



Florida House of Representatives Florida State Senate

FLORIDA ELECTED OFFICIALS SUPPORT THE PEOPLE OF IRAN

Like the rest of the world, we are in profound awe of the fearless women and girls in Iran leading the revolution against the Islamic Republic. The heroism displayed by Iranians is inspirational, and those out on the streets deserve our full attention and support as they call for *Women, Life, Freedom*.

We fully condemn the murderous and barbaric Islamic Republic that has violently oppressed Iranian people for 44 years. We support the calls by the people of Iran for a new government -- one that is democratically elected and free. We believe firmly in self-determination and that it should be the people of Iran who decide their own destiny.

As Americans and Floridians of all backgrounds, we hold renewed hope for the women of Iran and for the future of a free Iran. We want to express our support in the following ways:

First, we vehemently oppose all efforts and condemn all remarks (past and present) by anyone downplaying the brutality of the Islamic Republic and stand in full solidarity with the freedom fighters in Iran. According to the U.S.-based human rights monitor HRANA, at least 469 people, including 63 children and 32 women, have been killed by security forces in the ongoing nationwide protests. Protests first began after the brutal murder of Mahsa (Jina) Amini in September 2022; since then, security forces have raided schools, targeted schoolgirls, and incarcerated thousands. Executions have already begun; four people have been executed, and CBC News can name 90 individuals detained in Iran as being at high risk of execution. The Islamic Republic has cracked down on protesters before. The brutality of today and of the past cannot be ignored.

Second, we agree with the Biden-Harris Administration that all discussions on the JCPOA should be paused, and instead the U.S. government should provide assistance in maintaining Internet access so that the people of Iran may continue to expose the injustices of their daily lives. We urge the United States and the international community to amplify the will and the demands of the Iranian people.

Finally, we urge citizens to call on their federal representatives to do more. Thanks to the activism of millions worldwide, the Islamic Republic of Iran has been removed from the U.N. Women's Commission, and an independent investigation has been launched



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by the U.N. into ongoing deadly violence against protesters in Iran. We ask our federal representatives and the Biden Administration to work to ensure momentum of these efforts and to amplify the stories and experiences of those currently imprisoned in Iran.

As the fearless people of Iran continue to take to the streets, we call for bipartisan unity within the United States. After all, we each share in the same hope: a free Iran, where *Women, Life, Freedom* is not only a rallying cry, but a reality for the Iranian people.

Signed,

Representative Anna V. Eskamani, District 42
Senator Shevrin "Shev" Jones, District 34
Senator Lori Berman, District 26
Senator Geraldine Thompson, District 15
Representative Susan L. Valdes, District 64
Representative Marie Woodson, District 10
Representative Jennifer Rita Harris, District 44
Representative Michael Gottlieb, District 102
Representative Lindsay Cross, District 60
Representative Dotie Joseph, District 108
Representative Gallop Franklin, District 8
Senator Bobby Powell Jr., District 24
Representative Christine Hunschofsky, District 95

Representative Johanna Lopez, District 43
Senator Jason Brodeur, District 10
Senator Rosalind Osgood, District 32
Representative LaVon Bracy Davis, District 40
Representative Michele K. Rayner-Goolsby, District 62
Representative Kristen Arrington, District 46
Representative Katherine Waldron, District 93
Senator Victor M. Torres, Jr., District 25
Representative Kelly Skidmore, District 92
Representative Alina Garcia, District 115
Representative Lindsay Cross, District 60
Representative Joe Casello, District 90
Senator Bobby Powell, Jr., District 24