



**Village Independent Democrats**

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February 17, 2015

Senator Charles Schumer  
322 Senate Hart Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Schumer,

On behalf of the Village Independent Democrats, I would like to prevail upon you to oppose Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu's impending address to Congress.

We are disheartened that House Speaker John Boehner has breached protocol by inviting Mr. Netanyahu to address Congress just before Israel's elections and without consultation with the White House. Further, having the leader of a foreign government attempt to influence a Congressional vote is offensive and dangerous.

Moreover, these actions could sabotage the international effort to find a peaceful, long-term solution to the question of Iran's development of nuclear weapons. Current diplomatic talks hold the promise of a permanent agreement that could lead to a more peaceful, stable Middle East and greater security for Israel.

The Village Independent Democrats is one of the oldest progressive Democratic clubs in New York City. We support Israel and the Obama Administration's diplomatic efforts to peacefully resolve nuclear issues with Iran.

To help ensure a peaceful resolution to the conflict with Iran, we ask that you urge the leadership of Congress, and Prime Minister Netanyahu himself, to reconsider his ill-timed address to Congress. We trust that you will continue to advocate for a diplomatic solution that will protect the security interests of Israel, promote peace in the Middle East, and keep our relations with Israel and Iran productive.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Nadine Hoffmann  
President  
Village Independent Democrats