

REVISED MOTION BY SUPERVISORS KATHRYN BARGER
AND LINDSEY HORVATH

JANUARY 24, 2023

END THE BLOCKADE OF THE LACHIN CORRIDOR

Since December 12, 2022, the Azerbaijani government has blockaded the Lachin Corridor, blocking access to ~~the Nagorno-Karabakh region~~ also known as Artsakh. This corridor is the only road connecting ~~the Republic of Armenia and the Nagorno-Karabakh~~ to the world through the Republic of Armenia region, also known as Artsakh. The blockade has cut off 120,000 Armenians, including 30,000 children and 20,000 elderly, from food, medicine, and other supplies.

The actions by the Azerbaijani government continue a long pattern of aggression. In September 2020, Azerbaijan, with support from Turkey, launched a military assault on Artsakh. Consequently, in March 2021, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (Board) passed a motion condemning the Azerbaijani invasion into Artsakh. In March 2022, Azerbaijani armed forces forced the displacement of more than 400 people from Artsakh. ~~In September 2022~~ Since May 2021, Azerbaijani armed forces have continuously attacked the Republic of Armenia and occupied its internationally recognized sovereign territories. These attacks resulted in more than 200 people being killed. After the September 2022 attacks, the Board passed a motion of support for H.Res.1351, condemning Azerbaijan's unprovoked military attack on Armenia.

The ongoing humanitarian crisis created by the Azerbaijani government must stop. The Board supports the efforts of Congressman Adam Schiff and the Armenian Caucus in calling for President Biden to end the blockade of the Lachin Corridor to provide access to ~~the Nagorno-Karabakh region~~, provide immediate humanitarian assistance to the Armenian people impacted by the blockade, and to cease all U.S. military and economic assistance to Azerbaijan for their continued military aggression in the region.

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MOTION

SOLIS	_____
MITCHELL	_____
HORVATH	_____
BARGER	_____
HAHN	_____

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS direct the Chief Executive Office – Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations Branch to send a five-signature letter to President Biden and Congressman Adam Schiff, with copies to the Armenian Congressional Caucus, calling for the Biden Administration to take the following actions:

1. Demand the immediate re-opening of the Lachin Corridor and access to the Nagorno-Karabakh region.
2. Provide humanitarian assistance for the Armenian people impacted by the Azerbaijani blockade of the Lachin Corridor, including food, supplies and medical assistance; and,
3. Introduce a UN Security Council Resolution to establish a United Nations Peacekeeping Mission in Nagorno Karabakh and,
4. End all U.S. military and economic assistance to Azerbaijan and take all necessary steps to hold the Azerbaijan regime accountable for its crimes, including by using the tools provided by the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act.

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KB:jmb