

DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.
10TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS,
RESPONSE AND RECOVERY
CHAIRMAN
SUBCOMMITTEE ON BORDER SECURITY,
FACILITATION, AND OPERATIONS

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AVIATION
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON RAILROADS,
PIPELINES AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3010

WASHINGTON OFFICE
103 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-3436

DISTRICT OFFICES
LEROY SMITH PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING
60 NELSON PLACE, 14TH FLOOR
NEWARK, NJ 07102
(973) 645-3213

253 MARTIN LUTHER KING DRIVE
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07305
(201) 369-0392

1455 LIBERTY AVENUE
HILLSIDE, NJ 07205
(862) 229-2994

July 25, 2019

American Hellenic Institute
1220 16th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Friends:

Thank you for hosting the July 24, 2019 commemoration of the 45th anniversary of the tragic invasion of Cyprus. I deeply regret that I was unable to participate in this event.

As you probably know, recent events have demonstrated the pressing need for the U.S. to support its allies in the Eastern Mediterranean. Under President Erdogan's control, Turkey has escalated tensions in the region as well as stepped up its human rights abuses against its own people. From purchasing Russian missile systems to jailing journalists, Turkey's actions threaten the stability of the region.

To ensure regional stability, I am proud to be a cosponsor of H.R. 2913, the Eastern Mediterranean Security and Energy Partnership Act of 2019. This bill would reaffirm U.S. commitment to the region and strengthen our alliance with regional partners. I stand committed to defend the partnership between the U.S., Greece, Cyprus, and Israel.

It is my sincere hope that we can achieve peaceful stability in the region and I commend the American Hellenic Institute for its pivotal role in maintaining the strong relationship between the U.S. and its Eastern Mediterranean allies.

Thank you for your invitation and I look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,



Donald M. Payne, Jr.
Member of Congress