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26 Adar I 5784
March 6, 2024

Congresswoman Claudia Tenney
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Tenney,

The Coalition for Jewish Values, representing over 2,500 traditional, Orthodox rabbis in American public policy, writes to express our gratitude for your introduction of the Recognizing Judea and Samaria Act. This is a commendable step toward restoring the rightful name of this sacred land, and reflects your commitment to truth and historical accuracy.

The names Judea and Samaria date back millennia to the era of David and Solomon. They carry profound historical and cultural weight, and represent the heart of the Jewish homeland.

"West Bank," by contrast, was the denigrating term Jordan used for the same land, which it seized when the Arab armies sought to destroy the nascent Jewish state (and massacre its inhabitants) in 1948. After Israel's Arab neighbors launched the Six-Day War in 1967, Israel reclaimed it. Yet that disparaging moniker, which simply recalls the less than two decades of Jordanian occupation, has been used ever since to delegitimize Israel's control of part of the Jewish homeland. Your bill reaffirms Israel's rightful claim to its territory.

The CJV aligns with you on other key issues as well, due to our pursuit of the shared Biblical values that made America great. As specific examples, we supported Rep. Wagner's Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, as you did, and oppose efforts to place LGBTQ ideology ahead of freedom of expression and freedom of religion in America.

I am sharing with you a document on Fairness in Combating Antisemitism that we provided to several of your colleagues during our recent visit to Washington. I would, similarly, look forward to the opportunity to meet with you in the near future.

Thank you again for your leadership and dedication.

Yours Sincerely,

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

Yaakov Menken
Managing Director