

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 7, 2024

Dear Friends,

I join you all in remembering the lives lost on October 7, 2023. Thank you to the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire for organizing a meaningful tribute in Concord that captures both the profound loss and the spirit of hope and solidarity that emerged from that painful day.

As we mark one year since the horrific attack, we are reminded of how many lives were affected by the heinous, barbaric actions of Hamas terrorists. We mourn the lives that were viciously taken. We stand with the families and friends of those who are no longer with us. We remember the many who endured – and continue to endure – unimaginable experiences as hostages. We join together in the face of an alarming rise in antisemitism in America and across the world. And we find a Jewish community standing strong together – bonded by both grief and resilience – to endure another dark chapter in the long story of its people.

There are still 101 hostages—including Americans Keith Siegel, Edan Alexander, Sagui Dekel-Chen, Omer Neutra, Itay Chen, Judith Weinstein and Gadi Haggai—being held by terrorists in Gaza. We mourn the loss of Hersh Goldberg-Polin, an Israeli American who was kidnapped on October 7th and murdered just over a month ago. There is no time to waste in getting the hostages out alive and returning the remains of those who have been killed to their families.

I join people of all faiths in New Hampshire in supporting a grieving Jewish community, and I stand with you in confronting divisive and destructive forces like antisemitism. You are not alone in this struggle. We all must do a better job of speaking out when we encounter prejudice, indignities and discrimination toward our Jewish neighbors. We all must redouble our efforts to root out all forms of hate wherever they exist.

My thoughts and prayers continue to be with the many families affected by this horrible terrorist attack.

Sincerely,



Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator

United States Senate

October 7, 2024

Jewish Federation of New Hampshire
273 S River Road
Bedford, NH 03110

Dear Friends,

I'm sorry that I can't join you today, but I wanted to take a moment to offer my support on this difficult day.

Tomorrow marks one year since Hamas terrorists launched a horrific attack on Israel, during which they murdered 1,200 innocent people — massacring entire families and using rape and sexual violence as weapons. Hamas's attack was pure barbarism and represented the single most terrible day of violence toward Jews since the Holocaust. As you know, Hamas also took hostages — including some Americans. My heart breaks for the victims of Hamas's attack, for the hostages still in captivity, and for the families who continue to await anxiously for their loved ones to return. We cannot forget them and we need to do everything that we can to bring the hostages home.

I know that this is a difficult time for the Jewish community. Disturbingly, in the wake of Hamas's attack, there has been a surge in antisemitism— in word and deed —unlike anything that we have seen since the Second World War. Synagogues, Jewish businesses, and even Holocaust memorials have been vandalized. Peaceful debate is good for democracy, but during the last year too often we heard rhetoric that veered into antisemitism, both implicit and explicit, and that in some cases spurred violence and extremism. As we mark this anniversary, we should redouble our commitment to opposing hate, including antisemitism, no matter what corner of our society it comes from. America is the world's greatest democracy and must be a place where everyone counts. Hate can have no safe harbor here.

We have challenges, to be sure, but I know that we have the capacity to overcome hate and build a better future, including one where Israelis and Palestinians live in peace, dignity, and security. There are still difficult days ahead, but please know that you do not walk alone. I am proud to stand with you during this hour of trial and I am grateful for your efforts to ensure that the victims of October 7 will not — indeed, must not — be forgotten.

With every good wish,



Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator

October 7, 2024

Allyson Guertin
Executive Director
Jewish Federation of New Hampshire
273 South River Road
Bedford, New Hampshire
03110

Dear Friends,

Today, we pause to reflect on the one-year anniversary of the horrific October 7th terrorist attacks on Israel—the deadliest assault on the Jewish people since the Holocaust—carried out at the hands of Hamas terrorists. While I cannot be with you tonight in person, please know my heart is with you as you commemorate the anniversary of this tragic day. Today and every day, we remember those who lost their lives and the innocent hostages still held captive.

These terrorists indiscriminately attacked Jewish neighborhoods, families, and children, killing more than 1,200 innocent Israelis and taking hundreds of hostages—including American citizens—in a brazen affront to humanity and the dignity of life. Please know that the United States will always stand with our friends and allies in Israel as they continue to reckon with the aftermath of this brutal massacre. Israel will always have the right to self-defense and must protect itself for the safety and security of the Jewish people, especially in the face of rising threats of terror in the region.

Over the past year, we have seen a disturbing rise in Antisemitic rhetoric and violence against our Jewish friends and neighbors here in New Hampshire and across the world. On this solemn day, we pause to reflect and stand in solidarity with the Jewish community and recommit to rejecting hate and bigotry in every form. On behalf of myself and the entire Second Congressional District, know that we stand with you and will never forget.

Sincerely,



Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress