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December 5, 2017

President Donald J. Trump  
The White House  
Washington, DC

Dear Mr. President,

We are writing to you on behalf of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America – the nation’s largest Orthodox Jewish umbrella organization – with regard to your current consideration of American policy toward the status of Jerusalem as the capital of the State of Israel. We urge you to fulfill your campaign promise – which was heartily welcomed by our constituents – and announce you will begin the process of relocating the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

It is, in fact, the policy of the United States, as codified in federal statute, that our government recognizes Jerusalem as the capital of the State of Israel. The Jerusalem Embassy Act of 1995 states that “Jerusalem should be recognized as the capital of the State of Israel; and the United States Embassy in Israel should be established in Jerusalem no later than May 31, 1999.”

Jerusalem is the spiritual center of Judaism and has been the only capital city the Jewish People have ever known. Since its reunification in 1967, the sites sacred to the world’s major faiths have been open and accessible to all people in an unprecedented manner. As the U.S. law affirms, every country has a right to designate the capital of its choice, and the State of Israel has designated Jerusalem. Just as the United States locates its embassy in the duly designated capitals of other nations, so too it should locate our embassy to Israel in that nation’s recognized capital.

Mr. President, we thank you for your staunch commitment to the safety and security of Israel. We continue to pray that under your leadership the United States will continue to work to foster peace, security and liberty for the Jews of Israel, the United States and around the world.

Sincerely,

*Mark Bane*

*Jerry Wolasky*

*Allen Fagin*

*Nathan Diament*