

UNITED STATES CONGRESSWOMAN

**HARRIET HAGEMAN**

REPRESENTATIVE FOR WYOMING

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My heart goes out to the people of Israel in the wake of the unprovoked terrorist attack by Hamas. The unprecedented scope and scale of this heinous operation is still claiming innocent lives and has caused unspeakable physical and mental anguish. The short and long term destruction, including the razing of homes and other properties, and the impact on entire communities, will reverberate throughout Israel and the Middle East for decades to come.

It is apparent that outside parties assisted in crafting Hamas's attack on Israel, through planning, logistics, intelligence, rockets, and weapons. All logic and intelligence points to Iran, and we simply cannot any longer tolerate their malign influence and actions. Despite decades of funding terrorism and fostering instability throughout the region, the Biden administration (and the Obama administration before him) has refused to hold Iran accountable, instead working to appease the corrupt leadership of that country. Who can forget the pallets of cash (over \$400 million in one shipment alone) being handed over in the fall of 2016? President Biden just recently announced an additional payment of *\$6 billion dollars* to Iran in a hostage swap. While it appears that such payment may be temporarily placed on hold following the horrific Hamas attack of last week, we have every reason to expect that the Biden administration still intends to send such money just as soon as they believe the politics of the situation will allow them to do so.

President Biden's failed domestic energy policy – prohibiting the development of our own abundant oil and gas right here – is also to blame. By lifting the sanctions against Iran being able to export oil, President Biden has handed the Iranian leadership literally billions of dollars to use towards fomenting terrorism in the region and abroad. President Biden's policy of blocking American energy production is thus not only wrong-headed from both a purely economic and environmental standpoint, but is a very dangerous approach to international policy and national security – placing all of us at greater risk.

It is appalling that the actions of American leaders have undermined the safety and security of one of our nation's closest allies and further destabilized the Middle East. This administration's almost lackadaisical response to rescuing our citizens and aiding our friends further dredges up the memories of the disastrous Afghanistan withdrawal in August 2021. In fact, what happened in Afghanistan and Hamas's attack on Israel may be closely intertwined, as there are now reports that some of the weapons that Hamas used are from the stockpile that President Biden and the top brass of our military left behind in Afghanistan 2 years ago. If so, that is not only a tragic and frightening development, but an entirely foreseeable one, and it is imperative that someone be held accountable.

**Standing With Israel**

Considering that this was the deadliest terrorist attack on Israel in the nation's history, we now must rally behind one of our closest and most faithful allies, take actions to prevent future terrorism, and protect the American citizens trapped in this escalating war. In recent days, my colleagues and I have begun several efforts to voice America's support for Israel and to prevent further violence.

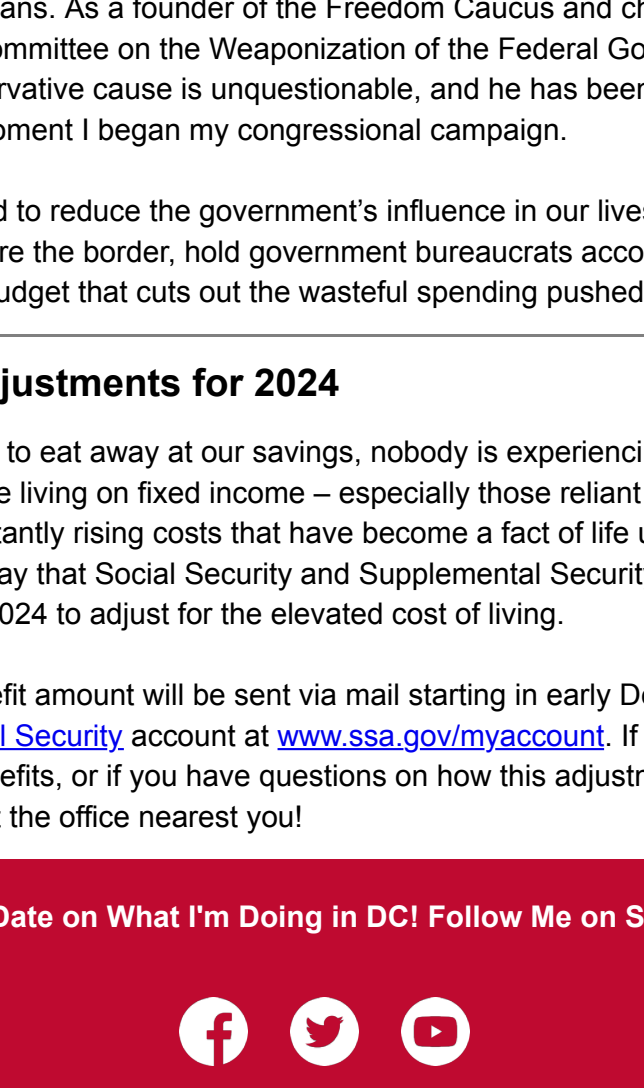
- [H.Res. 771](#), which I am an original co-sponsor of, is an ardent proclamation that we stand with Israel as they defend their citizens and their sovereignty against Hamas, Hezbollah, and others who seek the annihilation of the Israeli people. This resolution also condemns Iran and Hamas directly and reaffirms America's commitment to both Israel's security and fully enforcing sanctions against Iran to prevent their continued funding of terrorism worldwide.
- On Tuesday, I signed onto a bipartisan letter to President Biden exhorting him to re-freeze the \$6 billion in Iranian funds that President Biden released to Iran's authoritarian regime as part of a prisoner exchange. The letter also requests additional actions to prevent Iran from using other financial tools to continue its bankrolling of terrorism across the Middle East and the full enforcement of sanctions on Iran. I've also cosponsored [H.R. 5947](#) with Reps. Pfluger, Hern, Wilson, and Gallagher to permanently block Iran's access to the assets and immediately refreeze the \$6 billion that Biden wrongfully released.

At this time, we do not yet know how many Americans are trapped in Israel and Gaza; the State Department has initiated its assisted departure plan to help evacuate our citizens from the developing war zone. If you know of friends or family that are in the region, please contact one of my offices so my staff can provide guidance on the evacuation process. Additional information and State Department alerts can be found by clicking the button below.

Israeli Crisis Guidance

**From Casper to Carnegie Hall**

This week my office received word that one of Wyoming's own high schoolers was selected as a member of the National Youth Orchestra 2! This ensemble, composed of some of the most talented teen musicians in the nation, is highly competitive and is hosted each year at the esteemed Carnegie Hall in New York City, before traveling around the world to promote a love of music and serve as cultural ambassadors for the United States. Please join me in congratulating Evan Whippie on this exemplary achievement!



**The Search for a Speaker Continues**

We began this week with a Republican Conference meeting in which Reps. Jim Jordan and Steve Scalise made their case for why they should be the next Speaker of the House. After hours of discussion on Wednesday, Steve Scalise was narrowly elected as our Speaker Designate. It became clear as the week progressed, however, that while he was able to garner the support of small majority of Republicans, his path to receiving the 217 votes needed to become Speaker was highly unlikely. On Thursday night, he formally withdrew his name.

We met again for much of the day on Friday. Reps. Jim Jordan and Austin Scott ran for the position. Representative Jim Jordan has now been selected as our Speaker Designate. We anticipate a vote early this week.

While I am disappointed that we have not yet been able to move this process forward and address the pressing issues facing our government and the world, I am encouraged and hopeful that my choice for House Speaker, Jim Jordan, will be able to gather the support needed to lead our conference and the House of Representatives. Jim is the right person to lead us as we fight back against radical leftist ideology and an overbearing administration that continues to infringe on the rights of everyday Americans. As a founder of the Freedom Caucus and chairman of the Judiciary Committee and Select Committee on the Weaponization of the Federal Government, his commitment to the conservative cause is unquestionable, and he has been a fervent advocate and mentor to me from the moment I began my congressional campaign.

Rep. Jordan will fight hard to reduce the government's influence in our lives, protect our constitutional rights, secure the border, hold government bureaucrats accountable, and craft a sensible, fiscally-sound budget that cuts out the wasteful spending pushed by Democrats for years.

