of the Embassy of the State of Qatar. Additional information is on file with the U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

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BRIGADIER GENERAL (RET) DR. SHIMON SHAPIRA

November 14, 2017

**The Honorable Brian Mast
Member of Congress
United States House of Representatives
United States Capitol
Washington, DC 20515**

Dear Congressman Mast:

I have been made aware of your important legislation seeking to increase sanctions of Palestinian Terrorists. I write you today to point out one of your finding in your legislation is factually incorrect.

I have spent many years in the Israeli military intelligence rising up to the rank of Brigadier General. I also have a Doctorate in Middle Eastern Studies and in specialized in dealings with Hezbollah.

On the basis of my experience and my knowledge, I can say that Qatar has not delivered weapons to Hamas. Qatar aides in humanitarian projects such as building homes and new neighborhoods. The materials delivered to Gaza are under the supervision of the Israeli security establishment headed by General Pauli Modechai.

Sincerely,

S. Shapira

Brigadier General (Ret.) Dr. Shimon Shapira

Cc: Members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee