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The Honorable Clay Higgins
US House of Representatives
1711 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

July 10, 2017

Dear Sir:

We write to commend you for the sincere, heartfelt reflections that you shared upon your visit to the Auschwitz-Birkenau Death Camp in Oświęcim, Poland.

That you would choose Auschwitz as one of your first international destinations as a US Congressman speaks to your priorities. Your barely-restrained tears demonstrate that to you, the protection of law-abiding Americans is not merely a political position. That you closed with the images of the flags of both the United States and Israel shows your sincere concern for the safety of Jews around the world, although only 400 of us reside in your district.

You deserve thanks from the Jewish People for detailing and dramatizing the atrocities of the Holocaust, and for sharing your horror at what you saw with those unable to travel there themselves. We are embarrassed by those who accused you of insensitivity. These include many individuals whom we and others previously determined to be misusing anti-Semitism as a political cudgel against our conservative friends. You are, sadly, in good company.

We hope that your support for the safety of all Americans, for the defense of Israel and the Jewish People, and for a strong stance against barbarism and evil in all their forms, will in no way be diminished by any negative feedback that you received. It is our honor to express our sincere appreciation for your video and your consideration.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Yaakov Menken".

Rabbi Yaakov Menken
Director

with the Rabbinic Board by Unanimous Consent