MICHAEL T. McCAUL, TEXAS
CHAIRMAN

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RANKING MEMBER

One Hundred Thirteenth Congress
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20515

July 3, 2013

President Cristina Fernández de Kirchner
Balcarce 78
Ciudad de Buenos Aires
Codigo Postal 1046

Dear Madam President:

We write to express our sincere disappointment and deep concern over the Government of Argentina's decision to deny General Prosecutor of the AMIA Case, Mr. Alberto Nisman, the opportunity to testify before the House Committee on Homeland Security's Subcommittee on Oversight and Management Efficiency's hearing on Tuesday, July 9, 2013 entitled, "Threat to the Homeland: Iran's Extending Influence in the Western Hemisphere." This Congressional Subcommittee is composed of Members of Congress from both political parties, as all committees and subcommittees are, and we consider this issue of Iran one of critical importance.

Mr. Nisman was invited to share the findings from his October 2006 and May 2013 investigations into the AMIA bombings, which placed responsibility for the attacks on the highest authorities within the Government of Iran. Furthermore, his investigation underscored a critical issue to U.S. homeland security, showing that Iran was "the main sponsor" of an attempted attack in June 2007 on American soil to blow up John F. Kennedy (JFK) airport in Queens, New York. Had the plot not been uncovered, an untold number of Americans could have been killed by this terrorist act.

The U.S. Congress has focused extensively on the activities of Iran and Hezbollah in the Western Hemisphere with several hearings held in both the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate. Members of Congress have traveled to countries in the Western Hemisphere to investigate the threat Iran poses to regional security and to U.S. homeland security, and last year, Congress passed the "Countering Iran in the Western Hemisphere Act," which President Obama signed into Public Law 112-220 on December 28, 2012.

We believe that Argentina and the United States possess a shared interest in preventing hostile Iranian activity within the region. Considering both our countries have suffered terrorist attacks from agents affiliated with the Government of Iran, we have a unique motivation for being vigilant to ensure that another Iranian-supported terrorist attack does not occur again within the Western Hemisphere. Part of this vigilance requires sharing lessons learned from the past with neighbors and allies with mutual interests.

In view of the resources your Government has spent on Mr. Nisman's three-year investigation, we find it unfortunate that he not be allowed to share the results of his work publicly with Members of Congress currently investigating the threat from Iran to U.S. homeland security. After all, his investigation uncovered evidence that many countries within the Western Hemisphere could stand to examine more deeply.

The Government of Argentina has indicated its desire to pursue justice and truth on Iranian involvement in the AMIA bombing. However, the decision to deny authorization for Mr. Nisman to testify before the U.S. Congress does call into question the authenticity of your intentions, and we are deeply disturbed. We respectfully request that you reconsider this issue in light of regional security interests and allow Mr. Nisman to share with Members of Congress the results of his work.

We appreciate your consideration of this letter, and we respectfully request a response by July 5, 2013.

Sincerely,

Michael T. McCaul
Chairman

Jeff Duncan
Chairman
Subcommittee on Oversight and Management Efficiency

CC: La Procuración General de la Nación, Alejandra Gils Carbo