

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0908

September 15, 2023

The Honorable Joe Biden
President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi leads the world's largest state sponsor of terror. There are no excuses for his regime's active involvement in terrorism and its threats against former US officials and the national security of the United States, Israel, and our allies. He and his delegation should not be permitted to attend the United Nations General Assembly in New York City in September.

Just days ago, on August 18, 2023, President Raisi visited the home of Asadollah Assadi, the convicted terrorist responsible for attempting to target the large annual rally of the Iranian opposition in Paris. This is just one of the many actions he has taken both recently and in the past which make clear his unapologetic sympathy and support for the world's most evil and dangerous monsters.

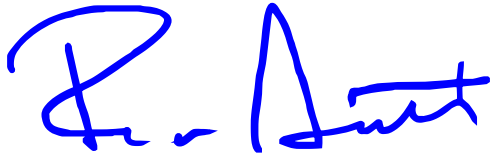
This comes in the wake of your Administration's dangerous decision to issue a waiver for banks to transfer \$6 billion in sanctions-free frozen Iranian oil funds from South Korea to Qatar. President Raisi has publicly stated that Iran would have "authority" over the funds and that "this money belongs to the Iranian people, the Iranian government, so the Islamic Republic of Iran will decide what to do with this money."

However, the anniversary of the Iranian people's uprising on September 16th presents an opportunity for the US to convey a resolute message to the world and to the Iranian regime that engaging in threats of wars of annihilation, supporting terrorism against its opponents abroad, and supporting Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine disqualify it from attending United Nations meetings in New York.

Just as the United States under President Ronald Reagan denied a visa to Yassir Arafat in 1988 because he led a regime that engaged in constant terrorism against Israel and her neighbors and Western countries, we call upon you to deny a visa to President Raisi and his entourage.

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Sincerely,



Rick Scott
United States Senator



Tom Cotton
United States Senator



Katie Boyd Britt
United States Senator



Chuck Grassley
United States Senator



Ted Budd
United States Senator