



March 5, 2018

Secretary Rex W. Tillerson
US State Department
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

RE: Joint Mayoral Support for Advocating for Human Rights in Iran

Dear Secretary Tillerson:

We write to urge you to exert all due influence on the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to respect the human and civil rights of the Iranian people. In light of the recent street demonstrations that engulfed many cities in Iran, we think it is critically important for the United States to increase international pressure on the Iranian government to peacefully respond to the political and socio-economic demands of its citizens.

It was with a great deal of alarm that we greeted the news that dozens of protesters were killed with thousands of others arrested and reportedly abused by the Iranian regime this past January. Protesters were shot, bludgeoned and incarcerated for having the temerity to speak out for political reform and economic justice. Over the past few decades, Iran has been gripped by high inflation, unemployment and political and economic corruption that have served to further exacerbate widespread public frustration and civil disobedience. Regrettably, when confronted by public unrest, the inevitable reaction of the Iranian government is swift, brutal and deadly.

We applaud your recent condemnation of the Iranian government. We urge the State Department to continue to work with our international allies in pressing the Islamic Republic of Iran to adhere to the universal principles of human rights. There should be no room in the 21st century for government sanctioned discrimination based on religion, gender and sexual orientation nor any tolerance for regimes that deny their people basic political and economic freedoms.

Our coalition of Mayors supports your efforts to work with our communities from across the United States in advocating for the universal principles of human rights. We strongly encourage



you to continue working with our international allies to influence the Islamic Republic of Iran to respect the basic civil rights of the Iranian people

Thank you for your leadership in advancing our nation's interests.

Sincerely,

Mayor Lili Bosse
Beverly Hills, CA

Mayor Leonard Scarcella
Stafford, TX

Mayor John Heilman
West Hollywood, CA

Mayor Randy Pope
Oakley, CA

Mayor Pat Furey
Torrance, CA

Mayor Gary Boyer
Glendora, CA

Mayor Ted Winterer
Santa Monica, CA

Mayor Jonathan Ingram
Murrieta, CA

Mayor Sean Ashton
Downey, CA

Mayor Albert Robles
Carson, CA

Mayor James C. Ledford
Palmdale, CA

Mayor Juan Carlos Bermudez
Doral, FL

Mayor Kimberly Sanford
Shoreacres, TX

Mayor W.J. "Jim" Lane
Scottsdale, AZ

Mayor Sylvia Ballin
San Fernando, CA

Mayor John Fasana
Duarte, CA