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POLICY BRIEF FOR HOUSE DEMOCRATIC LEADER HAKEEM JEFFRIES

Afghanistan Freedom Movement

A Democratic Future for Afghanistan

Request to Leader Jeffries. Lead House Democrats in pressing the White House to make Afghanistan a foreign policy priority again: protect Afghan allies, defend the rights of women and girls, and engage directly with Afghan leaders outside the Taliban. Use congressional oversight to hold the administration accountable for following through. Ellias Faizi Ghoryani requests 30 minutes with Leader Jeffries to discuss these priorities.

About the Afghanistan Freedom Movement

The Afghanistan Freedom Movement (AFM) is a people-led movement of Afghans at home and around the world, working to restore a functioning, democratic Afghanistan through political, economic, and diplomatic engagement. Its principles are freedom of expression; education for every girl and every boy, with no exceptions; justice and the rule of law; and unity across Afghanistan's peoples, languages, and faiths. Drawing support from all 34 provinces, AFM offers a credible, inclusive alternative to Taliban rule.

Who is Ellias Faizi Ghoryani

Ellias Faizi Ghoryani is Secretary-General of AFM. He developed AFM's policy framework and leads its political coordination and international engagement. He previously advised Afghanistan's Office of the Chief Executive, the High Council for National Reconciliation, and the Director-General of the National Environmental Protection Agency, and served as Chairman and CEO of Liberty Corporation. He was educated in the United Kingdom.

Priorities for U.S. policy

Protect Afghan allies from deportation. Urge every House Democrat to sign Discharge Petition No. 28, filed by Congressman Jason Crow on November 9 to force a vote on the bipartisan Afghanistan TPS Act (H.R. 9899). As of November 12 it had 114 of the 218 signatures needed, including Republicans Don Bacon and Brian Fitzpatrick. The bill would restore protection from deportation through July 2029 for eligible Afghans already in the United States, including people who served alongside U.S. troops and diplomats. Senators Coons, Murkowski, Klobuchar, and Cassidy lead the Senate companion (S. 5308).

Defend the rights of Afghan women and girls. Press for a House floor vote on Congresswoman Sydney Kamlager-Dove's Rejecting the Erasure of Afghan Women and Girls Act (H.R. 7669), cosponsored by House Foreign Affairs Ranking Member Gregory Meeks and approved by the committee 44 to 2 in March. It would require the State Department to report on Taliban restrictions on education, work, and public life.

Maintain pressure on the Taliban. Oppose normalization of relations with the Taliban, as Senator Jeanne Shaheen proposed during consideration of H.R. 260. Prevent the Taliban from diverting foreign assistance and protect lifesaving relief for Afghan civilians through independent channels.

Washington representation

The Afghanistan Freedom Movement is represented by Lycos Magnus. Please contact Laura Magnus at laura@lycosmagnus.com or 602-909-4326.

H.R. 9899 | Discharge Petition No. 28 | S. 5308 | H.R. 7669 | H.R. 260 | Senate Foreign Relations debate

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