**Social Security Adjustments for 2024**

As Bidenflation continues to eat away at our savings, nobody is experiencing the tightening of their budgets as much as those living on fixed income – especially those reliant on Social Security. In order to combat the constantly rising costs that have become a fact of life under this Administration, it was announced Thursday that Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits will increase by 3.2% in 2024 to adjust for the elevated cost of living.

Updates on the new benefit amount will be sent via mail starting in early December, and can also be viewed via their [my Social Security](#) account at [www.ssa.gov/myaccount](#). If you are experiencing issues receiving your benefits, or if you have questions on how this adjustment may affect you, please contact my staff at the office nearest you!

Stay Up to Date on What I'm Doing in DC! Follow Me on Social Media:



**Upcoming Events**

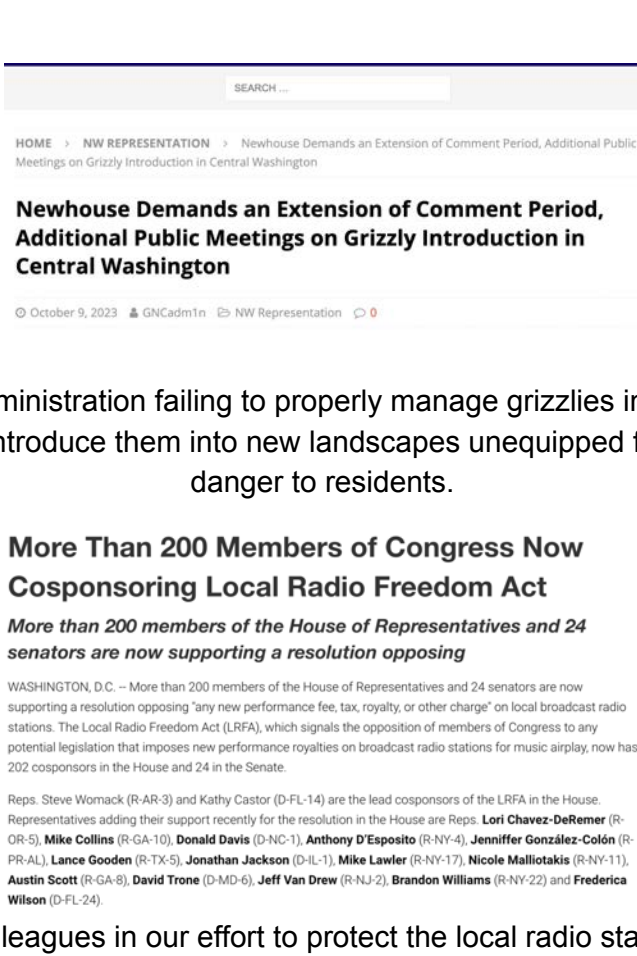
**Congress in Your Community**

Sign up for a slot to meet with my staff [here](#) or call 307-261-6595 to schedule an appointment! Exact addresses for Congress in Your Community locations will be provided once meeting times are confirmed.

**Congress in Campbell County:**

Thu, October 19, 2023 – 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Wright

**Recent Photos**



Wyoming's abundance of natural resources goes well beyond oil, gas, and coal! Rachel from my Casper office toured a nickel mine in Fremont Co. this week to learn more about how Wyoming is reducing America's dependence on foreign nations for critical minerals.



My staff also had the chance to meet with the local leadership of Worland this week; as part of their town tour, police chief Elliot gave a behind-the-scenes look at the Worland Law Enforcement Center and how his officers keep Worland's citizens safe!

**Cosponsored Legislation**

Here are some highlights of [bills I'm cosponsoring](#):

- [H.Res. 768](#) and [H.Res. 771](#), which affirm America's commitment to Israel during their fight against Hamas and other terrorists.
- [H.R. 5283](#), the *Protecting our Communities from Failure to Secure the Border Act*, which prohibits the use of federal funds to provide housing to illegal aliens on federal land.
- [H.R. 5488](#), the *Protecting Our Courts from Foreign Manipulation Act*, which increases oversight and prohibits funding from foreign entities.
- [H.R. 427](#), the *SAVE Moms and Babies Act*, which blocks the FDA from approving any new drugs intended to terminate a pregnancy and imposes additional restrictions on currently approved drugs.

**Tweet of the Week**



**Rep. Harriet Hageman**

@RepHageman

Pastor Lange is exactly right, “While the U.S. Constitution was designed to prevent a raw majority from legislating against “the Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God,” it was never intended to protect unelected experts from the will of the people.”



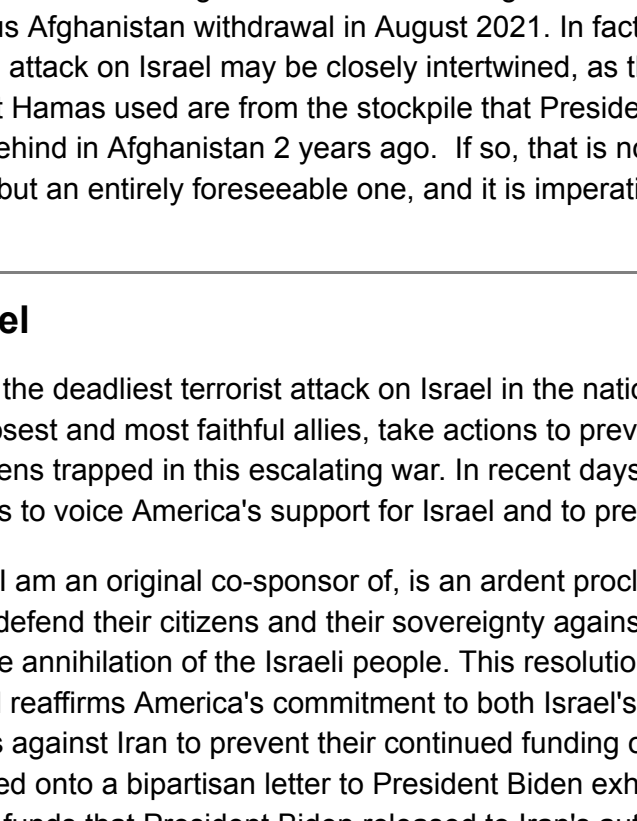
[wyomingnews.com](#)  
Lange: BLM debacle reveals the real problem: disdain for l...  
The Bureau of Land Management's 1,350-page land-use plan for the Rock Springs region was released in late ...

**Video of the Week**



Rep Hageman on Biden Admin's "lackadaisical" response to Hamas terrorist attacks

**In the News**



Not only is the Biden Administration failing to properly manage grizzlies in Wyoming and Montana, but now they want to introduce them into new landscapes unequipped for them, adding further danger to residents.

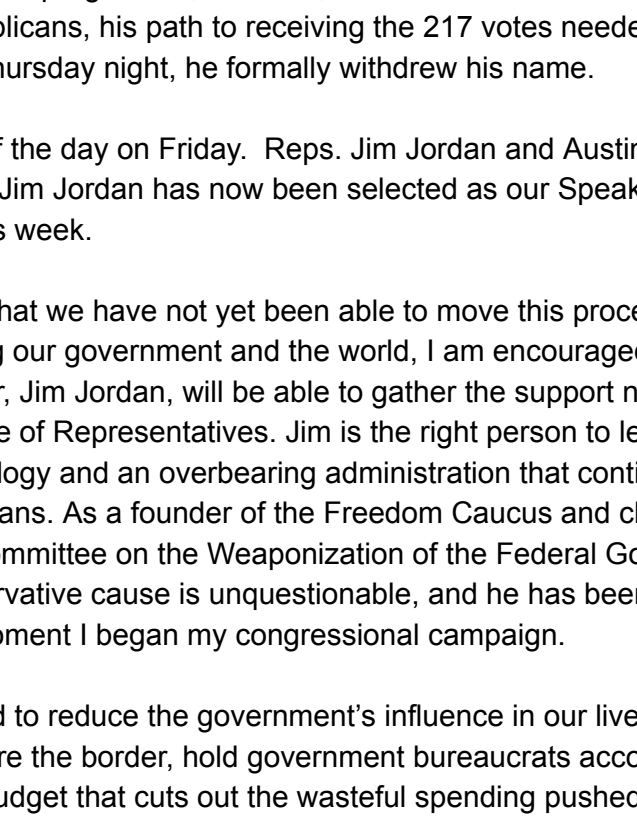
**More Than 200 Members of Congress Now Cosponsoring Local Radio Freedom Act**

*More than 200 members of the House of Representatives and 24 senators are now supporting a resolution opposing*

WASHINGTON, D.C. – More than 200 members of the House of Representatives and 24 senators are now supporting a resolution opposing "any new performance fee, tax, royalty, or other charge" on local broadcast radio stations. The Local Radio Freedom Act (LRFA), which signals the opposition of members of Congress to any potential legislation that imposes new performance royalties on broadcast radio stations for music airplay, now has 202 cosponsors in the House and 24 in the Senate.

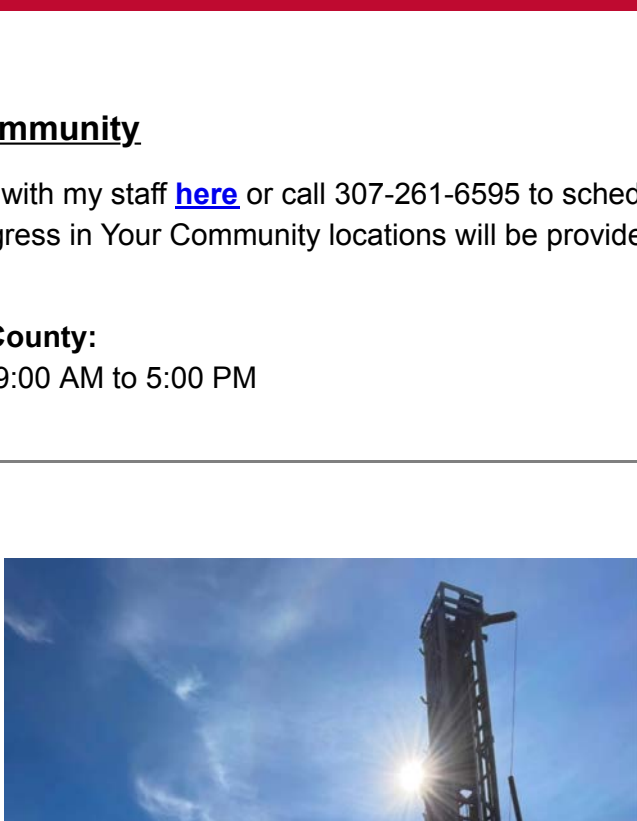
Reps. Steve Womack (R-AR-3) and Kathy Castor (D-FL-14) are the lead cosponsors of the LRFA in the House. Representatives adding their support recently for the resolution in the House are Reps. **Leti Chavez-Dufrenoy** (R-OR-3), **Mike Collins** (R-GA-10), **Bonnie Duke** (R-NC-1), **Anthony D'Esposito** (R-NY-4), **Jeffrey González-Collins** (R-PR-AL), **Lance Gooden** (R-TX-5), **Jonathan Jackson** (D-IL-1), **Mike Lawler** (R-NY-17), **Nicole Mallicioti** (R-NY-11), **Austin Scott** (R-GA-6), **David Trone** (D-MD-6), **Jeff Van Drew** (R-NJ-2), **Brandon Williams** (R-NV-22) and **Fredrick Wilson** (D-FL-24).

I am proud to join my colleagues in our effort to protect the local radio stations that provide us with vital updates and information.



Congress must get back to governing. With Rep. Scalise withdrawing his name from consideration as speaker, I'm reiterating my support for Rep. Jordan.

**Rep. Hageman to Newsmax: Biden's Iran Handout Led to Attack on Israel**



Yet again, the Biden Administration's ineptitude at forging a strong foreign policy has resulted in immense loss of life. When will they learn that caving to evil leaders' demands will not make the world safer!

**I Want to Hear From You!**

I cannot do my job without your support and input. Thank you for the calls, letters, emails, and questions you have sent to our offices. Please continue to reach out via the contact information below, and stay up to date on all the latest activities and legislation by subscribing and sharing this newsletter and our [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#) accounts with your friends and family!

Sincerely,

*Harriet M. Hageman*

**Rep. Harriet Hageman**  
**Member of Congress**

Sign up for my newsletter to get updates on this issue and others!

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