JENNIFER WEXTON

10TH DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

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May 19, 2022

The Honorable Antony Blinken Secretary of State US Department of State 2201 C Street NW Washington, DC 20230

Re: COGAT Foreign Entry Rules for the Occupied West Bank

Dear Secretary Blinken,

I am writing on behalf of a number of my constituents who have expressed concern to me about new rules which are set to take effect that could significantly impact their ability to travel, visit relatives, or do business in parts of the occupied West Bank. The new policy could also prevent my constituents with first degree relatives in the occupied West Bank from flying into Ben Gurion Airport unless they obtain a pre-approval 45-days prior to travel. Additionally, according to the policy, they must also disclose information on any land they own in the West Bank or that they may inherit in the future as a precondition to entry. It appears that Americans who wish to visit Israel or any of the settlements would be exempt from the new rules. This disparate treatment under the law is concerning.

As summer travel is approaching, my constituents and I seek information on what the impact of the restrictions will be on American visitors and those seeking family reunification in the occupied West Bank. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Wexton

10th District, Virginia